

## 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 Saturday, 9th November, 1946. Present :**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E.,

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Taylor, Waite and Ward Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E. Bush, Carter, Compton, Fildes, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Leigh James and Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Recd.).

1—Election of Councillors—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Returning Officers of the several wards of the Borough results of the election of eight Councillors as follows :—

Name of Councillor Ward Date of Retirement

|                                 |             |                |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Bishop, Hiram Frederick William | St. Peter's | November, 1949 |
| Addis, Henry                    | St. Paul's  | November, 1949 |
| Brown, William George Tucker    | College     | November, 1949 |
| Bendall, Samuel David ...       | Park        | November, 1949 |
| Grimwade, Harry Charles...      | St. Mark's  | November, 1949 |
| Bush, Horace Trinley            | Lansdown    | November, 1949 |
| Readings, George ...            | Pittville   | November, 1949 |
| Green, William James            | All Saints  | November, 1949 |

The Town Clerk also reported that the new members had made Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

2—Election of Mayor—On the motion of Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, seconded by Councillor G. B. Compton, and supported by Councillor Miss F. L. Carter, it was unanimously RESOLVED, That Councillor Horace Trinley Bush 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 to H.M. The King and the Judicial Oath. The Mayor thereupon took the chair.

3—Appointment of Deputy Mayor—The Mayor signified in writing that he had appointed Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., to be his Deputy, and it was RESOLVED, That the appointment be recorded in the minutes of the Council.

4—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, and that he had accepted.

5—Retiring Mayor—RESOLVED, That the sincere thanks of the Council be accorded to Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., for the efficient, impartial and tactful manner in which she had carried out the duties of Mayor since her election in May, 1944.

6--Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th October, 1946, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

7—Selection Committee—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Selection Committee at their meeting held on 6th November, 1946, be approved and adopted.

8—Local 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, 1947, and that eight members be a quorum of the Committee.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

1

### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**23rd October, 1946.** Present—Councillor Bush (Chairman); Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Compton, Green, Grimwade, Strickland and Yeend.

8a--Housing Finance—(a) The Borough Treasurer submitted a report on the Housing Revenue Account and Repairs Fund. The working balance on the Housing Revenue Account fell from £7,000 at 31st March, 1945, to £2,700 at 31st March, 1946, and he estimated that at 31st March, 1947, the account would be considerably overdrawn. After that date it would be necessary to consider additional contributions from the rates unless some satisfactory way could be found either to reduce expenditure or increase rents. The reasons for the fall in the working balance were :—

(1) Revenue contributions to capital amounting to £2,142 were made in 1945/6. This would not now recur except in regard to existing commitments which were, however, another £1,706.

(2) Costs of supervision and management had risen from £2,783 in 1938/9 to £5,642 in 1945/6 and would probably be over £6,000 in 1946/7.

(3) The Repairs Fund contribution was increased in 1942/3 from £4 10s. 0d. to £6 10s. 0d. per house, costing about £3,500 per annum more.

(4) Loan charges on the new capital programme had to be met during the construction period with no rents or subsidies coming in.

It would be seen, therefore, that the financial difficulties were due to increased working expenses and the financing of the capital programme. Further, although the rent income had risen by about £5,000 per annum, many tenants were not paying maximum rents, while working expenses continued to rise. There was always a considerable lag between expenditure and income on a new housing programme and each year heavy loan charges accrued which would have to be met in advance of subsidies or rents. The Council were required by the Housing Act, 1936, to cover net expenditure on the Revenue Account by rents or rate contributions. The Borough Treasurer recommended three methods of meeting the working losses for consideration, viz.—

(i) Application of income basis of rent assessment to all estates.

(ii) Reduction of repairs fund contribution.

(iii) Increase present maximum rents.

The Committee felt that the new family allowances should not be taken into account in computing rents, so that the whole benefit of this additional income could be passed on to the children.

The Borough Treasurer had considered a suggestion made at the last meeting that the standard rent of every house should be increased by 1s per week. The standard rent varied from 3s 9d per week in the case of certain one-bedroom flats to 20s 6d in respect of the new experimental houses at St. Mark's. While he thought the suggested increase would quickly achieve the desired result, it appeared that increase of 1s on all the houses would act unfairly on some tenants, particularly in the case of the lower-rented houses. There were also other objections to this suggestion. With regard to the Repairs Fund, the Borough Surveyor reported that in his opinion the annual contribution could be slightly reduced.

The Borough Treasurer pointed out that some of the older tenants, particularly in the case of St. Mark's Estate, were still not subject to the differential rent scheme and he strongly recommended that this should now be applied to all tenants on all estates. The tenants who were not on the differential rent scheme were paying standard rents irrespective of income and he thought the time had now come when this discrimination between tenants should cease and that all should pay their rent on the same basis. Another advantage of operating the differential rent scheme in respect of all tenants was that the Housing Revenue Account could then be adjusted at any time by raising or reducing the scale of income for the purpose of assessing rents.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the Ministry of Health had drawn the attention of local authorities to the importance of ensuring that subsidies whether provided by the taxpayer or the ratepayer should not benefit persons who did not require them. RESOLVED, (1) That the Repairs Fund Contribution be reduced from £6 10s. 0d. per house per annum to £5 10s. 0d. (2) That the Differential Rent Scheme be applied to tenants of all houses. (3) That the Town Clerk circularise all tenants not on the Differential Rent Scheme explaining the position and enclosing an Income Form, and that their rent be assessed by the Sub-Committee in the normal way.

(b) Exchequer Contribution—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 163/46 from the Ministry of Health enclosing forms for application for advance on account of Exchequer contributions payable under the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946, in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1947. It had been decided that for each new house approved for Exchequer contributions under the Act of 1946, a full year's Exchequer contribution should be payable in respect of the financial year in which the house was completed instead of only one-half as hitherto. In view of this change, a full year's rate fund contribution in respect of each house should be credited to the Housing Revenue Account in the year of completion.

8b—Non-traditional Houses—The Committee visited Farnborough on the 22nd October and inspected the Wimpey "No Fines" Non-Traditional houses completed and some in course of erection and were favourably impressed. In general, they compared very well with the normal traditional type of house with regard to size, added to which they possessed the advantage of being more quickly erected and made less demand on labour, particularly on bricklayers.

2

The Borough Surveyor felt that "No Fines" was one of the best methods for this type of construction and was of the opinion that there would possibly be less condensation than there would be with ordinary dense concrete. They were not cheap, but, in fact, cost more than traditional houses; the planning was of a moderately good standard with one or two minor drawbacks. The frontage was greater than was normally provided for traditional houses, being 30 feet. The average

time at present taken to erect formwork, pour concrete and strike formwork, was 5 days per pair of houses. The roofs followed immediately, giving protection from inclement weather to the finishing trades. The rate of completion then depended on the available labour and materials of the particular district.

While Messrs. Wimpey would not consider an order for less than 100, they would prefer a much larger contract in view of the large amount of equipment and plant which would have to be transferred to Cheltenham. They would bring with them a certain amount of labour for the erection of formwork and roofs and laying of foundations.

As mentioned above, the Ministry had decided that no tenders for additional houses would be approved for the time being and it might well be that a year or even longer time would elapse before the labour and material position was such that the Ministry would be able to approve the entering into of further large contracts for traditional houses. The Town Clerk reported on Circular 175/46 from the Ministry of Health in regard to non-traditional houses. The Procedure outlines in the circular provided for the Council to obtain in the normal way a tender which would have to be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval, together with plans, specifications and Bills of Quantities. The Contractors were prepared to alter the design if so desired by the Council but the Ministry in their circular strongly recommended that such alterations should not be asked for as they were both costly and time-wasting and any difference in cost involved through such alterations would have to be borne by the Council, whereas the difference between the cost of a standard non-traditional house and that of a traditional house would be borne by the Ministry.

The Borough Treasurer reported that it was most likely it would not be possible to agree with the Ministry of Health the difference in the cost of building non-traditional houses as compared with the cost of building traditional houses of similar size and type until the houses were complete. This might involve the Council in bearing the additional cost of each house for a considerable time. He thought it was a matter which might with advantage be taken up with the Ministry of Health.

With regard to sites for the erection of houses, the Borough Surveyor stated that he would prefer to have seen all this type of house erected on one site but apart from the Lynworth Farm Estate there was no site on which the erection of houses could be commenced as roads and services had not yet been provided on other sites. Messrs. Wimpey were also willing to undertake a contract for the construction of roads and services. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the land lying between Rowanfield Road and Brooklyn Road, which before the war had been considered for housing purposes, should be used for these houses. The lay-out for this estate could be prepared fairly quickly and as soon as the land was acquired it should be possible to make a fairly early start with the construction of roads and services.

If the Committee desired, however, to make a start at once on these houses it would be possible to erect about 150 on the Lynworth Farm Estate and still leave room for about 40 traditional houses which it was hoped to build through a small builders' scheme.

RESOLVED, (1) That Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., be asked to submit a tender for the provision of 500 of the non-traditional " No Fines houses.

(2) That 150 of these houses be erected on the Lynworth Farm Estate and the remaining 350 on the land lying between Rowanfield Road and Brooklyn Road.

(3) That the Borough Surveyor prepare plan of the land required and that the Council be recommended at their next meeting to make a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of this land.

(4) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the Council's proposals.

(5) That the Borough Surveyor prepare layout plan for the houses at Rowanfield with a view to inviting Messrs. Wimpeys to submit a tender for the construction of roads and services.

(6) That when making application to the Ministry for loan sanction for the houses, the Town Clerk take up with the Ministry the question of the financial charges which may have to be borne by the Council of the difference in cost between traditional and non-traditional houses which, under Circular 175 of the Ministry of Health, would ultimately be reimbursed to the Council.

(Adopted at meeting of the Council held on 78th October, 1946).

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

3

### SELECTION COMMITTEE.

**6th November, 1946.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Smith and Trye ; Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Bettridge, Compton, Green and Grimwade.

Also present—Councillors Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Brown, Bush, Carter, Fildes, Gardner, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson and Yeend.

9—Constitution of Committees and other Appointments—The Committee considered the constitution of the Committees of the Council for the ensuing year, and the nomination and appointments of representatives on other authorities and bodies. RESOLVED, the appointments to the Committees, authorities and bodies and assignment of duties, as set out hereunder be approved and adopted :—

**Public Health Committee**—Aldermen Leigh James, Waite and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner and Strickland. (One vacancy).

**Housing Committee**—Aldermen Lipson and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Benda, Bishop, Bush, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Morris, Strickland and Yeend.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Committee**—Aldermen Leigh James, Waite and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Compton, Gardner, Green, Grimwade and Yeend ;

Co-opted Members—Mrs. Lewis Grist, Mrs. E. E. Hopkins, Miss Tinson, Mrs. W. L. Mellersh, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. E. Booy.

**Street and Highway Committee**—Aldermen Trye, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Green, Grimwade, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

**Planning Committee**—Aldermen Trye, Waite, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, Mann and Morris.

**Town Improvement and Spa Committee**—Aldermen Lipson, Waite, Ward and Smith ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Bush, Carter, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson. Two Members on nomination of Chamber of Commerce. One Member on nomination of Spa Medical Advisory Committee.

**Electricity and Lighting Committee**—Aldermen Smith, Taylor and Waite ; Councillors J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Carter, Fildes, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Readings and Thompson.

**Water Committee**—Aldermen Trye, Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, Bush, Green, Morris, Midwinter and Strickland.

**Fire Prevention Committee**—Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson. Mr. V. B. Ferguson and Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

**Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee**—Alderman Smith ; Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green and Midwinter.

**Cemetery and Crematorium Committee**—Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Fildes, Readings and Yeend.

**Rating Committee**—Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Gardner, Mann and Morris.

**Allotments Committee**—Alderman Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green, Midwinter and Yeend. Co-opted Members—Messrs. A. Ball, C. Barlow, H. Roe and E. G. Whittall.

**Art Gallery and Museum Committee**—Aldermen Leigh James, Trye and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, Fisher and Yeend.

Consulting Members—Mr. H. J. Lewis, Mr. C. R. Mapp and Mr. J. S. Bond. (One vacancy).

**Public Library Committee**—Alderman Lipson ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Brown, Compton, Grimwade and Mann.

Consulting Members—Mr. S. J. Clarke, Mr. C. E. Walsh, Rev. Barbara Thomas. Mr. F. Vernall and Mr. H. J. Norris.

**Finance Committee**—Aldermen Taylor, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge Biggs, Grimwade, Mann, Morris and Thompson. (One vacancy).

**British Restaurants Committee**—Alderman Winterbotham; Councillors- Bayliss, Bettridge, Compton, Fildes and Thompson.

Co-opted Members— Mrs. K. Greening, Mrs. D. L. Lipson and Mr. W. J. Bache.

**Selection Committee**— Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, Smith, Taylor, Trye, Winterbotham; Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Bettridge, Bush, Compton, Fisher, Green and Grimwade.

4

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

**Cheltenham Committee for Education**—Alderman Leigh James, Lipson and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Brown, Bush, Carter, Compton, Grimwade, Gardner, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland. Mrs. I. M. B. James, Rev. L. J. Coursey, F. K. Ball, Rev. H. Clarkson and A. G. Bishop.

Appointed by the County Council—Lt.-Col. A. B. L. Lloyd Baker, D.S.O., and T. E. Sanders. (One vacancy).

**Guardians Committee**—Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Gardner, Green, Grimwade and Midwinter. Four other persons—Mrs. Garland, Rev. Barbara Thomas, Mr. S. J. Clarke and Mrs. Lewis Hall.

**Assessment Committee**--Alderman Trye; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Carter, Midwinter and Readings. (One vacancy).

**Local Pension Sub-Committee**—Councillors J. Bendall, Bettridge, Fildes and Yeend.

Co-opted Members—Mr. W. H. Ball, Mr. J. W. Gough, Mr. E. V. Phillips, Mrs. E. E. Hopkins, Mr. W. H. Lane, Mr. J. K. Troughton and Mr. S. J. Clarke.

| Ward             | Returning Officer                     |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| St. Peter's Ward | Alderman D. L. Lipson, M.A., M.P.     |
| St. Paul's Ward  | “ T. Smith.                           |
| Pittville Ward   | “ T. Wilfred Waite.                   |
| All Saints' Ward | “ P. P. Taylor.                       |
| College Ward ... | “ Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. |
| Lansdown Ward    | “ E. L. Ward.                         |
| Park Ward ...    | “ Leigh James.                        |
| St Mark's Ward   | “ J. H. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.)    |

Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and Gloucester and Cheltenham joint Airport Committee (6 each)---Aldermen Taylor, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Morris and Strickland.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM. Chairman.

(ADOPTED AT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER, 1946.

#### **BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.**

**30th October, 1946.** Present-The Mayor (in the Chair) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Compton, Fildes and Thompson; Mrs. Greening and Mr. Bache.

10-Organiser Cook-Miss C. Smelt had been appointed Organiser Cook at St. Margaret's British Restaurant at a salary of £275 per annum plus war bonus and commenced her duties on the 8th August.

11-Electric Steamer-RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in authorising repairs to this steamer at an estimated cost of £20 be approved.

12-Basic Wages-The Western District Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services had recommended an increase in the basic rate of 3s per week for females and the appropriate increase in hourly rates with effect from 19th August. The recommendations of the J.I.C. had been implemented for the British Restaurant Staff. RESOLVED, That this be confirmed.

13-Meals to School Children-(a) Cheltenham Grammar School-RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action its agreeing to 70 to 90 boys per day being fed at St. Margaret's British Restaurant at the cost of 1s per head, and 1s 3d for masters, be approved.

(b) Pate's Junior School-RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in agreeing to approximately 60 children per day being fed at St. Margaret's British Restaurant at the cost of 8d. for the small children and 10d. for those up to 11 years, be approved.

14—Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted provisional financial statement for the quarter ended the 30th September, 1946, indicating an operating surplus prior to charging amortisation of £240, the amortisation charges for St. Margaret's British Restaurant were £127, making a net profit for the quarter of £113. The total number of meals supplied during the quarter was 20,520 including 755 " cash and carry " meals. The cost per meal before charging amortisation was 11.90d. and after charging amortisation 13.39d. There was an approximate increase of 1,800 in the number of meals served compared with the previous quarter and this was due to the feeding of school children and also people who had come from Montpellier British Restaurant.

15—Financial Statement (Min. 1535)—Circular WM6/7 dated the 1st June was deferred until the January meeting. The Borough Treasurer intimated that the cost of taking over St. Margaret's British Restaurant would be between £4,000 and £5,000 and the potential re-instatement of the site would fall to the Corporation. There was also the question as to whether the legislation which was anticipated would, if the Council decided to take over the Restaurant, give them power to remain on requisitioned land. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer submit a report on the financial aspect of this matter and that the same be circulated prior to the January meeting of this Committee.

16—Organiser Cook's Report—(a) Meals Served—The number of meals served at St. Margaret's British Restaurant during July, August and September was as follows:—

| July         |            | August       |             | September    |             |
|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| No. of Meals | Takings    | No. of Meals | Takings     | No. of Meals | Takings     |
| 6,024        | £370 9s 5d | 7,497        | £455 11s 5d | 6,999        | £406 15s 2d |

The comparison between figures for July, 1946, and July, 1945, showed an increase of 1,221 in the number of meals and £86 19s. 0d. in the takings, for August, 1946, and August, 1945, an increase of 4,693 and £284 11s. 10d., and for September, 1946, and September, 1945, an increase of 2,425 and £128 16s. 6d. respectively, The increase for 1946 was partly due to the fact that the Restaurant was closed for two weeks in August and September, 1945.

(b) Staff (i)—In view of the large increase in the number of meals served it had been necessary to engage additional kitchen and counter hands. The assistant Cook (Miss Pearse) had resigned and Miss Ashfield had been appointed. Miss Dartnall had been promoted to the position of Second Assistant Cook.

(ii) Cashier—RESOLVED, That the wages of the part-time Cashier (Miss Whittard) be increased from 13s. 6d. to £1 per week as from the 1st October last.

(iii) Food Permits—It had not been possible to obtain special permits for the feeding of school children but the standing permits had been increased. (iv) Equipment—Much of the equipment was deteriorating and needed repair. RESOLVED, That the Organiser Cook be authorised to replace the Stott's Double Boiler with new boiler

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

#### ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

**4th November, 1946.** Present—Alderman Smith; Councillors Addis, Compton, Fildes, Green, Midwinter and Yeend ; Messrs. Ball, Roe and Whittall.

17—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor H. Addis be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.



18—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor G. B. Compton be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

19—Visitors—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed visitors 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 ;

Alderman Smith, Councillor 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 Priors Road and Severn Road ;

The Mayor, Councillors Midwinter and Yeend for Asquith Road, Sandforth 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.

Councillor Fildes, Messrs. Roe and Whittall for Alma Road, Hatherley Road, Thorncliffe Estate, Tennyson Road, Wasley's Field, Brooklyn Road Playing Field, Land Brooklyn Road, Hatherley Park, Land junction mount Road and Church Road, Shelley Road, Land rear News Cottages, Land rear Higgs' Cottages, Orchard rear Tennyson Road, Orchard rear of Orchard Terrace and Barn Field.

6

20--Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 24th October (Report circulated herewith). RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That, with regard to Item 3 relating to future awards of the David Leuchars Perpetual Trophy, it be recommended that such Trophy continue to be presented annually to the exhibitor obtaining the highest number of points at a show of autumn produce.

21—Thorncliffe Drive Allotments (Min. 2051/46)—The Town Clerk reported upon further correspondence and inter-views with the owner/occupier of The Gables. The owner's Architect had excavated along the side wall of the house when tree roots had been discovered which were attributed to the poplar trees on these allotments. The excavations were, therefore, inspected by the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent who agreed that it would be difficult to cut back the tree roots as suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry were informed of the position and the Official Solicitor stated that in his opinion the Council would only be liable for damage accruing to The Gables as a result of the increase in the roots during the time the land was in their occupation, namely, from December, 1943, and that the chief responsibility would rest with the owner.

To avoid difficulties the Official Solicitor enquired the possibility of de-requisitioning the site in the near future. The Gardens Superintendent reported that the site contained 14 allotments, 13 were tenanted, and the majority were in a good state of cultivation. There was no land in the vicinity which could be offered to displaced tenants. Having regard to all the circumstances, the Committee were extremely reluctant to adopt the suggestion of the Official Solicitor, particularly in view of the necessity for continued food cultivation. As an alternative, they considered the de-requisitioning of a strip of land sufficient to include the poplar trees and their roots. The Gardens Superintendent stated that this would affect approximately 14 plots but he could, no doubt, accommodate the

tenants upon the one vacant site and make other small adjustments. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the owner in a further endeavour to arrange a satisfactory settlement failing which the owner be informed of the Committee's intention to de-requisition the site occupied by the trees.

22—Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments—The Tenant of plot No. 17 complained of damage to crops caused by cattle straying from the adjoining field in the occupation of the Butchers' Buying Committee, and claimed £1 8s. 0d. compensation. The Gardens Superintendent had received a similar complaint from another tenant who claimed £1 5s. 0d. He had inspected the site and recommended that the Butchers' Buying Committee be asked to reimburse the tenants. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

23—Arrears of Rent [Min. 1820 (b)/46]—September Quarterly Statement—The Town Clerk reported that he had recovered a number of arrears and had asked the Rating Officer to instruct the Bailiff to endeavour to obtain payment of the remainder. In no cases were the amounts substantial and at the next meeting a report would be submitted and instructions obtained as to writing off outstanding amounts as irrecoverable or, alternatively, instituting proceedings. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

24—Cultivation—Since the last Meeting, 14 allotments had been let and the tenancies of 17 terminated.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**11th November, 1946.** Present—Alderman Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bendall, Compton, Fildes, Green and Midwinter.

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

26—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor G. B. Compton be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

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

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Agg Gardner Recreation Ground ...           | Councillors Addis and Compton.                     |
| Naunton Park Recreation Ground ...          | Councillors Bendall and Midwinter.                 |
| Montpellier Gardens ...                     | The Mayor (Councillor Bush) and Councillor Fildes. |
| Whaddon Road & Clyde Recreation Grounds ... | Alderman Smith and Councillor Green.               |
| Sandford Park                               | The Mayor (Councillor Bush) and Councillor Green.  |
| St. Marks                                   | Alderman Smith and Councillor Fildes.              |
| Pittville Gardens                           | Alderman Smith and Councillor Addis.               |
| Hatherley Park                              | Alderman Smith and Councillor Fildes.              |
| St. Peter's                                 | Councillor Midwinter.                              |

28—Athletic Ground (Min. 2057/46)—(a) Groundsman—The first portion of this Minute relating to the appointment of a groundsman was referred back by the Council at their last meeting to give the Committee a further opportunity of considering the terms and conditions thereof. The person appointed would be required to undertake for the Council a full 47 hour week, leaving the Rugby Football Club to arrange with him for any work required outside his weekly working hours. Should,

however his services be necessary during working hours, it would be for the Club to communicate with the Gardens Superintendent and for the latter to instruct the groundsman accordingly, the Club being responsible to the Council for the appropriate hourly rates of wages.

7

With regard to living accommodation, the Rugby Football Club hoped to obtain possession at an early date of the cottage on the site when the Borough Surveyor would inspect and report upon any necessary repairs thereto. It was proposed that the Council should assume control of this property and that Mr. Attwood occupy the same on a service tenancy. RESOLVED, (i) That Mr. Attwood's appointment be confirmed upon the terms and conditions mentioned.

(ii) That his wages be in accordance with the J.I.C. recommendation for Groundsmen, namely Grade C (at present £4 11s. 0d. per week).

(iii) That Mr. Attwood be granted a service tenancy of the cottage at an inclusive weekly rental of 10s by which sum his wages be reduced during the time he occupies the cottage.

(b) Cheltenham Motor Club—This Club had, by Min. 2057 (d), been granted the use of this ground for motor cycle football matches on eight alternate Wednesdays from May until the middle of August at a rent of £12 10s. 0d. for each occasion. The Club accepted the Council's terms but made application for a reduction in rent on the occasion of two matches to be arranged in aid of a local charity, namely, the provision of a bus to convey children of Nazareth House to school. RESOLVED, That the application be not acceded to.

(c) Car Park [Min. 1829 (c)/46]—The Borough Surveyor submitted lay-out plan of the car park showing the space proposed to be allocated for country buses. RESOLVED, That the lay-out be approved subject to the entrances being widened to approximately 20 feet, and to the Council's tenants, the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club, concurring in the proposals.

29—Pittville Pump Room—(a) De-requisitioning (Min. 2064/46)—The Military Authorities had, as from 9th November, de-requisitioned this property, including the fixtures and huttings, but excluding the sites of two Nissen and one Romney huts still in use, with access thereto.

(b) Claim for dilapidations and acquisition of certain fixtures (Mins. 2064 and 2166/46)—The Military Authorities enquired if the Council desired to purchase certain structures erected in the vicinity of the Pump Room and on the 12th October a special meeting had been held at Pittville to give consideration thereto. As a result of that meeting, certain recommendations were submitted to the Council (Min. 2166/46) when the matter was referred back to permit the Committee to discuss further the proposals.

The Borough Surveyor stated that on 23rd October, with a representative of the War Claims Department, an inspection had been made and as a result he now recommended that the Council acquire two Nissen huts, one at the east entrance and the other in the nursery grounds ; certain brick-built lean-to erections under the east and west porticos ; electricity extensions ; plaster boarding ; sinks ; taps ; and other items for a total sum of £100 10s. 0d., the Council to accept responsibility for demolition and necessary surface and other reinstatement. Neither the Council nor the War Department required the brick meat store and as the latter were unable to undertake demolition for some considerable time, they suggested that the Council might like to carry out this work, including reinstatement, retaining all materials, the War Department paying in addition £100 towards the cost. If this was acceptable, this sum could be set off against the amount claimed from the Council for the purchase of the items mentioned above.

The Borough Surveyor stated that much of the material would be invaluable for work which the Council had in mind, for example, the provision of garages at Sandford Nurseries. and the adaptation of the store-room at the Gardens Superintendent's office into additional office accommodation for the Deputy Superintendent, which works had already been approved by the Council but had been delayed owing to shortage of materials. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved, the claim against the War Department being adjusted accordingly.

(ii) That the Street & Highway Committee be approached to undertake the necessary work.

(iii) That the Borough Surveyor prepare details of the further claim to be submitted to the Military Authorities for other items of dilapidation not now taken into account.

(c) West of England Ladies' Kennel Society—This Society desired to promote a Dog Show in late May or early June on lines similar to shows held in Cheltenham before the war and made application for the use of the Pump Room and Gardens. The Committee were reluctant to accede thereto having regard to damage likely to be sustained and the fact that since the last show a very fine herbaceous border had been provided on the north side, running parallel with Albert Road. The policy of the Council was that Dog Shows be accommodated in the winter months in the pavilion at Montpellier Gardens, including the lawns immediately adjacent thereto, and in the summer months at the Athletic Ground. RESOLVED, That the Society be offered the free use of the Athletic Ground on two days in May or June subject to their accepting responsibility for damage and out-of-pocket expenses, and also the dates fixed not clashing with the Bath and West Show.

30—Pittville Gardens (a) Heating of Nurseries [Min. 1837 (c)/46]--The Borough Surveyor stated that he had communicated with the Ministry of Fuel and Power with regard to the use of wood fuel in the boilers at these Nurseries and had been informed that it would be permissible for the Council to use any timber therefor which was obtained from trees on the estates belonging to the Parks Department.

(b) Boiler—The Borough Surveyor stated that an inspection showed two cracked sections. As it was impossible to obtain new sections for some months to come, as a temporary measure Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall had been authorised to undertake welding to enable the boiler to function during the winter months. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(c) Aviaries—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that the Aviaries be heated. At present the Department possessed canaries to the value of £60 and if these birds were accommodated in unheated pens, considerable losses would be sustained. The Borough Electrical Engineer stated that little current would be used and he estimated the cost of installation at £19 5s. 2d., but the Borough Surveyor suggested that possibly certain heaters now at the Pump Room would be available for the purpose, thus reducing the cost. RESOLVED, That heating be provided by the most economical means.

(d) Boating—(i) Receipts—The boating receipts for the season up to 27th October totalled £451 18s. 6d.

(ii) The Gardens Superintendent recommended that all craft be subjected to an expert examination and repaired where necessary before the commencement of next season, and he recommended that Messrs. Sanders, Boat Builders, of Pershore, be asked to carry out this work, RESOLVED, That this be approved.

31—King George V Playing Field—(a) Cultivation—Certain work of cultivation was required to the 7 acres at this field at a cost of 25s. per acre. RESOLVED, That the two contracts now submitted be entered into with the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee.

(b) Lay-out—By Min. 2199/46, the Street & Highway Committee had agreed to bear £1,250 of the expenditure of £1,921 incurred during the time the field was used as a tip. The Borough Treasurer reported that taking into account the grants to be received from the King George's Fields Foundation and also from the Gloucester-shire Playing Fields Association, a sum of £329 remained in hand for future work.

(c) Extension of Area—The Housing Committee were about to acquire Rowanfield Gardens for housing purposes and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that application be made for a strip of land sufficient to square off this playing field at the northern end, thus effecting an improved lay-out. The Borough Surveyor was prepared to recommend the Housing Committee accordingly subject to the necessary financial adjustment. RESOLVED, That the Housing Committee be approached accordingly.

(d) Surplus Soil from Rowanfield Housing Estate—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the surplus soil from this Estate would be eminently suitable for surface dressing and recommended that application be made to the Housing Committee accordingly. The Borough Surveyor considered that as the Housing Estate immediately adjoined the playing field, a satisfactory arrangement could be made, the Parks Department being responsible for transport. RESOLVED, That the Housing Committee also be approached on this matter.

32—Victory Sports Ground—(a) Dressing Rooms and Boiler House—The Borough Surveyor had inspected the electrical installation and had ascertained that the wiring required renewal at an estimated cost of £29. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised.

(b) Clinker—The Borough Surveyor reported that loads of clinker continued to be deposited upon this ground.

33—St. Peter's Recreation Ground (Min. 1178/46)—Application had been made to the Ministry of Health for a loan of £1,850 for re-surfacing this ground but the Ministry stated that in view of the necessity for conserving capital, labour and materials for works of highest priority, the application could not be acceded to. The Committee were disappointed at this decision as this ground was the only sports area in the densely populated St. Peter's district and in their opinion it was urgently necessary that the ground be restored and made available, particularly for the use of children and young people. The Gardens Superintendent stated that the expenditure was mainly for mechanical appliances and surface dressing and only the minimum amount of manual labour would be involved. As he intended to carry out the work by direct labour no recruitment would be necessary. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be urged to re-consider their decision.

34—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground—(a) Erection of Hut for use as Community Centre (Min. 1571/46)—With reference to the lease entered into with the Cheltenham College Mission for the hut and site on this ground for a term of 5 years, the County Council had pointed out that in view of the considerable expenditure now being incurred for equipment, the Ministry of Education require a period of not less than 7 years. The County Council also asked that in the event of the College Mission ceasing to function during the term, the Council should consent to the Mission assigning the tenancy to them on the understanding that if this course became necessary, the future use of the hut would be under the control of the Cheltenham Youth Committee. RESOLVED, That a new lease

with the Cheltenham College Mission for 7 years be entered into and that consent to an assignment in the manner proposed, be approved.

(b) Football Pitch—Oakley Training College—This College applied for the use of a football pitch. The Gardens Superintendent reported that pitches were fully allocated for Saturday afternoons and during the week the ground was used by schools for organised games. It might be possible to accommodate the College during week-days at times when the ground was not required for other purposes. RESOLVED, That the College be granted any vacant periods which will not clash with other fixtures, the Gardens Superintendent making appropriate allocations.

35—Air Training Corps-125 (Cheltenham) Squadron—This Squadron had received notice to vacate their present Headquarters as the accommodation was required for schools. They, therefore, asked if the Council would sympathetically consider leasing a site to enable huts to be erected. The Town Clerk had suggested that to expedite the matter the Corps should indicate the sites they had in mind. RESOLVED, That this information be awaited, but that in the meantime the Corps be informed that this Committee will, so far as the proposals affect land under their control, give sympathetic consideration thereto.

36—Land Lying Between Lansdown Road, Douro Road and Lansdown Crescent (Min. 986/46)—The District Valuer assessed the value of this land at £750, the Council to undertake that the same will not be built upon ; also to provide the Ladies' College with alternative accommodation for their botanical specimens, and to dismantle and re-erect their pavilion on other land. RESOLV That the terms be accepted, the Gardens Super-intendent to make the necessary arrangements for alternative accommodation for botanical specimens. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan for the purchase money, costs and stamp duty amounting £774.

37—St. George's Square Bowling Green--The Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club appreciated the improvement effected in this green but pointed out that the work would be wasted unless adequate regard was paid to upkeep, and they asked for a more generous interpretation of their Agreement dealing with mowing and rolling. They felt that in the past neither operation was undertaken as often as necessary. The Committee were surprised at these statements as they considered the ground was now in better condition than ever before and a man was almost wholly employed in maintenance. Having regard to the nominal rental received from the Club, namely £50 per annum, the request seemed unreasonable and the Committee considered that if additional upkeep was required beyond that undertaken last season the terms of the lease must be revised at the expiration in March next. The Borough Surveyor stated that the air-raid shelter and static water tank would shortly be removed and the Gardens Superintendent proposed to commence reinstatement work as soon as possible. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly.

9

18---Naunton Park Recreation Ground—(a) Reinstatement (Min. 2068/46)—The Gardens Superintendent had commenced work of reinstatement with the removal of a portion of the poplar avenue. It was originally intended that the whole avenue be removed, but the Gardens Superintendent now recommended that as a temporary measure one line of trees be retained to serve as a barrier between the recreation ground and the ornamental lay-out. Without such harrier, considerable nuisance and damage would undoubtedly occur. RESOLVED, That this suggestion be adopted.

(b) Schools Canteen (Min. 1827/46)—On giving further consideration to the proposed access road for vehicles delivering goods to the new canteen and to the area beyond the proposed floral lay-out, the Gardens Superintendent pointed out that the area involved would encroach upon the Rugby Football pitch and render it unusable in the future. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk discuss this matter further with the County Architect to ascertain if it is possible to rearrange the scheme to avoid interference with the pitch.

39—Montpellier Gardens--(a) Lime Trees (Min. 2069/46)—Consideration of the removal of five lime trees overhanging the tennis courts had been deferred in order that members of the Committee might take an opportunity of inspecting the same. They concurred in the Gardens Superintendent's recommendations, particularly as it had been discovered that tree roots were now appearing both in the tennis courts' surface and in the drive adjoining. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent's recommendation be approved.

(b) Elm Trees—The Gardens Superintendent also recommended the removal of a dangerous elm tree in the vicinity of the hut formerly used as a British Restaurant. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(c) Custodian's Residence—Certain repairs and decorations were now urgently required to these premises and the Borough Surveyor stated that he hoped to carry out the work in the near future.

(d) Tennis Courts (Min. 2065/46)----The Gardens Superintendent reported in regard to the provision of new En tout cas tennis courts as suggested by the Entertainments Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred, and that in the meantime it be suggested to the Entertainments Sub-Committee that a joint meeting be held at the Montpellier Gardens to inspect the site which the Gardens Superintendent has in mind.

40--Promenade—Ornamental Gardens in front of Nos. 99-119 (Min. 2059/46)--The Gardens Superintendent drew attention to the restricted area available for floral layout and suggested that to some extent ornamental and flowering shrubs be utilised. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

41—Oxford and Priory Parades—Ornamental Layout--The Gardens Superintendent submitted proposed layout for these Gardens and suggested that to enable a floral display to be provided for the entire frontage to High Street, the approach roads for pedestrians and vehicular traffic be rearranged. This could be accomplished by treating the area in front of Priory Parade in a similar manner to that existing at Oxford Parade, where the surface road runs parallel with, and directly in front of the houses. Such an arrangement would eliminate the existing circular service drive in front of Priory Parade and the short access road from High Street, running between the two areas. By this means a long and useful site split only by the approach road to Oxford Street could be obtained and no difficulties should arise in giving effect thereto if an entrance to the access road in front of Priory Parade was provided from Priory Street. RESOLVED, That the suggestions be approved, in principle, and that the Gardens Superintendent submit his estimate to the next meeting.

42—Parish Churchyard—Maintenance (Min. 2061/46)--The Gardens Superintendent had discussed with the Rector the suggestion that this Council should, in future, undertake the maintenance of the Parish Churchyard, the Church Council accepting responsibility for all expenditure. The Church Council were willing to contribute £3 per week, excluding cost of materials, but it was understood that alterations or adaptations of the existing lay-out should be first submitted to and approved by the Church Council. RESOLVED, That the proposal be accepted, and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary agreement to give effect thereto.

43—Sandford and Pittville Nurseries—The plant material necessary to meet all requirements in 1947 would involve an increase of many thousands beyond those produced this year and to help meet this demand, the Gardens Superintendent recommended that the quotation of Messrs. Smith Bros., Ltd., for 20 frame lights at £2 10s. 0d. each be accepted. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

44—Transport—The Department's transport comprised 2 vehicles, namely, a Patisson vehicle and a Morris lorry, the latter acquired from the Salva Department some time ago. The Patisson vehicle was now beyond repair but would be replaced in due course by the new Fordson Tractor authorised by Min. 602/46. The other vehicle was now in such a condition that the gang mowers could not safely be attached thereto and it was impossible for sports areas to receive attention. The Borough Surveyor stated that he was unable to loan a tractor to the Department as the only suitable vehicle belonging to the Highways Department was in constant use. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised, pending the delivery of the Fordson tractor, to hire a vehicle to enable the Athletic Ground and Victory Sports Ground to receive attention. ALSO RESOLVED, That he submit recommendations to the next meeting for the acquisition of another suitable vehicle for the Department.

45—Agricultural Implements—The Gardens Superintendent recommended the purchase of second-hand cultivators and harrows for attachment to the new tractor. This would enable the Department to carry out their own work of cultivation and avoid the necessity of engaging the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to acquire such implements at a cost of not exceeding £20.

46—Air-raid Shelters, Static Water Tanks, etc.—The Gardens Superintendent reported that he understood that, as soon as practicable, the air-raid shelters at Sandford Park (Bath Road Entrance) and St. George's Square Bowling Green, together with the bases and remains of static water tanks at Montpellier Gardens, Montpellier Roundabout, Naunton Park and Oxford Parade, would be removed. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to expedite the work in order that maintenance and layout may commence.

47--Traffic Roundabouts—Maintenance—The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had now obtained a list of the roundabouts for which this Committee had accepted responsibility for layout, and he proposed to resume maintenance thereof. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

10

48—Field Lodge—The Gardens Superintendent asked for certain minor repairs to be carried out to his residence to avoid dampness. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to undertake this.

49—Food Production—Sales—During the month of October revenue from sales of produce amounted to £44 12s. 10d. Produce to the value of 8s 4d had been supplied to the British Restaurants, 19s. 4d. to the Town Hall, £34 12s. 8d. from sales to the Gloucestershire Marketing Society, and £2 12s. 6d. for pig potatoes.

50—Staff—(a) Lorry Driver—Overalls—This employee applied for an allocation of overalls and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that the request be acceded to. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to include the lorry driver in the list of employees to whom a periodical allocation of overalls is granted.

(b) Up-grading of Gardeners—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers made application for all employees at present classified in Grades B and C, to be up-graded to Grades C and D.



This application was based on the ground that the J.I.C. classification prescribed Grade B as the appropriate Grade for "assistant" gardeners, whereas the Council had included gardeners therein. With regard to the up-grading of Grade C employees, the Union suggested that this be subject to a condition that all employees effected, should satisfactorily undergo an oral and practical test.

The Gardens Superintendent reported that eight employees were included in Grade C at £4 11s. 0d. per week ; sixteen in B at £4 8s. 6d. per week ; and nine in A at £4 4s. 6d. per week. The J.I.C. classification included " General Labourers in Grade A ; " Assistant Gardeners " in B ; " Gardeners in C ; and " Propagating Gardeners " in D. The Committee carefully considered the J.I.C. classifications and it appeared to them that the position of " assistant gardener " was extremely difficult to define in that few gardeners required a mate or assistant and if such assistance was provided it was usually undertaken by what might be termed a " labourer." The Committee felt that the J.I.C. could, with advantage to all concerned better define their classifications and include in Grade A " gardeners' Labourers ; in Grade B " Gardeners undertaking routine duties " ; and in Grade C " Qualified Gardeners." RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting in order that the Gardens Superintendent may report more fully thereon. ALSO RESOLVED, That in the meantime the Town Clerk communicate with the J.I.C. informing them of the Council's difficulty in Grading and suggesting that the designations relating to parks and gardens establishments might, with advantage to all affiliated local authorities, be more specifically defined.

(c) Stewards --The Union also asked for recognition to be given to two stewards for the Department to be elected by the staff. The Street and Highway Committee by Min. 2012/46 had agreed to this course in regard to the Highways Department, particularly if full co-operation could be achieved resulting in increased efficiency. RESOLVED, That this application also be adjourned to the next meeting.

W. J. GREEN. Chairman.

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**13th November, 1946.** Present-Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss and Yeend and Messrs. F. S. Bond, H. J. Lewis, and C. R. Mapp.

51-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

52-The Late Dr. Davies—The Committee recorded their appreciation of the long service rendered by Dr. Richard Davies, and expressed their sympathy with his widow.

53-Curator's Report for September and October, 1946.

" Visitors" during September and October, 7202 (September and October last year, 14,323-Photos of Cheltenham Bomb Damage were on view during this period). Daily average, 138 (last year, 275). Included in this figure were nine parties from colleges and schools.

" Receipts "-Catalogues, postcards, etc., £2 13s. 0d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum's A/c, £,10 8s. 6d.

" Talk by the Curator "-Since the last Meeting the Curator had given the following talk : " Cheltenham Past and Present " to St. Andrew's Guild, on 21st October, 1946.

" Exhibitions"-An International Exhibition of Photography was on view from 17-28th September. During this period it was visited by 2,058 persons, an average of 187 per day. An Exhibition of

Paintings and Portraits by Alfred Wolmark was on view from 14-31st October. During this period it was visited by 2,018 persons, an average of 126 per day.

" L. Campbell Taylor "-Six prints reproducing " An Interior by L. Campbell Taylor, R.A., had beets received from the publishers as a gift. Resolved, That the method of use be deferred for further consideration.

" Escaré Collection "-The Curator reported as to his inspection in London of Mr. Escaré's collection of old- time examples of craftsmanship in metal, offered for purchase, and recommended that no offer be made RESOLVED, That this be confirmed.

11

54—Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors :—Major G. A. Beale-Browne (articles of military costume formerly the property of his family) ; Miss Minnie Dean (2 moulds of lithographic stone, used for making leaden toys in Cheltenham, by her grandfather, S. Dean) ; Mrs. Nicholls (Scottish Snuff-mull, inscribed "M.D. 1731) ; Mrs. A. B. Cripps (Wheel-chair as used from about 1870 by her grandfather, Smith); and other items front Mrs. Magill, Miss Thorold and the late Miss E. Jones. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

55—Specimens purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved :—

(a) General A/c: Tortoiseshell Snuff-box (1 gn.).

(b) " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c: Brown lustre pottery jug (£1 12s. 6d.) ; 2 Thumbscrews £1 10s. 0d.); Flint-lock (15s.); Tooth-extractor (5s.); Mechanical fire-blower (£17 10s. 0d.).

56—Exhibitions—RESOLVED, (a) That the Georgian Group be granted facilities for an exhibition " Four phases of Georgian architecture " from 8th-22nd March, 1947.

(b) That the Curator be authorised to organise a One-man Exhibition of the work of Charles March Gere, R.A., of Painswick, during May, 1947.

(c) That the Cheltenham Art Club be granted facilities for an Exhibition for a period of two weeks during 1947.

(d) That facilities be granted for an International Exhibition of Photography, organised by Mr. Hugo van Wadenoyen, during two weeks of September, 1947.

(e) That facilities for a Bible Exhibition be granted to the Bible Testimony Fellowship, for one week in 1947, at which Mr. Wm. Harris would give talks on the development of the Book.

(f) Bath and West Agricultural Show, 1947--That the Curator be authorised to co-operate in the matter of loans of agricultural implements of other days, on the understanding that marquees, transport, set-up and supervision be provided by the organisers of the Show.

57—Bust of F. D. Roosevelt—The Curator reported on correspondence with Mr. Irving Myers, of California, to allow a plaster model made in Cheltenham of the late President Roosevelt, to be used for a bronze replica. RESOLVED, That Mr. Myers be thanked for his offer, which the Committee regret they are unable to entertain.

58—Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery be closed on the 23rd, 24th and 25th December, 1946, and open on Boxing Day, 26th December, 1946.

59—Permanent Catalogue—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to produce a supplement to the Art Gallery Catalogue for insertion into the present edition, and that thereafter the price be increased to 2s. per copy.

60—Staff Social--RESOLVED, That the application of the Library Staff for the free use of the Art Gallery for a Social Evening on the 20th December, 1946, be granted.

61—No. 2 Chester Walk—The Borough Surveyor reported that a sum of £300 was included in the estimates for the demolition of this property comprising the old bakery formerly used by Messrs. Georges, Ltd. Two tenders were obtained by advertisement, the lower of the two being £435, which he considered excessive, and in view of the urgency of the matter, he had therefore commenced the work by direct labour. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

CLARA F. WINTER BOTHAM, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**14th November, 1946.** Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), S. Bendall, Brown and Mann ; Rev. B. Thomas, Messrs. H. J. Norris and F. Vernall.

62—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman D. L. Lipson be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

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

64—Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr . C. E. Walsh be appointed the Standing Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

65—School Libraries Sub-Committee--RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee act as representative of this Committee on the School Libraries Sub-Committee.

66—The Late Dr. Davies and the Late Canon Johnstone—RESOLVED, That the Committee record their appreciation of the services rendered since 1919 by Dr. Richard Davies and Canon P. M. C. Johnstone, and their sympathy with their widows.

12

67—Librarian's Report for September and October, 1946:—

"issues "—Ref. Dept., 11,424 ; Lending Dept., 71,968 : Junior Dept., 9,340 ; Branch Libraries, 3,640 ; School Libraries (April-September), 9,640 ; Loan Collections, 800. Total, 106,812 (September and October last year, 108,067).

" Receipts" amounted to £153 6s. 8d. "

Replacements and Binding "--244 volumes had been replaced. 262 had been dispatched to the Binder, and 891 had been returned. All Bookbinders doing work for the Library had notified a further increase in their charges, which brings cost of re-binding to 100% above prices ruling in 1939.

" Lectures "—Four lectures had been given in the evening, and one in the afternoon, in the Art Gallery, at which the average attendance was 64.

" Lunch-Hour Opening"—The Librarian reported that use made of the Lending Library during the lunch-hour was still increasing, since its reinstatement on the 2nd September, 1946, and that it would

be necessary to retain two members of the staff on duty instead of one, if the lunch-hour became still more popular.

68—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 905 volumes and one map, published at £423 8s. 0d., be purchased for £375 17s. 2d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding. (c) That the sum of £50 be spent on replacements.

69—Donations—82 volumes had been received from 14 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

70—Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library be closed on the 24th, 25th and 26th December, 1946, but kept open the whole of Friday, 27th December, 1946.

71—Staff—(a) The Librarian reported the circumstances leading to the resignation (from 9th November, 1946) of Miss S. M. Coates, recently appointed Junior Assistant on probation, which was accepted with regret. (b) The Librarian reported on the satisfactory services rendered by Mr. A. E. Clarkson since he was appointed in March last, and recommended that, as from the 18th November, 1946, his wage be increased from £4 16s. 0d. per week to £5 16s. 0d. per week, which would make his pay equivalent to that which the late caretaker would have been receiving, had he survived.

11. C. GRIMWADE. Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**11th November, 1946.** Present—Aldermen Waite and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner and Strickland.

72—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Biggs be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

73—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

74--Sub-Committee—The following were appointed the Standing Sub-Committee for the ensuing year ; Aldermen Leigh James, Waite and Winterbotham, Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Carter and Strickland.

75—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) (a) Quarterly Report—The report of the Public Analyst for the quarter ended 30th September, 1946, was submitted. (b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst on samples Nos. 796-797 (cinnamon), No. 798 (chocolate cup), No. 800 (gelatine), and Nos. 801-806 (milk), all of which were satisfactory.

(ii) Ice-Cream—Circular 183/46, Ministry of Health, was submitted indicating that draft Ice-Cream (Heat-Treatment) Regulations, 1946, had been published in the London Gazette and suggestions considered by the Minister in regard to cleanliness tests for ice-cream, but whilst bacteriological tests were favourable as an indication of possible faulty methods, no test had yet been devised for the safety of ice-cream, Attention of local authorities was drawn to existing powers under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and, in particular those powers relating to ventilation, sanitation, cleanliness and registration of premises used for the sale or manufacture of ice-cream ; observation of cleanliness by persons employed in such premises, display of names and addresses of persons selling ice-cream on vehicles or containers, and the control of incidence of milk-borne diseases due to the consumption of ice-cream.

(iii) Ice-Cream Registration—No. 28 Suffolk Road had ceased to be used for the manufacture and sale, of ice-cream and the registration had been deleted.

76—Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1936—Medical Officer of Health reported samples of pasteurised milk been taken from two firms : one was satisfactory, whilst the remaining sample although not quite satisfactory, complied with the prescribed standards. Further samples had been taken which were satisfactory.

13

77-Milk and Dairies Order, 1926-1935—(i) The following premises, previously registered as dairy premises, had now ceased to be used and had been deleted from the register : 62 Hewlett Road. 29 Sherborne Street. 84 Fairview Road. 3 St. George's Street.

(ii) RESOLVED, That Mr. L. Allen, 11 St. Paul's Street, be registered as a purveyor of milk in respect of Backhedge Dairy, 3 Pilley Lane.

78---Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements—Royal Well Villa, 12 Royal Parade, 20 Park Place, 30 Painswick Road, 29 Montpellier Villas, 18 Montpellier Villas, 10 Montpellier Villas, 33 Imperial Square, Wellington House, Welling. ton Street, 32 Evesham Road, 3 Sydenham Villas Road, 10 Sydenham Villas Road, 5 Lansdown Terrace—The Sub-Committee reported on their inspection of the above basements and representations were sub-mitted by the Medical Officer of Health thereon. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above. mentioned parts of the said buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of this Committee to be held on the 19th December, 1946.

(ii) 6, 7, & 8 Kew Place (Min. 1864)—The solicitors to the owners of this property had been informed that the Council were not prepared to purchase these properties subject to their clients' stipulation that he be given the right to re-purchase the site after eventual demolition of the buildings by the Council, and asking that such stipulation be withdrawn, but no reply had been received. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the premises No. 6 Kew Place were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation and were riot capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, a Demolition Order be made in pursuance of Sec. 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed thereto.

(iii) Unfit Houses RESOLVED, That licences for the re-occupation of the undermentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months after the date set opposite the premises.

13 Witcombe Place expires 19th December, 1946.

11 Edward Street expires 21st December, 1946.

12 Edward Street expires 21st December, 1946.

ALSO RESOLVED, that licences for Sidney Cottage, Sidney Street, 5 Edward Terrace, 5 Hewlett Place, be not renewed.

(iv) Housing Survey [Min. 1869 (ii)]—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the Housing Committee were of the opinion that the carrying out of a housing survey as suggested by him in Min. 1869, but modified on lines which could be done without inspecting individual houses, thus avoiding embarrassment to the Housing Committee and occupiers of premises, would be of assistance in enabling them to forecast more accurately their housing requirements. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances the Chief Sanitary Inspector be authorised to carry out the survey on the lines proposed and that Min. 1869 (ii) be varied accordingly.

79—Diphtheria Immunisation—(i) The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon Diphtheria Immunisation treatment for the month of October.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| No. of new cases (immunisation commenced)                             | 87  |
| No. of injections given   | 160 |
| “ cases in which treatment was completed during the month (total 73)- |     |
| (a) under 5 years of age ...  | 72  |
| (b) 5 to 15 years of age ...  | 1   |
| “ Schick tests ...  | 14  |
| Clinics were held as follows—   |     |
| Clarence Square Nursery   | 1   |
| School Clinic   | 4   |

(ii) Campaign—The arrangements with Messrs. F. Mason & Co., Ltd., advertising agents, in respect of the display notices in Cheltenham omnibuses would expire on the 7th December, 1946. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be continued for a further period of six months at a cost of £14 8s. 0d. RESOLVED ALSO That the Medical Officer of Health consider amending the design of the present notices.

80—Public Abattoir (Min. 1271)—(i) Letter was submitted from the Worcester and Midland Ice Co. stating that the Ministry of Works was now prepared to consider the granting of a licence for the erection of proposed cold storage accommodation at the public abattoir. The Company had instructed their architects to submit the necessary information to the Ministry as quickly as possible.

(ii) Tripe Dressing—Mr. K. Blease was granted a weekly tenancy at £1 10s. 0d. per week of one of the pig Dens at the public abattoir in connection with his business as a tripe dresser. In view of his increase in business and greater use of the facilities at the abattoir, he had agreed to increase his rent to £4 per week. He asked that a door-way be constructed through the wall of an adjoining pig-pen, and that the tenancy should be quarterly. RESOLVED, (i) That the Council approve the increased rent on a quarterly tenancy and that the Town Clerk prepare a new agreement accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to construct the doorway as suggested.

(iii) Horse Show (Min. 1870)—The Committee considered a suggestion that the driver, Mr. R. J. Wiggett, be paid a portion of the £15 prize money in respect of the successes achieved at shows by the horse at the abattoir. RESOLVED, That the above sum and future prize money be allocated in equal proportions between the Council and the driver who was responsible for to care and preparation of the horse.

14

(iv) Water Supply—The Borough Surveyor reported that the present water supply of 1" service, with a ¾" meter supply to the Abattoir was not sufficient. He suggested laying a new ¾" lead service from the main road to a meter pit to be constructed under the footpath with a 1" galvanised iron

pipe from that point to the boiler house at an estimated cost of £65, which was included in the estimates. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to proceed with this work as soon as possible,

(v) Overhead Run-way—The Borough Surveyor reported there had been several accidents recently and it was necessary that the overhead run-way should be overhauled, The makers, Messrs. Brooke & Crowther, had been asked to submit an estimate for this work. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved, and that the Chairman be authorised to accept the estimate if satisfactory.

81—British Social Hygiene Council—RESOLVED, That the annual subscription of £1 1s. 0d. be renewed for the ensuing year, and that the Medical Officer of Health be re-appointed this Council's representative on that Council.

82—Public Health Act, 1936—(a) Camping Sites—(i) Harthurstfield Farm—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. W. P. Davies for renewal of the licence of his camping site be approved until the 31st October, 1947.

(ii) Kingscote, Wards Road, Up Hatherley—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. Cadwallader for a licence for a camping site at these premises be not granted.

(b) Statutory Notices—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon certain defects at 5 Sun Street, 107 Tewkesbury Road, 17 Hatherley Street and 4 Burton Street, RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 28 days from the date of the notices.

(ii) Dust Bins—RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of No. 7 St. Phillips Street under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 27 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, requiring provision of a regulation dust-bin at that property.

(iii) The following statutory notices had not been complied with :—

27 St. James Street (Provision of dustbin),

Vine Tree Cottage, Chapel Lane do.

16 Waterloo Street (Defective ceiling, etc.).

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the owners that failing compliance with the notices, legal proceedings would be instituted.

83-Rat Infestation-Private Dwellings Special Scheme (Min. 1625)—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had now received a communication from the Ministry of Food. South Western District, indicating that the Private Dwellings Special Scheme as contained in Circular N.S.12 (Ministry of Food) was also applicable to mice infestation. RESOLVED, That the Council's Scheme be now amplified to include mice infestation on the same lines as those adopted in respect of rat infestation.

84—Sewers—(i) Maida Vale and St. Anne's Road—Letter was submitted from Mr. T. Price enclosing final accounts in connection with the extension of the sewer in Maida Vale which indicated a considerable loss. The tender accepted was £818 8s. 0d. and the actual cost £1,258 10s. 8d. The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to unforeseen circumstances including extremely bad weather, site conditions and impossibility of using a digger owing to position of the various services laid in this road which could not be correctly given to the contractor. RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances, Mr. Price be paid a sum of £1,000 instead of his original tender figure of

£818 8s. 0d., such payment to be made without prejudice or acknowledgment of any-liability on the part of the Council.

(ii) Factory, Kingsditch Lane—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had now had further discussions with the architect of Messrs. Metalcraft (Cheltenham) Ltd., the County Surveyor and the Surveyor of the Cheltenham Rural District Council in connection with the provision of drainage for the proposed new factory in Kingsditch Lane. The County Surveyor had stated that owing to the size and condition of the County Council surface water sewer, additional connections could not be made. The architects had intimated that their clients were prepared to pay the cost of a 6" drain along the Kingsditch Lane to Pike House, estimated at £600. The Borough Surveyor recommended that in view of possible future development, a 9" foul sewer should be provided and connected to the Barn Farm outfall at an estimated cost of £970, and that the Company should be requested to contribute £600 towards the cost of this sewer, and the balance to be borne equally by this Council and the Rural District Council. The Surveyor to the Cheltenham Rural District Council had intimated that he would recommend his Council to contribute half the cost above the contribution from the Company, namely £185. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyors recommendations be approved.

C. W. BIGGS Chairman.

15

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**12<sup>th</sup> November, 1946.** Present—The Mayor; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bishop, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Morris, Strickland and Yeend.

85 --Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

86--Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor G. B. Compton be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

87 --Estate Management Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the following constitute the Estate Management Sub-Committee for the ensuing year : The Mayor, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bishop, Compton, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Morris and Strickland.

88—Requisitioning Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the following constitute the Requisitioning Sub-Committee for the ensuing year: The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Compton and Grimwade.

89—Supplies of Softwood for Houses—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 201/46 from the Ministry of Health. Since supplies of softwood came almost exclusively from abroad and at present there was a world-wide demand for timber for housing and reconstruction purposes, there was a serious shortage of this material. As timber had become the limiting factor in the provision of housing, a choice had had to be made between reducing the number of houses to be built and reducing the amount of timber per house, and owing to the vital need for houses, the Minister decided to choose the latter alternative. The maximum quantity of softwood which could be allowed for new houses, other than "cost of works" replacements, would, therefore, be 1.6 standards per 1,000 superficial feet floor area, allowances of hardwood and plywood remaining unchanged. Sufficient home-grown hardwood for a 10ft. length per house of close-boarded fencing, not exceeding 6ft. in height, would also be allowed. The maximum softwood allowances related to a traditional house of 1,000 sq. ft., smaller houses being proportionately reduced. Non-traditional houses required substantially less. A



memorandum on timber economy showing possible softwood savings was being prepared for issue. Principal economies specified for house construction were the elimination of timber joists and hoarding throughout the ground floor and the substitution of solid floors, and the elimination of timber from roofs of outbuildings and the substitution of concrete or other flat roof construction. These and any other necessary economies to reduce softwood content to the new maximum should be adopted immediately. The reduction would affect houses in course of erection for which timber licences had not yet been issued, but not cases where licences had been issued as alterations at this stage would involve delay. On contracts in progress, where only a part of the required timber had been drawn, solid floors should be substituted in houses where construction had not begun and in these cases economies thus made would be taken into consideration when future licences were issued for the remainder of the timber, so that local authorities should ensure that their contractors made the best use of timber already drawn. With regard to solid floors, granolithic or cement finish should be used in kitchen and hall floors to conserve pitch mastic, mastic asphalt and quarry tiles for living rooms only. Local authorities were advised to give alternatives for flooring in living rooms when obtaining tenders and also to consider long-term requirements and specify their demands as far ahead as possible. Attention was being given to the production of necessary materials and to the development of other types of flooring which were not yet generally available, and also to the future supply of wood blocks. In future, timber licences would not be issued when tenders were approved but only when timber was actually required and this should be made clear to contractors. Demands for timber should only be made as and when the timber was actually required. The restriction on timber applied to private builders in the same way and building licences should only be issued when the builder was ready to commence work immediately upon the receipt of the licence so that timber would not be lying idle. Future building licences should be issued on condition that use of timber for construction of ground floors was prohibited and the type of flooring material was as specified. These economies might have to be applied for some time to come although efforts were being made to improve supplies.

The Borough Surveyor reported that in respect of the 62 houses in Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell's first contract, the 8 houses in Brooklyn Road and 4 in Chelt Road timber licences were issued on the scale of 2 standards per house. The wood block flooring of the living and dining rooms had been ordered, but whether the Ministry would now allow wood blocks to be used remained to be seen. With regard to the 72 houses in Scheme No. 2, timber licences had been obtained for the first 28 houses on the new scale and apart from the elimination of wood block floors few further economies would have to be effected. Alternative floor covering would have to be found for the houses under this contract. It neither of the alternatives suggested by the Ministry for covering living room floors were obtainable there would be no alternative but to use concrete finish. This would not be very satisfactory from the tenants' point of view but unfortunately there was little or no choice. The Borough Surveyor was also giving the necessary instruction for complying with the Circular so far as timber for private building was concerned. RESOLVED, That in carrying out the terms of the Circular the Borough Surveyor be given discretion to use such alternative finishes for ground floors as are available from time to time.

90—Use of Paint in Building Construction—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 194/46 from the Ministry of Health with regard to economy in the use of linseed and other vegetable oils in paint in building construction and an accompanying Memorandum contained schedule of different categories of work with types of paint and substitutes which should be used.

91—Control of Civil Building—Circular R.H. 7/46 was submitted from the Ministry of Health. There was still some misunderstanding of the principles which should govern the submission of building

licences for consideration. The ban on the of licences had been applied because the present housing commitments were more than sufficient to absorb available labour, It was essential that labour should be regarded as mobile within a reasonable distance for this purpose, and that a zonal view should be taken of the situation. The issue of licences for private building must, however, adversely affect local authorities' building programmes and if cases were

16

submitted for consideration it must be clear that they justified such an effect. The initial programmes of local authorities were insufficient to satisfy demands and the degree of need of a prospective occupier of a house must be considered in reaching a decision on an application for a building licence. The labour position must also be considered in the light of progress and labour available on the local authority's housing schemes. It was preferable for small builders to be recruited for building for the local authority wherever possible. There were, however, exceptional cases, examples quoted being an applicant with high priority in a zone where labour requirements were below the local labour capacity; a builder who, though building for the local authority, might have a few men available who could not be usefully employed to accelerate the scheme for various reasons; the local authority might have no suitable land and land owned by the builder might not be suitable for the erection of Council houses. Recommendations to the Regional Office should, therefore, be accompanied by statements showing the degree of need, the labour force of the proposed builder showing his present commitments, the reasons why it was not possible to employ him under the small builders scheme and any other special circumstances which merited consideration.

92-District Heating--The Town Clerk submitted Circular 204/46 from the Ministry of Health, with reports of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and of the Ministry of Works and Ministry of Fuel and Power. District Heating involved generation of heat at a central plant and its distribution as steam or hot water for domestic, commercial or industrial use. Such a system was bound up with the economic use of coal. The reports reviewed district heating developments abroad and the main considerations which development in this country would raise, and practical and typical proposals for district heating on housing estates. A Committee had been constituted consisting of representatives from Departments concerned to consider schemes put forward by local authorities, etc., and any authority contemplating such a scheme was asked to obtain a copy of a questionnaire prepared by this Committee setting out points which they would wish to examine. RESOLVED, That the report be referred to the Borough Surveyor for consideration and report.

93-Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946-Intimation was received from the Ministry of Health that it had been decided to establish a Tribunal for the Borough of Cheltenham on or about the 18th November, 1946. The Chairman and one member and one reserve member were residents in the Borough, and the temporary Offices would be at 1 Wolseley Terrace, Oriel Road. The Town Clerk reported that close co-operation was being maintained with the Chairman of the Tribunal and in view of the unsuitability of the premises in Wolseley Terrace, arrangements were being made for accommodation at the Municipal Offices to be placed at the disposal of the Tribunal for interviews and the hearing of applications. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

94-The Knole-The Town Clerk submitted letter from Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society, Ltd., expressing their thanks for the assistance given by the Council in their project.

95-St. Mark's Community Association-The Town Clerk submitted application from the Secretary of St. Mark's Community Association for permission to use for decoration work a balance from the

grant of £70 made towards lighting : the balance will be between £10 and £15. Application was also made for a further grant of £56 14s. 0d. in respect of wiring materials for heating which were not included in the original estimate. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the balance of the lighting grant being applied to decorations, but that the Association be informed that applications for further grants should be made to the County Council.

96-8 St. George's Street-Arising out of the issue of a Notice by the Public Health Committee requiring certain works to be carried out in respect of this property, the owner had now offered to sell to the Council. Since this was in a redevelopment area, the Borough Surveyor expressed the view that it should be acquired. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to purchase this property at the District Valuer's valuation.

97-26 Kipling Road-The Town Clerk submitted application from the Telephone Manager, Post Office Tele-phones, for permission to the placing of one stay in the garden of this house. RESOLVED, That this be approved, subject to the usual Agreement and acknowledgment,

98-Housing Association for Industrial Concerns--Read letter of the 30th October from Roy Fedden Ltd. that they had been considering whether it would be possible to submit a scheme to the Council. for the provision of some houses for their employees. They realised the great difficulties the Council were faced with, and were anxious not to add to those difficulties. They were of the opinion that permanent pre-fabricated houses would overcome to a large extent the shortage and its traditional building materials, and, they were considering the promotion of a Housing Society for the erection of houses for their employees, it being their intention that the labour for the erection of the houses might be provided from within the Company's own resources. The Town Clerk reported that a representative of the Company had interviewed the Chairman and himself, from which it appeared that the Company might be able to provide the labour for approximately 30 houses, it being the Company's intention that such labour should be transferred to the Contractor who would build the houses and so avoid interfering with or retarding the Council's own programme. The Company asked if the Council were prepared to consider such a proposal and assist in the formation of a Society, and particularly in the matter of providing a site. They would be prepared to agree to tenants of a proportion of the houses being nominated by the Council. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed the Committee are prepared favourably to consider such a scheme provided that they can be satisfied the scheme can be implemented without injuriously affecting the Council's own programme, and that the Company be asked to submit details of their proposed scheme.

99-Community Centre, Whaddon-The Town Clerk reported on the position in regard to the N.F.S. Huts, Whaddon, which it was proposed to use in connection with the formation of a Community Association on the Whaddon Estate. Application had been made to the Ministry for transfer of the requisitioning for this purpose but it was found that this was impossible, the only grounds on which such a transfer could be effected being for the purpose of housing accommodation. The Town Clerk had, therefore, approached the owners, Messrs. Cheltenham Estates, Ltd., with a view to arriving at an agreement whereby the land and butts could be used until such time as it was possible to erect a permanent Community Centre. An interview was being arranged with the Company, after which the Town Clerk hoped to be in a position to give the Committee more definite information.

17

100—Lynworth Farm Estate-(i) Essential Works Order—The Town Clerk reported that, consent had been received from the Ministry of Works to the scheduling of Scheme No. 1 under the Essential Works Order for three months from 28th October. He had made further representations pressing for

Scheme No. 2 to be included but was informed that this application was deterred for the time being on the recommendation of the Building and civil Engineering Regional Joint Sub-Committee. The matter was, however, under constant observation and it was hoped that an early decision would be reached. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that inter-changeability of men between the two schemes was essential and this could not be done if one scheme was scheduled under the Order without the other. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk make strong representations for Scheme No. 2 also to be scheduled under the Order.

(ii) "Church Site"—The Town Clerk reported on letters received from the Bishop of Gloucester and on inter-views with the Vicar of Prestbury. It appeared that the Ecclesiastical authorities were thinking along the same lines as the Council with regard to the constitution of a separate parish for the Whaddon and Lynworth Farm Estates. The matter was being held over for the time being until the new Vicar of All Saints parish had been instituted on December 7th.

(iii) B.I.S.F. Houses—Information had been received from the Ministry of Health that it had been agreed with the British Steel Houses that owing to shortage of supplies, 2" concrete blocks rendered on the outside would replace expanded metal in the external finish of the ground floor of the steel houses. Progress on the houses was still very slow owing to shortage of certain essential components. Representations had been made to the Ministry of Health, who had replied that instructions had been passed on to the suppliers but that if the parts were not received in a reasonable time they should be communicated with again.

(iv) Progress—Schemes 1 and 2--The Borough Surveyor reported that the first 10 houses on Scheme 1 were nearing completion and so far 30 houses had been tiled, 4 more being in course of tiling. Two houses were being roofed in and 10 more were up to first floor level. Work was proceeding above ground floor level on the other 16 houses. With regard to Scheme 2, work had been completed on the foundations of the first 4 houses and was proceeding on the next 10.

(v) Additional land required—In order to facilitate completion of the Estate, the Borough Surveyor advocated the purchasing of two pieces of land on the east and west boundaries of the estate. The first was behind Prestbury Road and Oakland Court, which would allow the completion of Road No. 8, and the erection of about 20 houses. The second was a strip of land on the new extension of Priors Road immediately opposite the top of Cromwell Road, which would be added to the land already owned by the Council on which it was proposed to erect a three-storey block of two-bedroom flats. The building depth on the land now owned was inadequate. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk open negotiations for the acquisition of this land.

(vi) Montal Watch Fittings—proposed site for 6 houses—The Borough Surveyor reported an interview with Mr. Gantner, in which the proposals with regard to housing accommodation for key workers were put forward. It was proposed to erect a two block of houses abutting on the existing Priors Road and land was required between the factory site and Road No 2 for the erection of three pairs of houses. This would enable the factory to be more or less surrounded by key workers and would safeguard to a certain extent the precious metals which would be used in the works. The Borough Surveyor recommended that 180ft. of frontage abutting on the new road be leased to Messrs. Montal Watch Fittings to hold three pairs of semi-detached dwellings, the plans of which would have to be approved by the Council. RESOLVED, That the proposed site be approved, and that the land, subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health, be leased to Messrs. Montal Watch Fittings, Ltd., for a period of 60 years at a rent to be fixed by the District Valuer. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the proposed lease.

101—Building Apprenticeship Scheme—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had been in communication with the Secretary and Registrar of the Building Apprenticeship and Training Council, applying for an extension of the Apprentice Training Scheme, and pointing out the factors which must be considered when the excess expenditure over the normal agreed cost was submitted for final settlement. The position had also been explained of 34 boys engaged on the scheme at present who would be out of work on completion unless further work could be provided. The Secretary was now prepared to recommend approval to the extension of the existing scheme to cover the erection of two blocks of one-bedroom flats and two pairs of 3-bedroom houses. It was emphasised, however, that costs must be kept to a minimum and the work carried out as economically as possible and the Borough Surveyor recommended that these views should be communicated to the Local Apprenticeship Committee. The Town Clerk reported that the approval of the Ministry of Health to the scheme in principle had been received.

102—Non-traditional Houses—(a) The Town Clerk reported on a meeting which the Vice-Chairman, Borough Surveyor and himself had with representatives of George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., to discuss the erection of "No Fines" non-traditional houses in Cheltenham.

These two sites on which it was proposed to erect "No Fines " houses had been inspected and it was arranged to invite them to submit a tender for 500 houses, including quotations for various alterations which the Committee considered were desirable as a result of their inspection of the houses at Farnborough. A tender had now been received from Messrs. George Wimpey amounting to £1,168 11s. 9d. per house and outhouse with-out extra cost of variations. Variations of elevation were offered at extra cost varying from £8 per house to £38 per house and gable ends to roofs were quoted at an extra cost of £13 per house. The, Borough Surveyor reported on this tender. He was of the opinion that the specification submitted was in too much outline for adequate technical comment. The Bills of Quantities had been examined and although they had riot been checked in detail, certain points were submitted for consideration :—

(i) Rates for excavation and brickwork, in the event of bad ground being encountered, were high in comparison with prices now being paid for similar work on traditional houses.

(ii) The rate for hardcore tilling under solid floors was high.

(iii) Quantities for paths appeared to be light.

(iv) There appeared to be plenty of drainage with high rates. If this was so, remeasurement for final account should produce a saving.

18

(v) Price for gas, water and electric connections was very low.

(vi) No clothes posts appeared to be included.

The basic prices for materials upon which the tender was based did not appear to have been brought up to date since May, 1946, and prices had risen since that date. Furthermore, such items as ballast, shingle and sand, which were abundant in the London area and therefore cheap, were much higher in price in this area. There were further anomalies in the quoted basic prices, which in the Borough Surveyor's opinion would serious increase the final cost of the houses over the tendered figure. He recommended that Messrs. Wimpey and Co. be asked to submit a revised tender based on existing local prices to be considered at the next meet-ing of the Committee. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., be asked to submit a revised tender,

including various modifications as required, based on local basic rates for controlled materials at present prices to be obtained from a source approved by the Borough Surveyor. (b) Sites—The Borough Surveyor reported that after inspection of the proposed sites, Messrs. George Wimpey and Co. had expressed their willingness to undertake the preparation of the Rowanfield Road site. The Regional Architect had, however, inspected layout plans and had intimated that Wimpey " No Fines " houses were not suitable for use for all aspects but should be restricted to south and west aspects. As this, however, would have cut down the number of houses on each site by at least 50 per cent., it had been agreed that they should also face east. The effect of this would be that the number of houses would be reduced to 80 on Lynworth Farm Estate and 284 on the Rowanfield Road site. Preliminary layout plans were therefore sub-mitted, embodying the recommendations of the Regional Architect, which allowed for the interspersing of traditional houses. A considerable area had been set aside for educational purposes but the actual area would have to be agreed finally with the Education Committee. With regard to roads, Messrs. Wimpey had proposed that the work should be carried out on a schedule of prices prepared for the B.I.S.F. houses but there appeared to be several anomalies and in addition the Borough Surveyor did not think this entirely satisfactory. He recommended that a complete specification and Bill of Quantities should be drawn up for the roads and sewers, on which Messrs. Wimpey could tender. RESOLVED, (a) That the proposal to erect 80 houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate and 284 on Rowanfield Road site be approved and that the remaining 136 be erected on the Hester's Way Estate and that the Borough Surveyor prepare layout plan for the accommodation of these on this site.

(b) That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to prepare plans, specification and bills of quantities for the construction of roads and provision of services on the Rowanfield Road site and to invite tenders from selected firms including Messrs. Wimpey for carrying out the work.

103—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—The Borough Surveyor submitted amended standard plans for houses which he had prepared, omitting such fixtures and fittings as had not been approved by the Ministry of Health in regard to the 72 houses in Scheme No. 2. he had endeavoured to maintain the same standard of construction in the houses themselves, only omitting such items as it was felt on past experience would not be approved. The designs now submitted were based on the three bedroom house in pairs or terraces with a floor area of 1,050 sq. ft. including outbuildings. The principle modifications were in the provision of fire-places and cupboards but provision was made for a fireplace in one bedroom as previously decided by the Committee. Cupboards had been confined to one under the stairs and one in each of two bedrooms and a linen cupboard on the first floor. In view of the reduction made by the Ministry on previous schemes he had curtailed the electrical installation, reducing the number of power sockets to four in each house. If these designs were approved by the Committee, the Borough Surveyor would at once proceed with the preparation of working drawings and bills of quantities in order that they may be offered to small builders and he would then be in a position to convene a conference with a view to as many firms as possible being engaged to build houses for the Council on the Lynworth Farm Estate. RESOLVED, That the amended designs be approved and that the Borough Surveyor convene a conference of small builders as soon as he has prepared the necessary plans and estimates.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**12th November, 1946.** Present—Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Carter, Fildes, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Readings and Thompson.

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

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

107—Sub-Station, New Barn Lane—The Town Clerk reported consent received from the Electricity Commissioners to a loan of £4,457, which was amended from £4,361, for the cost of this sub-station.

108—Office Equipment (Min. 2116)—The Committee considered the reference back by the Council of this Minute. The Town Clerk and the Borough Electrical Engineer pointed out that they considered two machines were necessary in the Municipal Offices, in view both of the large amount of stencilling work carried out in nearly all Departments and the possibility of a breakdown in one of the machines. The machine at present in use in the Borough Electrical Engineer's Office was an old machine which formerly belonged to the Town Clerk's Department and having regard to the allowance which the manufacturers were prepared to make on this machine, reducing the net cost of a new machine to about £70) it was more economical to purchase a new machine. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision, to purchase a new Gestetner duplicating machine.

19

109—Sub-Station, Ewens Farm Estate—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Clerk to Charlton Kings Urban District Council, stating that the consent of the Minister of Health had been received to the sale of a piece of land on this estate for the erection of a sub-station thereon at the price fixed by the District Valuer, namely £125.

110—Oil Filter- -The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted report on the present method of purifying the insulating oil contained in transformers and circuit breakers. If the electrical strength of this oil was allowed to fall below a specified value there was danger of a flash over between live conductors occurring in the oil or on the surface, resulting in a breakdown and possibly serious damage. It was therefore necessary to purify this oil and the present method was to remove the oil from every transformer and switch in turn and pass it through a centrifugal type filter at the Old Electricity Works, at a maximum rate of about 25 gallons per hour, after which it was stored in drums. The two disadvantages in this method were that transformers affected had to be put out of service so that it could only be done during the summer months, and it meant waste of time and labour. He therefore recommended that a portable oil filter should be acquired which could be towed to a sub-station and coupled direct to the transformer, which need not be put out of action. Descriptions and quotations had been obtained of three types of filters and he recommended that a "Metafilter" be purchased at a cost of £288 4s. 0d. Its capacity was 120 gallons per hour, it was mounted on a pneumatic tyred trailer and as it contained no heater its consumption was only unit per hour. RESOLVED, That a Metafilter portable oil filter be purchased and that application for sanction to a loan to cover the cost of this be made to the Electricity Commissioners.

111—Austin Light Van—This light van, which had now been replaced, had been advertised for sale but only three offers, the highest of which was £35, had been received. It was suggested that expert opinion should be obtained as to the adequacy of the prices offered, with a view to readvertising if necessary. RESOLVED, That this course be adopted.

112—District Whitley Councils—The representatives of the Council on the District Joint Industrial Council, District joint Board and District Joint Committee were due to retire at the end of the year and further nominations were necessary for the following year. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be nominated to represent the Council on these three bodies.

113--Mains Extensions—(i) Shurdington Road—One pair of semi-detached houses was being built between Moorend Park Road and the Railway Bridge and in view of the possibility of future development in this area, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a .25 sq. in. 4-core distributor cable should be laid from the corner of Moorend Park Road to terminate for the time being at a point approximately outside the new houses. He estimated the cost of carrying out this work at £181 7s. 4d. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and the cost charged to the Unspecified Works Loan Account (Mains and Services).

(ii) St. Annes Road—It was intended to convert St. Annes House into four flats and application for supply had been received. It would be necessary to install a 3-phase 4-core cable and it was proposed to lay approximately 190 ft. of this to replace the old concentric cable so that it would be possible to connect the distributor in St. Annes Road to the 3-phase network. The cost of the scheme was estimated at £71 10s. 2d. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and the cost charged to the Unspecified Works Loan Account (Mains and services).

(iii) Mill Street, Prestbury—Application had been received for a supply to Church Farm, Prestbury for a 10 h.p. motor and sterilizer. The Borough Electrical Engineer proposed to lay approximately 100 yds. of 4-core cable from High Street to connect with the existing 4-core cable which passed Church Farm, thus providing the means of changing over the supply in Mill Street from single phase to 3-phase network. The estimated cost of this work was £104 17s. 3d. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and the cost charged to Unspecified Works Loan Account (Mains and Services).

114—Damaged Lamp Posts, Etc.—No lamp posts were damaged during October and seven previously demolished were reinstated. In addition progress was being made in reinstating lamps in the existing street lighting columns in side streets, which had been disconnected for fuel economy reasons. Approximately 180 such lamps had been put back into commission where the spacing exceeded 140 ft., leaving approximately 20 additional lamps to be reinstated under the scheme.

115—Applications for Supply--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported eight applications for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. Three of the properties in Birdlip, namely " Beechwood House," Wood House " and " The Old Forge " were in the area of supply of the West Gloucestershire Power Co., Ltd., who had no objection to an application being made by the Council for a Fringe Order to supply these properties. RESOLVED, That the applications be approved and that an Order under Section 6 of the Electric Lighting Act, 1909, be applied for, permitting the Corporation to supply certain premises in the Parish of Birdlip, in the area of supply of the West Gloucestershire Power Co., Ltd.

116---New Sub-Station, Hewlett Road—The Town Clerk reported on negotiations with Messrs. Mills & Rockleys, Ltd., for the purchase of a piece of land for the erection of a sub-station in Hewlett Road. They were now agreeable to the sale of this land subject to the following conditions :—

(a) The Council to pay all costs of the acquisition

(b) The Council to be responsible for all fencing.

(c) The Company to have a joint right of use with the Council over the 12 ft. way from Hewitt• Road to the entrance to the back land. The price agreed was £240 and the Council would be required to



give an undertaking not to carry out any works which would obscure the view to an advertisement station which might be erected on the remaining land. The existing 6 ft. high fence would also either have to be removed or set back to the other side of the 12 ft. way. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported it was necessary to purchase this land since the present kiosk was too small to accommodate a larger transformer and the land on which it stood was not suitable for erecting an outdoor type unit. He recommended that the terms negotiated he accepted. The development of

20

the domestic load in this area had resulted in an overload on the present transformer. The Borough Electrical Engineer had prepared a scheme which allowed for the erection of a new sub-station, equipped with a three-panel 11,000 volt switchboard and an 8-panel low voltage distribution board and desired to purchase, the new transformer before there was a further increase in the cost. The existing cables in Hewlett Road which at present terminated in this kiosk would be cut and turned in and out of the new sub-station. The total cost of carrying out this scheme, including the cost of purchasing the land, was estimated to be £4,440 19s. 4d. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to loan of £4,441 to cover the cost of the work ;

(b) That tenders be invited for the erection of the sub-station building ;

(c) That the land be purchased on the terms offered and the Common Seal be affixed to the Conveyance.

(d) That in view of the urgency of this matter the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to install a temporary transformer.

117-Load Shedding-The Borough Electrical Engineer drew the Committee's attention to the possibility of supplies being cut off during the winter. The cuts which had been made so far were not connected with the present shortage of coal but were the result of insufficiency of generating plant throughout the country. Electricity, on the scale required for public supply, could not be stored, and had, therefore, to be generated as required. If the demand exceeded the capacity of the generating plant, the machines slowed up and if this slowing up process were allowed to go too far the machines would stop, and in consequence there would be a complete cessation of supply. In order to avoid this, the load must be reduced by cutting off some supplies.

In the event of such a situation arising, the Central Electricity Board, who co-ordinated the production of electricity through the country, would request certain supply undertakings to cut off some of their supplies, it being left to the undertakings to select supplies in rotation so as to cause the minimum of dislocation. Cuts would only be made when the danger point had been reached so that prior notice could not be given to consumers, although it was being arranged that the B.B.C. should make requests for special care when it appeared likely that such cuts might have to be made. It would take at least three years before adequate generating plant was available so that cuts might be expected at any time during that period. The two periods when such a position was likely to occur were between 8 a.m. and noon and 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Although Cheltenham had so far been fortunate in having avoided the cutting off due to the fact that it was a long way from the generating station, the position had now deteriorated so that this could not be escaped much longer. Notification had now been received that Cheltenham should hold itself in readiness to cut off one-third of the load on receipt of a warning message. Arrangements had therefore been made to split the load into three equal sections, to be cut off in rotation and the Borough Electrical Engineer had endeavoured to arrange that three important areas, viz. comprising

the General Hospital, Gas Works and " Echo Office, should never be without supply, It must be appreciated that the cut would only be put into effect when the situation had become desperate so that action would have to be immediate and there could be no warning, otherwise there would be grave danger of the whole supply collapsing.

Towards the end of the winter, another type of emergency might arise, due to shortage of coal, but this was quite a separate matter and different measures would probably have to be taken to cope with it.

118-Staff-(a) Mr. G. F. Lockey-The Committee considered the reference back of Minute 2115 (a) with regard to the payment to Mr. Lockey of a gratuity of £433 0s. 10d. The Finance Committee felt that after an amount equal to one year's payment of the weekly payment which may be agreed had been paid, the remainder should be spread over a period as required. It was felt that Mr. Lockey would derive greater benefit from payments spread over in this way. RESOLVED, That the Committee are in agreement with this suggestion and that the Borough Treasurer interview Mr. Lockey with a view to making the appropriate recommendation to the FINANCE COMMITTEE.

(b) Junior Mains Engineer-This Engineer could now be contacted by telephone through the Post Office at Bird-lip, but as the telephone at this Post Office was being transferred to a kiosk, it would shortly not be possible to do this. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a telephone should be installed at the Engineer's home in view of the fact that he was required to attend to breakdowns of supply in the rural area at any time when called upon. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

(c) Temporary Clerk--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Miss G. Housden, temporary clerk in the Records Section, resigned her appointment on the 11th October. He had filled the position by the transfer of Miss S. K. Bailey, and the vacancy in the Secretarial Section would be filled as soon as a suitable candidate was available.

(d) Mr. E. C. Jarvis-This employee had now returned from the forces and taken up his duties as an Assistant Meter Tester on the 7th October.

119-Interruptions of Supply-The Boroughs Electrical Engineer reported four interruptions of supply during the month of October.

120-National Safe Driving Competition-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there would be two extra drivers to enter for this competition now. RESOLVED, That these two drivers be entered for the competition with the others.

121-Sub-Station, New Barn Lane-The Town Clerk submitted consent from the Electricity Commissioners dated 18th October, 1946, to a loan of £4,457 in connection with the laying of mains, purchase of land and erection of sub-station on the New Barn Lane housing estate, Prestbury, repayable within the several periods mentioned in the letter. The Commissioners noted that an amount of £384 was required from revenue and assumed that application for consent for the use of this would be made in due course. RESOLVED, That the £384 required for services be charged to Unspecified Loans Account and that the Electricity Commissioners be informed accordingly.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**15th November, 1946.** Present—Councillor Readings (Chairman); The Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter and Yeend.

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

123—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor A. J. Bettridge be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

124—Superintendent's Report—During the period 1st September to 31st October, there were 114 interments and 74 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 3 ; 2nd position, 2 ; 3rd position, 1 ; 4th position, 24 : New Memorials erected, 22. Additional inscriptions 29.

125—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,368 to 11,397 inclusive.

126—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4,291 to 4,314 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman, be approved

127--Maintenance of Graves—(a) [Min. 1922 (a)]—Charges—The Committee considered reference back by the Council of this Minute in regard to the charge to be made for the perpetual upkeep of a grave where there was only a kerb and no headstone. The Borough Treasurer reported that with the present low rates of interest, the Committee's previous recommendation to accept a lump sum of £45 would not produce sufficient income to cover the cost and recommended this should be increased to £55. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted and that the Finance Committee be informed of the proposal.

(b) The present charge of 12s. 6d. per annum was for keeping tidy only, and the Cemetery Superintendent suggested it was now possible for up to 250 orders to be accepted for annual planting at a charge of 25s. per annum. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(c) The Superintendent reported that as an experiment he had provided a 6 in. wide margin relief of shingle stone round the outside of one of the graves at the Cemetery. It gave a pleasing appearance and had the advantage of preventing long grass from growing against the kerb and enabled a mowing machine to be used without risk of damage thereto. He recommended that the Council should undertake the provision of this gravel margin at a charge of 7s. 6d. He had ascertained he could purchase the gravel at 11s. 6d. per cubic yard. The gravel also presented an appearance of neatness and tidiness, and generally improved the appearance. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved, but that before it is applied generally, a maximum of six orders be accepted for the present to enable the Committee to inspect same.

128—Crematorium—Descriptive Brochure—In view of present costs, it was felt that the issue of a brochure would be too expensive for general distribution, and the Cemetery Superintendent therefore suggested that a quantity of six page folders, and a smaller number of 12 page illustrated booklets should be printed. The folders would be distributed to the public through Undertakers, but the booklet would be issued to Undertakers only who would retain it and produce it when asked for. He had obtained alternative tenders from three firms for the production of the booklet and folder which he now submitted. The Committee felt, however, that having regard to the various improvements and alterations which they had in mind, it was desirable to hold up the production of the booklet, but that the folder leaflet should be printed and distributed without delay. RESOLVED,

(i) That consideration of the issue of an illustrated booklet be deferred.

(ii) That the tender of Messrs. Norman Brothers (being the lowest) for 10,000 six page folder leaflets at a cost of £33 be accepted.

129—Recordia Provision—The Cemetery Superintendent pointed out that even when the Memorial Wall was extended, there would only be sufficient space for erection of plaques for the next four years, assuming there was no increase in the present rate of reservation. If the layout of the Garden of Remembrance could be revised to allow both sides of the Memorial Wall to be used, this would be helpful, but bearing in mind the growth of cremation, and the limitation of the Memorial Wall over a period of years, the Superintendent suggested consideration be given to other methods of commemoration, including a Book of Remembrance which could be brought into use almost immediately, and which would be kept in a special display case in the Chapel. The cost of such a Book of Remembrance would be between £100 and £250, but this compared favourably with the cost of the Memorial Wall. The usual minimum charge which could be made for an entry in the Book was £1 1s. 0d. and a representative of Mr. Marshall, who held the copyright of the Book of Remembrance was willing to attend to explain the matter more fully if desired. The Superintendent thought it might be possible to get the display case designed and made locally. RESOLVED,

(i) That the provision of a Book of Remembrance be approved in principle, and that the Superintendent obtain tenders therefor.

(ii) That the Superintendent make enquiries as to the possibility of the display case being designed and made by a local firm.

(iii) That Mr. Marshall's representative be invited to attend the next meeting of the Committee.

(iv) That the Borough Surveyor be asked to prepare plans shewing a revised layout of the Garden of Remembrance so as to allow both sides of the Memorial Wall to be used.

22

130—Recorded Music (Min. 1932)—The Committee considered the reference back by the Council of Min. 1932 in regard to this matter and to the appointment of a delegation to visit Leeds Crematorium. The Superintendent strongly urged that members of the Committee should visit Leeds and in particular inspect the sound equipment installed there, and also the furnaces which were provided with forced draught installation, the Columbarium and the Garden of Remembrance, and the various forms of Commemoration adopted at Leeds. In view of the growing interest in cremation, the Committee consider it is most desirable that representatives of the Committee and appropriate Officers should inspect another Crematorium, The Committee wish to remind the Council that the Crematorium for Cheltenham serves a very wide area, and that it is important both in the interests of the Council and the public, that the Crematorium at Cheltenham should be kept up to date and be capable of dealing with the ever-growing demand for this Service. RESOLVED, That the Council be asked to approve of the Chairman, and Vice-Chairman, together with the Superintendent and Borough Surveyor visiting the Leeds Crematorium.

131—Cemetery Lodge—Entrance Hall—The Town Clerk reported letter from the Ministry of Health that in view of the necessity for economy in the use of labour and materials, they were unable to authorise the wood paving of the Entrance Hall and passage at the present time, The Borough Surveyor reported, however, that it had been possible to overcome this difficulty by using some of the wood from the old floor of the Town Hall.

132--Staff [Min. 1934 (a)]—Permission had been granted to the Clerk to attend a Course in Horticulture, but this Course had failed to materialise owing to shortage of students, and the Clerk now asked for leave of absence to enable him to take the Course for the Diploma in Public Administration, RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to grant the application.

133—Chapels (Min. 1931)—The Borough Surveyor reported he had now ascertained from the Borough Electrical Engineer that the cost of laying a supply of electricity to the Chapels amounting to £236 could be spread over a period of five years, He had also ascertained the approximate cost of providing the necessary forced draught fans would be £845. RESOLVED, (i) That the Borough Electrical Engineer be asked to proceed with the supply of electricity to the Chapels and Crematorium, payment of the cost being spread over a period of five years, provision for the first instalment to be included in next year's estimates.

(ii) That further consideration of providing forced draught fans be deferred for the time being and considered again when the estimates for next year are prepared.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present—The Mayor ; Aldermen Smith, Waite and Ward; Councillors, Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morns, Readings and Thompson; Messrs. Baring and Palmer.

134—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman T. Wilfred Waite be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

135—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush) be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

136—Co-option of Members—Chamber of Commerce—As in past years, the Chamber of Commerce had been invited to submit nominations for the appointment of two advisory members upon this Committee and had accordingly nominated Messrs. E. Baring and A. M. Palmer, RESOLVED, That such nominations be accepted.

137—Appointment of Sub-Committees—RESOLVED, That the following members do constitute the Sub-Committees for the ensuing year, namely:—

**Entertainments Sub-Committee**—The Mayor (Councillor Bush), Alderman Waite, Councillors Bishop, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

**Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee**—The Mayor (Councillor Bush), Aldermen Smith and Waite, Councillors Bayliss, Carter, Fildes, Mann, Morris, Readings, and Mr. E. Baring.

**Advertising Sub-Committee**—The Mayor (Councillor Bush), Councillors Bishop, Green, Grimwade, Morris and Readings.

**Playhouse Sub-Committee**—The Mayor (Councillor Bush), Councillors Grimwade, Mann, Readings and Thompson.

ALSO RESOLVED, That Mr. H. O. Barnett be appointed a member of the Playhouse Sub-Committee in an advisory capacity.

138—Playhouse Sub-Committee—The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 29th October, 1946. (Report circulated herewith). With regard to item 2 the Entertainments Manager reported that he had been unable to arrange for either of the Gloucester Companies to stage performances at the Playhouse during the vacant period. 16th to 23rd November. The Civic Players had, however, accepted these dates and had staged three one-act plays. RESOLVED, That the report, as amended, be approved and adopted.

139—Town Hall—(a) Cheltenham 6<sup>th</sup> District Chrysanthemum Society—This Society applied for the Use of the building for a combined show of early flowering chrysanthemums and produce on 10th and 11th September. 1947, and also a similar show of late flowering chrysanthemums and produce on 12th and 13th November, with the usual one day prior thereto for preparation purposes and the day following for dismantling.

23

The Entertainments Manager reminded the Committee that at the last meeting he had reported upon the cost for of floor covering for the main hall which was estimated at approximately £300, but consideration had been deferred pending the outcome of the proposal to acquire the Services Club. RESOLVED, That the application of the Society be deferred until the next meeting and that in the meantime the Entertainments Manager obtain definite quotations and samples of suitable covering for the floor of the main hall.

(b) Hospitals Ball—New Year's Eve—The Chairman of thy Hospitals Ball Committee applied for an extension of the Music Dancing Licence to 2 a.m. and also for an adjustment of the bar licensing hours. It was understood that the promoters had no desire for the Bar to remain open for a longer period. but in view of the special occasion, namely, New Year's Eve, they asked that the opening hours be fixed from 10 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. in place of the usual hours, 7.30 to 10 p.m. It was hoped that the Ball would once more attain pre-war standards and that the financial results to the hospitals would be such that these institutions would materially benefit. After very careful consideration, it wits RESOLVED to recommend the Council to agree to an application being made to the Magistrates for an extension of the Music & Dancing Licence to 2 a.m. and also for an adjustment of the bar licensing hours as indicated.

140—Winter Gardens Site (Min. 2070/46, Parks Committee)—The Parks Committee had considered the recommendations of the Gardens Superintendent with regard to additional work required to complete this site. They proposed that the area of hard core surrounding the bandstand be turfed leaving a 10-foot footpath towards the Promenade and Imperial Square. In addition it was suggested that the bandstand might be converted into a sun lounge complete with suitable furnishings which would enable the public to use the same during bad weather. The Committee saw no objection to the suggested lay-out but they considered the bandstand entirely unsuitable for use as a sun lounge and they felt that the site would be more attractive if the bandstand was completely removed and transferred to another ground. RESOLVED, That the Parks Committee be informed accordingly and that they submit suggestions to the Council in due course for the re-erection of the bandstand in another more suitable position.

141--Appointment of Catering Supervisor—The Town Clerk reported that in response to further advertisements inviting applications for this appointment, 47 applications had been received and eight applicants were invited to attend for interview before the Chairman of this Committee, the Mayor (Councillor Bush) and the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham), on 4th November. An appointment had then been made but the applicant had subsequently decided not to

accept the same owing to difficult), in obtaining living accommodation. The position had, therefore been offered to another applicant but since submission of his application he had accepted another appointment. With the approval of the Chairman it had been decided to appoint Mr. C. Ridett, of London, who had intimated that he could take up his duties at an early date, but so far Mr. Ridett had failed to confirm his acceptance of the cost.

142—Entertainments Organiser—134 applications had been received for this appointment (Grade V A.P.T. Division, £460 to £510 plus cost of living bonus). A summary of the applications had been circulated.

The Committee gave very careful consideration to the position which had arisen in connection with the appointment of a Catering Supervisor as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and RESOLVED,

(i) That should Mr. Ridett decide not to accept the position of Catering Supervisor, consideration of making such an appointment be deferred and examined again at a later date in the light of experience gained from the improved staffing conditions of the Entertainments Manager's Department subsequent upon the appointment of an Entertainments Organiser, many of the applicants therefor appearing to have considerable catering knowledge.

(ii) That the Entertainments Sub-Committee be authorised to appoint an Entertainments Organiser, bearing in mind the views expressed in the preceding resolution and to the possibility of combining the two appointments.

143—British Professional and Hard Court Tennis Tournaments—The Entertainments Manager recommended that in view of the special visit to Cheltenham entailed (weather stopping play in August), the finalists be paid travelling and hotel expenses and in three cases an additional fee of £1 1s. 0d. be reimburse them for loss of coaching fees which otherwise they would have received. RESOLVED, That these amounts be paid.

144—Services Club—(Min. 1959(46)—It was recalled that at their September meeting this Committee reviewed the negotiations and had re-emphasised the views already adopted by the Council that it was very important and desirable for this property to be acquired for the town. They had, therefore, recommended that the Council make a further effort to acquire the premises, failing which Mr. Bird be informed that the Council propose, in the interests of the town, to exercise their compulsory powers. The Committee had then felt that the position should be made quite clear to Mr. Bird without delay as it was known that his Agent had received instructions to negotiate a sale to other applicants and the Committee had felt it only right that prospective purchasers should be acquainted with their decision.

A communication had been forwarded to Mr Bird's Agent on the 24th September and on the 27th September Mr. Bird's Solicitors asked that, as their client was out of the country and was experiencing delay in returning, a Compulsory Order should not be made until they had an opportunity of consulting him upon his return in the middle of October The Committee, in the circumstances, had agreed to this deferment and the Solicitors were so informed.

On 30th October, a letter was sent to Mr. Bird's Solicitors asking whether they had yet had an opportunity of consulting their client, and a letter was received dated the same day stating that the premises had been sold to Messrs Cavendish House.

The Committee were very concerned at the position which had arisen and considered that the Council should nevertheless proceed to acquire the premises. RESOLVED, unanimously,

(i) That the Town Clerk endeavour to ascertain how the position referred to above had arisen and submit such information as it is possible to obtain to a special meeting of this Committee to be convened prior to the Council meeting.

(ii) That an Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 1 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, for the compulsory purchase of these premises for the purposes of Section 125 of the Local Government Act, 1933.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

24

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**12th November, 1946.** Present--The Mayor ; Aldermen Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, Green, Midwinter, Morris and Strickland.

145-Chairman-RESOLVED, That Alderman E. L. Ward be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

146-Vice-Chairman-RESOLVED, That Alderman Capt. J. H. Trye be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

147-Borough Engineer's Report-The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of October was read:-

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

|                  | For month ended<br>31st October, 1946. | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during past 3 years. |
|------------------|--|---|
| Hewletts Springs | 170,000                                | 91,000  |
| Dowdeswell       | 697,000                                | 505,000   |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated usable quantity about 97,117,000 gallons.

148-Water Rate Arrears-The Town Clerk reported upon the collection of arrears. RESOLVED, That in forty-four cases now indicated the supply be disconnected unless arrears are paid.

149---Hewletts Reservoir-Custodian's House-The Custodian had recently retired and before the new Custodian took up residence the Borough Engineer had made a thorough examination of the premises, The chief items were for re-decoration, provision of bathroom with accessories, and installation of lighting. The present drainage of the premises to a cess pit was not satisfactory and an opportunity should now be taken to provide proper drainage by connecting the same to the drainage of the Government Buildings at Oakley Farm. The estimated cost of the work amounted to £1,146, which sum included £235 for electricity supply and £706 for drainage. The Committee had in mind that possibly other houses in the vicinity might already be supplied with gas and that an extension of the gas main would be less costly than electricity. RESOLVED, (1) That the decorations and drainage works be authorised. (2) That the Borough Engineer obtain quotations for a gas supply and that the Chairman be authorised to accept a quotation for the provision of lighting either by means of gas or electricity, whichever is the lower. (3) That the Town Clerk negotiate with the Ministry of Works for consent to connect to their drainage system and for the necessary way leaves.



150---Rural Water Supplies (Min. 1606/46)-(a) Loan-The Ministry of Health replied to the Council's application for consent to a loan of £58,700 for extensions to rural areas and for grants in respect thereof and observed that while the proposals applied to a large portion of the Cheltenham Rural District within the Borough Council's statutory area of supply, additional supplies were required for areas not yet covered and they enquired as to the negotiations between the Council and the Cheltenham Rural District Council in this connection.

With regard to the Leckhampton main, information was requested as to the proposed purchase of the water tower constructed by the Ministry of Works to supply Ullenwood camp and the Council's proposals as to the use thereof in connection with their scheme. Certain other technical information was required relating to the schemes submitted.

The Committee were disturbed at the delay which had occurred in that the Council's application was submitted to the Ministry on 20th August last and had the approval of both the County Council and the Rural District Council. The Town Clerk was furnishing the information required upon the purchase of the water tower and the Borough Engineer was preparing the necessary technical details. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be pressed to expedite consent in view of the urgency of the schemes, particularly that relating to Leckhampton Hill.

(b) Leckhampton Hill-The Rural District Council forwarded a further letter from Mrs. Wilding, the occupier of Daisybank House, drawing attention to the unsatisfactory supply to her premises. The Council were urged to afford a supply without delay both to Daisybank House and to other properties proposed to be served by the Leckhampton extension. The Rural District Council pointed out that there was a public main serving standpipes on Leckhampton Hill and they suggested that extensions be made therefrom as a temporary measure. The Borough Engineer pointed out that in the application to the Ministry of Health referred to in the pre-ceding minute, priority had been accorded to this extension For technical reasons it as unsatisfactory to tap the existing rising main and although Mrs. Wilding's position was fully appreciated it must be borne in mind that a standpipe existed near her premises from which a satisfactory supply could be obtained. RESOLVED, That the Rural District Council be informed of the additional details required by the Ministry which must result in further delay in commencement of the work but that this Council will give first priority to the Leckhampton scheme as soon as the Ministry's consent is forthcoming.

151-Mains Extensions-(a) Cheltenham Rural District Council's Three Housing Estates-The Rural District Council asked for reimbursement of capital outlay for the laying of water mains to housing estates lying within the Borough Council's area of supply. This was in accordance with previous practice and the Borough Engineer stated that the sites involved were situate at New Barn Lane, Prestbury ; and Church Lane, Shurdington (temporary houses); Staverton ; New Barn Lane, Prestbury ; and Church Lane, Shurdington (permanent houses). Of these schemes the first three were complete and the latter almost so, and the Borough Engineer was satisfied that in all cases the work would be carried out in a satisfactory manner. The capital sums involved amounted to £43 1s. 6d £198 11s. 9d., £90 2s. 0d., £218 9s. 10d., and £277 13s. 5d. respectively. Items relating to the supply and fixing of hydrants and the making of service connections had been deleted for the reason that the same would be recovered from the Home Office by the Rural District Council as a Fire Authority. RESOLVED, That the Council enter into an agreement with the Rural District Council on the usual terms, providing for a refund el the cost to the Rural District Council at the rate of £8 for each £1 of revenue derived from the mains mentioned, up to a total sum equal to the ascertained cost incurred for laying the same.

(b) Prestbury—Mr. H. R. Lapper applied for an extension to supply four properties to be erected in Mill Lane and had deposited £150 on account of capital outlay. The Borough Engineer stated that other properties in Mill Lane were at present supplied by means of long services and he considered it possible that additional requests for supplies would be received. A 3" main would prove satisfactory for a supply to Mr. Lapper's properties only but the Borough Engineer recommended that in order to supply other properties a 4" main be laid at an estimated cost of £200, the Council hearing 25% thereof, the balance to be refunded to Mr. Lapper upon the usual terms, namely, a refund of £8 for each £1 of revenue derived. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendations be approved.

(c) Diamond Laundry, New Court Road—This laundry, which, at present derived its supply from a well, applied for a main supply for trade purposes. The Company's possible consumption would amount to approximately 30,000 gallons per day. The Borough Engineer submitted alternative schemes for of such supply. RESOLVED, (i) That a mains supply be afforded on the condition that the Company abandon their present well supply.

(ii) The Council to lay the necessary 4" main, the route thereof (having regard to the tortuous nature of New Court Road and to the possibility at some future date of road improvement works thereto) being left to the discretion of the Borough Engineer, the cost varying from £550—£850 according to the route adopted.

(iii) The Company to contribute approximately 25% of the capital outlay.

(iv) The charges payable by the Company to be at the rate of 1s 6d per thousand gallons, plus meter rent.

152—Mains Renewals—(a) Loan—The Borough Engineer reported that of the loan of £10,000 obtained in June, 1939, for mains renewals and other works, only £428 remained in hand. Considerable lengths of main would need renewal in future, and after consultation with the Borough Treasurer he recommended that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £20,000 to be raised and expended as and when required. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health accordingly.

(b) Lansdown Place—Before extensive road works commenced the Street and Highway Committee had decided to lay a surface water sewer between Gordon Lamp and Westal Green. The Borough Engineer reported that the 9" main between the Gordon Lamp and the New Court Hotel had, in the past, given rise to a considerable amount of trouble by bursting should the pressure rise above normal. He had reason to believe that this main was part of a 9" main laid about 1877 to improve pressures in the Lansdown area and that a large proportion of the pipes were removed from another area and re-laid in this position. He recommended that when the Street and Highway Committee were carrying out works in Lansdown Road the portion of the main which had given most trouble (Gordon Lamp to New Court Hotel) be re-laid at an estimated cost of £875 exclusive of road reinstatement charges. The cost, however, could be charged to the mains renewal account against the loan sanction mentioned in the preceding minute. RESOLVED, That this proposal be approved.

153-- 3" Main, Grosvenor Street—The Borough Engineer reported on the bursting of the 3" main in Grosvenor Street during the night of 1st November, resulting in basement flooding of three premises. In one case the damage was slight but in the other two cases it was considerable. He attributed the cause to road subsidence. The matter had been reported to the Council's insurers.

154--18" Main, Churchdown to Hewletts—Mr. T. Sims, the owner of a house at the junction of Greenway Lane and London Road, reported that for some considerable time he had experienced difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply for his premises. It had become necessary to open the ground, when it was discovered that the drain was blocked due to a piece of timber shuttering having been driven through the same when the 18" main was laid some few years ago. In view of the fact that the damage was occasioned by the Council's contractors, Mr. Sims asked to be reimbursed the cost now involved. RESOLVED, That in view of all the circumstances this responsibility be accepted.

155—Tewkesbury to Ashchurch Main—Final Payments—At the September meeting the Borough Engineer had reported that Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., had submitted final account amounting to £2,268 8s. 1d., of which £2,155 had been paid in April last, leaving £113 8s. 1d. retention money, and he had recommended that a final certificate be issued, He now stated that in addition to the retention money of £113 8s. 1d. there was also an amount of £113 1s. 9d. due for extra costs resulting from increases in wages and also V. J. holidays and he therefore required authority to pay this additional sum. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

156—Mechanical Plant—The Borough Engineer reported that the Priestman " Wolf " Mechanical Excavator ordered by the Street and Highway Committee had recently been delivered. This machine would perform three operations, namely, face shovel excavation, trenching and skimming and would be admirably suited to work of cleaning out the Residuum Lodge at Dowdeswell Reservoir, which work was long overdue. To enable the same to be undertaken it would be necessary to purchase a dragline attachment which could be used boils foe highway or waterworks purposes and would result in a considerable saving of manual labour. He suggested therefore that this Committee might obtain such attachment as a cost of £259 on the understanding that the machine and attachments could, if necessary, be used by both departments. RESOLVED, That this he approved.

157—Uniforms for Inspectors—The Borough Engineer reported that in pre-war years a new suit with an extra pail of trousers was provided annually for Inspectors but their present suits had not been renewed since January, 1945. Quotations had therefore been invited for replacements but the only quotation received was that of The Famous amounting to £6 6s. 0d. per suit, plus 8s 6d for uniform cap. It was not, however, anticipated that delivery could be made for some considerable time. RESOLVED, That the quotation of The Famous: be accepted.

157a—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

26

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**13th November, 1946.** Present—Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall and Mann; Mrs. Atherton ; Major Shakspeare and Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

**14th November, 1946.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss and Mann.

159—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman E. L. Ward be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

160—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Capt. J. H. Trye be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

161—Plans—(a) Within the Borough--In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                    | Description  |              |
|-------------|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| 5138        | E. W. Cook              | Pair of semi-detached houses, Merriville Road  |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Approved.    |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Approved.    |
| 5849        | Hewlett Motors Ltd.     | Alterations, Garage, Hewlett Road.   |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Disapproved. |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Disapproved. |
| 5929        | A. W. Beach             | Proposed lodge, Cleavelands Drive, Evesham Road.   |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Disapproved. |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Disapproved. |
| 5950        | R. C. Ayres             | Extension of scullery to form kitchen, 7 Union Street.   |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  |              |
|             |                         | Approved subject to the sanitary work being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.   |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Approved.    |
| 5975        | E. T. Stinchcombe & Son | Pair of semi-detached houses, Alstone Lane.  |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Disapproved. |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Disapproved. |
| 5986        | J. B. Cairns            | Proposed alterations, Moray House Hotel, Parabola Road.  |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  |              |
|             |                         | Approved subject to running water gullies to areas being drained to existing drainage system and the retaining walls being at an angle of 45 degrees ; also to the steel work being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor. |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Approved.    |
| 5987        | W. Widdows              | New bathroom, 64 Brighton Road.  |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Disapproved. |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Approved.    |
| 5988        | Maj. Bourne Thompson    | Additional stores and office, Store Yard, St. Paul's Parade.   |              |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Byelaws.  | Disapproved. |
|             |                         | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  | Approved.    |

5989 Stroud Brewery Co., Ltd. Alterations and additions, Duke of Brunswick Inn, St. Paul's Road.

Recommendation under Byelaws.

Approved subject to steel work details being to satisfaction of Borough Surveyor ; also as in Plan No. 5950.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

5990 J. King Garage, 18 Brooklyn Gardens.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

5991 Gloucestershire County Council Temporary adaptations, 2 College Lawn.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order.

Approved subject to drainage work being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

5992 Gloucestershire County Council Adaptations, 4 College Lawn.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Approved as in Plan No. 5991.

5993 A. J. Ingles Garage, 21 Shelley Road

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Approved

5994 C. E. Kench Cycle Shed, 98 Granley Road.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Disapproved.

5995 N. Gray Garage, 8 Orrisdale Terrace.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Disapproved.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Disapproved.

5996 W. E. Randell Garage, 16 Charlton Lane.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Exempt.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Disapproved.

5997 Mr. W. Dodwell New fruit and vegetable store, 48 Swindon Road.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Approved.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Disapproved.

5998 A. W. Cavers Proposed detached house, Jersey Avenue.

Recommendation under Byelaws. Plans not yet submitted under building byelaws.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order.

Approved in principle, formal consent being deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans under building byelaws and town planning ; also that not less than 3 ft. be left between the boundary wall of the property and the adjoining house.

| No. of Plan | Name  | Description  |
|-------------|---|--|
| 5999        | Messrs. Walker & Ward                           | Provision of sanitary accommodation to living quarters, Central Garage, Warwick Place.           |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved as in Plan No. 5950.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved.  |
| 6000        | S. Tudge  | Tool and store shed, 19 Brooklyn Gardens.  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved.  |
| 6001        | Mrs. Woolard                                    | New Bathroom and W.C., 376 Old Bath Road.  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved.   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Disapproved for further information.   |
| 6002        | W. C. Ackerman                                  | Garage, 21 Brooklyn Gardens.   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved.  |
| 6003        | F. E. Prosser                                   | Tool shed, 151 Arle Road.  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved.  |
| 6004        | Miss E. K. Bayliss                              | Alterations to form flat, Park House West, Park Place.   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved subject to a 30 degree angle of light to all habitable rooms ; and as in Plan No. 5950. |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved subject to new work harmonising with the existing building;                             |
| 6005        | G. T. Blunsden                                  | Garden shed, 206 Alstone Lane.   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved for a period of 12 months only.   |
| 6006        | N. Bedwell                                      | Lattice steel mast, Redcroft, Eldon Avenue.  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Approved.  |
| 6007        | J. M. Seward                                    | Detached house, Clare Place.   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved.   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Disapproved.   |
| 6008        | F. R. Adams                                     | Rebuilding of bungalow demolished by enemy action, 32 Merrivale Road.                            |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved.  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Exempt.  |
| 6009        | W. R. Sutherland                                | Rebuilding of semi-detached house, demolished by enemy action, 24 Kipling Road                   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved subject to satisfactory drainage.   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Exempt.  |

6010 W. A. Barr New store shed, 47 Promenade.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Approved.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

6011 H. Talbot Bathroom, Creden, Lansdown Road.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Approved as in Plan No. 5950.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

6012 Mrs. Cope-Proctor Alterations, 64 London Road.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Approved as in Plan No. 5950.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

6013 E. Dicks Conversion of 3 Berkeley Place, High Street, into 5 flats.  
Recommendation under Byelaws  
Approved subject to the installation of 3" L.C.C. iron drain slung with rodding eyes at each end, to a sealed gully at ground floor level ; to a satisfactory fire escape being provided, and as in Plan No. 5950.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  
Approved subject to the waterpipe shown on the front elevation being placed inside the building.

6014 Andy's Candies. Ltd. Factory extensions, Tewkesbury Road.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Plans not yet submitted  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order.  
Approved in principle under building bye-laws, only, formal consent being deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans under building byelaws and town planning.

6015 H. Eager Conversion of store into lounge, 296 Gloucester Road.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Approved.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

6016 Cheltenham Original Brewery Co., Ltd. New sanitary accommodation and outhouse, Midland Inn, Gloucester Road.  
Recommendation under Byelaws Approved.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name           | Description   |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| T.P.2182    | W. E. E. Offer | Proposed house, Birchley Road, Battledown.  |
|             |                | Recommendation under Interim Development Order.<br>Approved, subject to completion of building within 5 years and to satisfactory materials being used in external elevation. |

|          |             |   |
|----------|-------------|---|
| T.P.2189 | W. T. Jayes | Extension to boot repair shop, 30 North Street, Winchcombe. |
|          |             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.   |

T.P.2196 Miss A. Bruce Proposed alterations, Firs Brake Cottage, Leckhampton Hill.  
Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved.

28

| No. of Plan | Name                            | Description  |   |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| T.P.2197    | L. Drew                         | Proposed bungalow, Mill Lane, Prestbury.<br>Recommendation under Interim Development Order.<br>Approved, subject to the proposed new water main being constructed.   |   |
| T.P.2198    | G. C. Dennis                    | Proposed house, Mill Lane, Prestbury.<br>Recommendation under Interim Development Order<br>Approved as in Plan No. T.P.2197, to plans and elevations of the garage being approved by the Committee, and to building being placed behind the building line. |   |
| T.P.2199    | H. Mansell                      | Cowshed, The Furzens,<br>Elmstone Hardwicke.   | Approved subject to the<br>corrugated iron roof being<br>painted approved colour.   |
| T.P.2200    | Mrs. Harries                    | Conversion of loft into flat,<br>Knoll House, Mill Lane, Prestbury.  | Approved subject to sufficient<br>land being attached to the<br>premises to conform to the<br>requirements of the Planning<br>Scheme in the event of the<br>building being sold off at any<br>time from the remainder of<br>the estate. |
| T.P.2201    | I. J. J. Julier                 | Proposed garage,<br>Kenley, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury.  | Approved.   |
| T.P.2202    | Sir Gilbert<br>McIlquham        | Proposed implement shed,<br>Brock Farm, Staverton.   | Approved as in Plan No.<br>T. P.2199.   |
| T.P.2203    | K. E. Kelham                    | Renovation of old cottage,<br>Chestnut Cottage,<br>Little Witcombe.  | Approved subject to the<br>operation of a graduated<br>scale for compensation as<br>agreed by the owner should<br>the house have to be removed<br>for the construction of the<br>by-pass before the expiration<br>of 15 years.          |
| T.P.2204    | L. E. Mayo                      | Proposed bungalow,<br>Mill Lane, Prestbury.  | Approved as in Plan No.<br>T.P.2197.  |
| T.P.2205    | Messrs. Cleevely<br>and Lippatt | 2 pairs semi-detached houses,<br>Langley Road, Winchcombe.   | Approved.   |



|          |                             |  |  |
|----------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| T.P.2206 | Mr. R. A. Burroughs         | Alterations, Boddington Farm House                                       | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building.   |
| T.P.2207 | Borough Electrical Engineer | Proposed M.V. Line and M.V. Underground cable, The Reddings, Badgeworth. | Approved subject to the pole nearest Badgeworth Road being set back 21 ft. from its junction with North Road.  |
| T.P.2208 | Borough Electrical Engineer | Proposed E.H.T. O.H. Line, Station Road, Woodmancote.                    | Approved.  |
| T.P.2209 | Borough Electrical Engineer | M.V.O.H. Line, Up Hatherley.   | Approved.  |
| T.P.2210 | F. Crisp                    | Proposed Garage, 6 Brookway Drive, Charlton Kings.                       | Approved.  |
| T.P.2211 | A. Bondolfi                 | Garden shed, Bybrook, Charlton Drive, Charlton Kings.                    | Approved for the purposes of a garden tool shed only.  |
| T.P.2212 | C. J. Paton                 | Bay window, Troon, Okus Road, Charlton Kings.                            | Approved.  |
| T.P.2213 | G. W. Thorn                 | Proposed garage, Beulah, Okus Road, Charlton Kings.                      | Approved.  |
| T.P.2214 | J. Palin                    | Proposed Garage, Church Street, Charlton Kings.                          | Approved subject to the owner entering into an undertaking to set back the building behind the front wall of the house at his own cost if and when required. |
| T.P.2215 | F. T. Sims                  | Proposed garage, London Road.  | Deferred.  |

162-Development Plans-(a) Arle Farm-Messrs. Mark Williams & Co., Ltd., applied for consent to open a sand-pit at the rear of Arle Farm. RESOLVED, That consent be refused and that the question of such workings generally in the borough be considered by the Sub-Committee appointed to investigate the control of mineral workings in the area.

(b) Woodmancote-Mr. T. E. Thomas applied for consent to erect a bungalow on land fronting Woodmancote to Southam road. There were no services in the area and development of the land was likely to lead to unsightly ribbon development and destroy the amenities. The County Surveyor was not prepared to recommend development under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(c) Hardwicke—Application was submitted from P. Hart to erect a garage and establish a business on a small plot of land at Hardwicke. The garage would project over the building line in view of the size of the plot and the County Surveyor was not prepared to recommend approval under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

29

(d) Cleeve Hill—Application was submitted from Mr. J. A. Hancox for permission to convert an old barn adjoining Cleeve Common into riding stables. RESOLVED, That the use of the building as a riding stable be approved in principle but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(e) Hewlett Road—Application was submitted by Mr. E. Langton Gregory, on behalf of Mr. L. Lawrence, St. Anne's Dairy, to erect a dairy and garage on a plot of land forming part of the shopping centre at the junction of Hewlett Road and Mersey Road. A shop would be erected when conditions become more normal. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Public Health Committee be asked to consider the possibility of concentrating dairies in one or two areas of the town to ensure better supervision and protection of amenities.

(f) Wards Road, Up Hatherley—Mr. J. A. Cadwallader applied for permission to use an orchard and market garden as a caravan site. The site was situate some distance from any road and would not seriously affect the amenities of the area but the absence of sewers in that area might involve a grave risk of danger to health. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(g) Gloucester Road—Application was submitted from Mr. E. Stockman for permission to erect a bungalow on a plot of land fronting the main Cheltenham—Gloucester Road at Golden Valley. There were no sewers available and the erection of the bungalow would lead to unsightly ribbon and sporadic development and seriously affect the amenities. The County Surveyor was not prepared to recommend approval to building along the frontage of the main road or to new points of access. RESOLVED, That consent be not granted.

(h) 34 Duke Street—Archibald L. Harriss Ltd. applied for permission to use premises at the back of 34 Duke Street for light industrial purposes. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for a period of 3 years, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, smell, dust, noise or fumes, and to H.M. Factory Inspector being satisfied that the premises are suitable for the light industry proposed.

163—Planning Department —Staff—(i) Planning Officer [Min. 1761 (a)] The Gloucestershire County Council have considered the recommendation increasing the Planning Officer's salary and intimated that his salary should be similar to that in force for the time being of the Deputy County Planning Officer (£600 p.a. x £25—£720 p.a.), increased by 10 per cent., and that the increased salary should commence at the minimum figure as from 1st September, 1946. RESOLVED, That the County Council be informed that Mr. Streater is a Principal Officer, in full charge of the Planning Department, and that in their view his duties and responsibilities were not comparable with those of the Deputy County Planning Officer and that this Council adhered to their previous decision that the Planning Officer's Salary should be increased to £800 p.a., plus bonus.

(ii) Temporary Planning Assistant [Min. 1761 (c)]—Mr. A. T. Wellings, Gosport, has been appointed temporary planning assistant at a salary of £420 p.a., rising by annual increments of £15 to a maximum of £450 per annum, plus bonus.

164—Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946—The above Order came into operation on the 17th October, 1946, and superseded a Provisional Order made in February, 1946, The Order was of a general character and contained powers for controlling development of land, except in areas where planning schemes were in operation ; specified certain development which could take place without the necessity of obtaining permission of the interim development authority, procedure in relation to applications affecting statutory undertakings, and applications in regard to repair of war damage and erection of buildings by mining and similar undertakers. The Order also indicated the procedure which should be followed in regard to applications for development, and pointed out the necessity for consulting authorities and persons in certain circumstances.

165—Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Direction, 1946—Interim Development Authorities to whom applications were made under Section 10 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, to develop land by the winning and working of the minerals specified in the Direction were required to furnish the Minister with copies of applications and any plans and maps submitted therewith.

166—Hostel, Staverton—The Ministry of Works and the Cheltenham Rural District Council have been in consultation upon the future use of the Staverton Hostel. The Ministry have requested this Committee's observations in regard to the position of the hostel under the planning proposals, and the period for which the buildings would be permitted to remain in the event of the department disposing of the property, assuming its purchase under the provisions of the Requisitioned Land and War Works Act, 1945. The Planning Officer reported that the hostel was included in a development scheme for Staverton and that the Ministry had been asked for an assurance that, in the event of the hostel becoming redundant to the Ministry's requirements, the Rural District Council would be given the first refusal of the property, and that any change of user should be referred to this Committee and the District Council for approval in order to avoid steps being taken detrimental to the amenities of the district. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Works be informed that as the buildings were erected without the submission of plans they could not be taken to conform with proposed planning scheme and that their retention could only be permitted for the period during which they were used by the Department as a hostel.

167—Pig Sty, Kidnapper's Lane (Min. 1756)—A complaint was received of a building used as a pig sty in Kidnapper's Lane, and referred to the Cheltenham Rural District Council for their observations, who recommended consent be given to the use of the building for a period of 12 months, the matter to be then reviewed. Further complaints had since been received, and, upon investigation by the Planning Officer and the Surveyor to the District Council, it was found that the smell arising from the use of the building was objectionable and that additions had been made to the original building, which had also been removed from its former position. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the use of this building as a pig sty for a period of twelve months from the date of consent, subject to the owner taking necessary steps to avoid complaints and to his resiting the building in a position to be approved by the Planning Officer.

168—Estimates—The annual estimates for the year 1947/48 were submitted. RESOLVED, That the estimate, submitted be approved and forwarded to the County Council.

30

169—Overhead Lines, Winchcombe to Langley Farm [Min. 1963 (b)]—Plans submitted by the S.W.S. Electric Power Company for the above lines were disapproved by the Council. The Company had now

reduced the height of the poles and the proposal would not now interfere with the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That the amended proposals be approved.

170—St. Paul's College—A letter was submitted from the Secretary, Church of England Training Colleges, in regard to proposed extensions and improvements to St. Paul's Training College. The present site was not suitable to meet future requirements of the Ministry of Education and, after careful consideration and consultation, it was decided that the College must be moved and that a site of at least 40 acres was necessary. A suggestion had been made that the College might be moved to Bristol, where it would be in closer touch with the University. The Governors were very reluctant to take this course, but if a site could not be found higher authority might compel them to consider the suggestion. The Governors had negotiated for a site on the Benhall Farm Estate on the other side of the Gloucester Road to the Ministry of Pensions and they asked for the Council's assistance in this matter, particularly as if a new college was built, the present buildings and playing field would be a valuable asset to the town, if acquired by the Council. The Committee also had regard to the fact that a very important improvement could be secured by including the area of the existing college and grounds in its redevelopment scheme for this area. RESOLVED,(i) That the Council be recommended to adopt the view that the removal from the town of St. Paul's Training College was to be deprecated, and that all possible steps should be taken to secure the retention in the town of the college and the carrying out of the extensions proposed. (ii) That the Governors and the owners of the land referred to above be informed that the Council will take the fullest possible steps to secure the results referred to in resolution (i), if necessary by the use of their compulsory purchase powers. (iii) That the area of the present college and adjoining land belonging to them, be included in the compulsory purchase order which the Council propose to make under Section 2 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944, in respect of certain areas in Lower High Street.

171—Hoarding, St. James' Station-As a result of complaints made in regard to the hoarding fronting St. James Station, the Great Western Railway Company had requested Messrs. Mills & Rockleys to remove the hoarding. Messrs. Mills & Rockleys now made application for approval to the erection of a hoarding in an amended position, partly on the Railway Company's property. RESOLVED, That the erection of the hoarding in the amended position be not approved.

172-Dispersal Factory, Uckington-A letter was submitted from Messrs. Walter W. Jenkins & Co., Ltd., asking for this Council's support in their application to the Ministry of Works to be allocated the dispersal factory at Uckington for use in connection with their business. The Council have already intimated to the Department their support of an application from another firm, who were urgently in need of such accommodation, and in these circumstances, the Committee were unable to support the application now submitted by Messrs. Walter W. Jenkins & Co., Ltd.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**20th November, 1946.** Present-The Mayor (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bendall, Bayliss, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Green, Grimwade, Gardner and Strickland.

173-17 Avon Road-The Town Clerk submitted memorial from 11 residents in Avon Road protesting against the tenant of this house being allowed to resume occupation. It was pointed out that the house, which was a three-bedroomed house, would now be occupied only by two persons since the

tenants' children were now cared for in various homes. RESOLVED, That notice to quit be served on the tenant of this house.

174—Kitchen Garden, Fleurville, Ashford Road—Read application from the tenant of the Kitchen Garden of this house for continuance of his tenancy on the same terms as previously. The Town Clerk reported that the tenancy was determinable at any time and recommended its renewal. RESOLVED, That the tenancy of this garden be continued on the same terms as previously, subject to the Gardens Superintendent being satisfied as to the state of cultivation.

175—Site, Rowanfield Road—The Town Clerk submitted a letter from Mr. J. C. Rees, the occupier of a house on the proposed site for non-traditional houses, enquiring whether the Council intended to purchase the house, and if so, whether alternative accommodation would be found for the occupiers. It was reported that the house in question was on the site of the proposed road and would probably have to be demolished. RESOLVED, That Mr. Rees be informed that no houses will be demolished until the necessity arises and that occupiers of any such houses will be offered suitable alternative accommodation.

176—Kingsley Gardens Shrubberies—The Town Clerk submitted a scheme from the Gardens Superintendent to improve the shrubberies fronting Kingsley Gardens. He recommended that the hedge line separating this Shrubbery from the Gloucester Road be removed and that the whole of the area not covered with shrubs should be laid with turf. He considered that the effect thus obtained would be pleasing and that the amenities would be considerably increased. RESOLVED, That the scheme be approved in principle and that the Gardens Superintendent be instructed to submit an estimate to the Estate Management Sub-Committee.

31

177—Whaddon Road—The question was raised as to which account the expense of converting this property two flats should be charged. The Borough Treasurer reported that a sum of £98 3s. 3d. had been expended, carrying out this work. RESOLVED, That this expenditure be charged to the General Rate Fund.

178—6 Ormond Terrace—The Borough Treasurer reported that the sum of £2350 had been expended on adaptations to this house which was leased by the Council. RESOLVED, That this expenditure be also charged to the General Rate Fund.

179—St. Mark's Community Centre and Whaddon Youth Club—The cost of these huts, including their removal and re-erection and adaptation amounted to approximately £2,500. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan for this expenditure.

180—Apprenticeship Scheme—Read letter from the Ministry of Works stating that the cost on a normal competitive lump sum tender basis of the erection of the two additional houses in Chelt Road under the above scheme had now been agreed at £2,335. This agreed normal cost was subject to any variation in the works which might become necessary during construction and to any rise or fall of wages and costs of materials. The Borough Surveyor reported that this figure was the same as that originally given by him. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

181—Prisoner of War Labour—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Works with regard to the payment of accounts for Prisoner of War Labour. It was now agreed in the

circumstances that all future claims in respect of the employment of prisoners of war should be deferred until the final agreed valuation of the service.

182—Lynworth Farm—(a) Exchange of Land—The Town Clerk reported that a " give and take " line had now been agreed with Messrs. Walker Croweller & Co., with regard to land bordering on Whaddon Brook. He submitted reports from the District Valuer agreeing to the proposed exchange being made without monetary compensation, since the areas to be exchanged comprised the same area, viz., 1054.09 sq. yards. It was necessary to effect this exchange in order to facilitate the construction of a road on the boundary of the estate. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the proposed exchange.

(b) That the Town Clerk be authorised to take the necessary steps to complete the exchange of land with Messrs. Walker Croweller & Co., and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Deed of Exchange.

(b) Schemes 1 and 2—Retention Monies—The Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell, Ltd., asking for a reduction in the amount of retention monies and also for such sums to be placed in the Bank in a joint account of themselves and the Council. They pointed out that if the 10% retention was adhered to the amount might well be in the region of £7,000 and additional hardship would be caused by this amount being withheld for a longer period an account of the probable extension of the contract. They also asked that such concessions as were made on this scheme should also be made on Scheme No. 2. The Town Clerk had discussed the matter with the Borough Surveyor and the Borough Treasurer and it was felt that under the circumstances the request for a reduction in the amount of retention monies was reasonable, but they could not recommend that the retention money should be placed in a joint account.

The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that a limit of £3,500 retention money on Scheme No. 1 and £4,500 on Scheme No. 2, would be adequate.

The Contract provided for half of the retention monies to be paid on the completion of the whole contract and the balance on the expiration of a maintenance period of six months. RESOLVED, (a) That the Council agree to the retention monies on the two contracts being limited to a maximum of £3,500 and £4,500 respectively.

(b) That the application for the retention monies to be paid into a joint account be not acceded to.

183—Proposed Flats—Priors Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted preliminary sketch plans of a block of eighteen flats comprising 12 with one bedroom and six with two bedrooms. He suggested that this would make a pleasing feature sited at the junction of Priors Road and Bouncers Lane at the entrance to the Lynworth Estate. The building would be three storeys high, with concrete floors and flat roof, and as the site was restricted in depth it would not be possible to provide gardens. It was, however, suggested that the space should be left open for communal use as a drying space, and provision of cycle and fuel stores for each flat. RESOLVED, That the scheme in principle be approved, and that the Borough Surveyor be instructed to submit detailed plans and specifications.

184—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—The Chairman submitted letter which he had received from Western Estates (Lawes Cherry) Ltd. in regard to their housing estate at Brooklyn Gardens. Owing to the fact that their application for W.B.A. Priorities for the houses had not been acceded to

they were much concerned as to retaining their labour force pending the commencement of their contract in the New Year for the erection of houses for Cheltenham R.D.C. The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Company offering to negotiate with the Council for the sale of the remaining 30 houses to be built at Brooklyn Gardens to be erected and completed by the Company. The Town Clerk pointed out that the Ministry of Health in Circular 92/46 were prepared to consider and approve proposals by local authorities to arrange with builders to erect houses which they were accustomed to erect and then for the Council to purchase these. RESOLVED, That the Committee are prepared favourably to consider this proposal and that the Estate Management Sub-Committee be asked to inspect the two types of houses being erected by Western Estates Ltd. and if they are satisfied with the standard of the houses they be authorised to negotiate with the Company with a view to a scheme being submitted to the Ministry for approval.

185—Non-traditional Houses--The Town Clerk reported that, as instructed, Messrs. George Wimpey & Co. had been asked to submit a revised tender based on local basic rates for controlled materials at present prices to be obtained from a source approved by the Borough Surveyor, and also revised tenders for the variations suggested. RESOLVED, That when this revised tender is received the same be referred to the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor for consideration and that if they are satisfied therewith, the same be submitted direct to the Council at their meeting with a view to expediting formal application to the Ministry of Health for approval.

32

186—Housing Finance—(a) The Mayor submitted letter addressed to him by Mr. R. A. Harding on behalf of 36 tenants of houses on St. Paul's Estate protesting against the application of the differential rent scheme to their tenancies and refusing to complete the Statement of Income form. The Town Clerk reported that in the application of the scheme there was no compulsion on the tenants to complete the Income Forms and that where tenants preferred not to do this the usual practice of the Committee was to charge the maximum rent for the particular house. It appeared to the Committee that it might be desirable for a further letter to be sent to the tenants concerned pointing this out and also giving the tenants details of the maximum rent of their house which, as pointed out in the circular previously sent to the tenants, was in general the economic rent of the house. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to send such further letter.

(b) St. Mark's—The Town Clerk reported that in the case of St. Mark's Estate the majority of tenants were under an obligation to carry out the interior decoration of their houses and some of the tenants had raised the question that if the differential rent scheme was applied to them allowance should be made for this. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to inform tenants that on the application of the differential rent scheme the Council will undertake the liability for interior decoration rendered necessary by fair wear and tear and to relieve the tenants accordingly.

187—Estate Management Sub-Committee--The reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee of their meetings held on the 25th October and 14th November were submitted. The following matters (inter alia) were dealt with:-

(1) 26 applicants were interviewed and 22 applications considered.

(2) The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress being made in the carrying out of works to requisitioned properties :—

Lauriston. A revised tender had been obtained for this work and approval of the Ministry was awaited.

27 Cambray. Completed.

3 Keynsham Bank. Completed.

3 Crescent Terrace. Two flats would be ready in five weeks:

36 Lansdown Crescent. Plans sent to Ministry for approval.

35 All Saints' Terrace. Approval received to conversion which would provide one upstairs flat.

Oldfield Court. Now being measured up.

(3) W.B.A. Priority was granted in respect of eight applications for conversions.

(4) Permanent houses. It was hoped to have ready by the end of November four three-bedroom houses at Margrett Road and two three-bedroom houses at Lynworth Farm Estate.

(5) Priors Farm Estate. It was recommended that small swings, see-saws and similar equipment should be installed on the " Village Green " at this estate for the benefit of the tenants and that the Gardens Super-intendent should be asked to submit proposals. The Town Clerk reported that the Council could provide this equipment, with the consent of the Ministry. RESOLVED, That these reports be approved and adopted.

188—Requisitioning Sub-Committee--Reports of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their last meetings held on the 23rd October and 15th November were submitted.

(1) Branksome Dene, Queens Road ; Flat, 24 Imperial Square. These properties had been de-requisitioned on the conditions approved by the Sub-Committee.

(2) Flat, 11 Evesham Road ; Flat, Leckhampton Hall ; 3 Sydenham Villas Road. These properties had been requisitioned.

(3) Park Grange, Moorend Park Road. The owner had now commenced work on the conversion of this property.

(4) Western Lawn. The Sub-Committee recommended that the attention of the G.W.R. Co., Ltd., be drawn to the long period which this property had remained vacant and that they be informed that if the work of conversion into flats for Railway employees is not commenced in the near future, the Council's right to requisition must be exercised.

189—Housing Department—Staff—The Housing Manager reported the resignation of Miss Wilkinson, which left a vacancy on the establishment. RESOLVED, That the vacancy be advertised with a view to appointing a qualified assistant.

190—Boundary Fence, Priors Estate—The Borough Surveyor reported that complaints had been received from tenants with regard to people using the footpath to the cemetery on the east side of the estate walking through the gardens of the bungalows. The existing fence was in a poor condition and the Borough Surveyor recommended that it be replaced at an estimated cost of £70. RESOLVED, That the Committee inspect the fence when an inspection is made of the Estate on 27th November.

191—Factory Nuisance, Tennyson Road—The Town Clerk reported that, as instructed, he had communicated with Messrs. Smiths Systems, Ltd., drawing attention to the fact that complaints had



been received of the nuisance caused by night work of machines and Sunday work. He submitted letter from the Company that in their opinion no noise could be heard from the outside which could in any way be termed offensive. The nearest house in Brooklyn Road was 200 yards from the factory and any steps they might take in this matter would in the final result deprive a number of workers of their livelihood. They had, however, arranged to discontinue Sunday work and endeavoured to arrange for the necessary reconversion in the mill to enable them to use those machines which made the most noise in the daytime only. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken and that the Town Clerk thank the Company for their co-operation in this matter.

33

### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**19th November, 1946.** Present—The Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Fisher, Green, Grimwade, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

191—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Capt. J. H. Trye be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

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

193—**Appointment of Sub-Committees**—RESOLVED, That the following members do constitute the Sub-Committees for the ensuing year, namely :—

**Requisitions, Stores and Plant**—Alderman Trye, Councillors Bettridge, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

**Traffic**—Alderman Trye, Councillors Addis Fisher, Green and Readings.

**Salvage**—Alderman Trye, Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Midwinter and Readings.

**Pittville Street**—Aldermen Trye and Ward, Councillors Fisher. Grimwade and Strickland.

194—Labour or Works Sub-Committee—For some years prior to 1943 the Council annually appointed a Labour Sub-Committee but war conditions and affiliation to the Western District Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services had made this procedure appear unnecessary. At present, various Committees of the Council had matters and problems before them relating to wages and conditions of their respective employees. In addition to affiliation to the Non-Trading J.I.C., the Council were also members of the South Midlands J.I.C. for Water Undertakings and of the District Council (No. 6) West of England Area for the Electricity Supply Industry. It, therefore, now seemed desirable that the Council should set up a co-ordinating Sub-Committee to deal with matters relating to conditions of employment and wages of their employees including recommendations from time to time made by the various J.I.C's. This Committee had in mind a Committee similar to the Establishment Committee recently set up, in accordance with the recommendation of the National Joint Council, to deal with staffing matters RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to establish such a co-ordinating Sub-Committee its constitution to include the Chairmen of the various employing Committees and the Council's J.I.C. representatives.

195—Imperial Square—Parking—(Min. 2000(b)/46)—The Traffic Commissioners had decided in agreement with the Company to attach a special condition to the road service permit of the Black & White Motorways Ltd. that not more than 2 coaches at any one time should pick up passengers outside Paris House between the hours of 10.15 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. daily except Sundays. The private roadway leading to houses in Imperial Square and opposite the Town Hall should not be obstructed, neither should vehicles park adjacent to the access roads leading to the Town Hall or New Club. The Company enquired their position should they be required to pick up large numbers of delegates attending Conferences at the Town Hall. RESOLVED, That the Council welcome the decision of the Traffic Commissioners and that, with regard to tours connected with Conferences at the Town Hall, no objection be raised upon these occasions to a starting point in the vicinity of Imperial Square.

196—Parking Place, Junction of Warwick Place and North Place—(Min. 2000(a)/46). The Military Authorities appreciated the arrangements made by the Council for the accommodation of short-stay service vehicles and were erecting " no nuisance " signs. The Borough Surveyor had also prepared notices indicating that the park was reserved for military vehicles.

197—Rodney Road—Messrs. Kimberley Morrison & Co. complained of congestion at the High Street end of this road. They were informed that many months ago the Council made application to the Ministry of Transport for approval to a Unilateral Waiting Order for a distance of 100 yards from the High Street junction, and that repeated endeavours had been made to persuade the Ministry to expedite such approval. A similar position existed in regard to a number of other traffic Orders which the Council were anxious should operate in certain streets in the centre of the town. RESOLVED, That further efforts be made to obtain the approval of the Ministry to such Orders to enable experience to be gained before summer traffic commences.

198—Traffic Congestion—The Chamber of Commerce Transport Committee had considered general parking problems and suggested that parking places be provided in the wider and less-used streets such as the east and south sides of Imperial Square, Bayshill Road, St. George's Road, Berkeley Street, adjoining Great Western Railway Station, Royal Crescent, etc. They also suggested uniformity in regard to lighting regulations both for existing and future parking; places and that car parks of all descriptions should be adequately signed throughout the town. The observations of the Police Superintendent had been obtained when he pointed out that the south side of Imperial Square had, for many years, been allocated as a parking place ; the Town Clerk also stated that the east side was abandoned some years ago owing to the nuisance caused to residents ; Royal Crescent had not been taken over by the Council and, with regard to the other streets, the Police Superintendent had already in mind recommending the Council to provide parking facilities therein RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Traffic Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

199—Trinity School Lane—(a) A complaint had been received of heavy traffic in this lane and the consequent danger to children attending Trinity Schools. The complainant had been informed of the Orders submitted some months ago to the Ministry of Transport and that the Ministry had many times been urged to expedite confirmation. RESOLVED, That further efforts be made to this end.

(b) Signing—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Ministry of Transport setting out details of proposed signs for this Lane in connection with the Traffic Orders. He had prepared plan indicating the siting and c-signs of such signs. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

200—Traffic Orders—(a) Procedure—The Committee were perturbed at the increasing delay in obtaining the Transport's approval and confirmation of Traffic orders and the consequent congestion which still prevailed in thoroughfares of the town, They felt that traffic regulations applicable to streets, other than the more thoroughfares, were matters which might well be left to the discretion of Local Authorities, as their knowledge of local conditions would enable them to make such orders as were expedient both for traffic control and safety. This seemed

34

a matter which might well be brought to the notice of the Association of Municipal Corporations as no doubt Other Local Authorities were similarly hampered. The present unwieldy procedure involved delay and irritation and the Association might therefore agree that the time was now opportune for representations to be made for amended legislation and to secure delegated powers to Local Authorities to make Traffic Regulations in their own areas with the possible exception of main thoroughfares. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Association accordingly.

(b) The Cheltenham and District Traction Co. stated that the Regional Transport Commissioner had enquired their views in regard to the various Traffic Orders submitted by the Council. They had informed him that bus stops existed in the streets covered thereby, but they understood that the proposed Orders would cause no interference. Unilateral parking already existed in certain streets and the bus stops therein were still maintained.

201—Land, Albion Street, adjacent to Old Swan Hotel---(Min. 1998/-16)—The Town Clerk had discussed with representatives of Corpus Christi College and the Cheltenham Original Brewery Co. (owners of this land) and the Blue Bird Cafe (the College's tenants) the Council's proposals for the acquisition and development of this site as a park, mainly for country buses. As a result of such discussions it appeared that one of the difficulties was access to High Street, either through the passageway leading to St. James' Street or by means of the Swan Hotel Yard. The use of the former would interfere with the Blue Bird Company's occupation as the passage was now extensively used by vans and lorries connected with their business. With regard to the Brewery Company's premises, the Swan Hotel in High Street and the Old Swan Vaults in Albion Street are held under one licence and a connecting link must be maintained. The yard of the Swan Hotel was closed except during permitted hours and should it remained open the Brewery Company's property would be entirely unprotected. If the area was adjusted it, appeared to the Committee that appropriate arrangements might be made to avoid any clash of interests with the Blue Bird Cafe ; and it was believed that provided the proposals were not prejudicial to the Company's interests their landlords, Corpus Christi College, would be willing to entertain a lease to the Council of a portion of the area required. For many reasons the Committee considered it undesirable for access from the park to be provided to St James' Street and that a more desirable solution would be access through the Swan Hotel yard. It was thought that if the Brewery Company were offered alternative sites on the Council's housing estates (Rowanfield and Hester's Way) they might agree to surrender their licences for the Swan Hotel and Vaults, transferring their interests to these estates. If this could be arranged it would enable a considerably improved car park lay out to be provided. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Town Clerk continue his negotiations on the lines indicated.

(ii) That the Housing Committee be asked to consider the possibility of offering alternative accommodation to the Brewery Company on the housing estates mentioned.

(iii) That the Blue Bird Cafe Company be informed that the area which the Council wish to lease from Corpus Christi College might be so adjusted as to exclude the Company's bakehouse, which building the latter desire to reinstate and repair without delay.

202 --Land adjoining Full Moon Hotel, High Street—(Min. 2184/46)—The District Valuer had endeavoured to negotiate a purchase of this site for use as a car park but the owner's agents stated their client was not prepared to consider a sale for a sum less than £15,000. The District Valuer, however, understood that the land was acquired a few years ago for a sum considerably below this figure. He, therefore, suggested that the Council should consider using their compulsory powers of acquisition. In view of the necessity for providing additional car parks and other amenities in the centre of the town, the Committee felt that this area, comprising 3,000 square yards, situate within a quarter of a mile of the town's centre, should be purchased. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make a further effort to acquire the land for a sum likely to be acceptable to the District Valuer, failing which the owner's agents be informed that the Council propose, in the interests of the town, to exercise their compulsory powers.

203—Belisha Crossing, Promenade—Mr. E. W. Garland contended that this crossing had become more dangerous for pedestrians as motorists and cyclists frequently ignored it There was less traffic sonic few yards further north, opposite Messrs. Dale, Forty & Co's premises, and he suggested the crossing be moved to this position. The Borough Surveyor had informed Mr. Garland that when sited, this crossing had received careful consideration both by this Committee and the Police Superintendent ; he had also pointed out the disadvantages which would arise from its removal to the position Mr. Garland had in mind. RESOLVED, That the observations of the Police Superintendent be obtained and that the Traffic Sub-Committee consider and report thereon.

204-St. Margaret's Road --School Warning Sign—Complaints had been made of traffic danger to children attending the Pates Junior School, and the Borough Surveyor recommended the erection of school warning signs at a cost of approximately £10 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That such expenditure be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That the attention of the Police Superintendent be called to the congestion in the road due to cars parking adjacent to the School and the Black & White Motor Coach Station.

205—Pedestrian Shelters—In January last this Committee had before them an offer from Messrs. Grayson Maim Publicity Ltd. to erect shelters upon footpaths subject to their being permitted to display thereon framed advertisements The Council had always opposed advertisements of this nature and the Company's over had, therefore, not been entertained. The Company now renewed their offer and were prepared to erect shelters at omnibus stops free of all costs, and would restrict advertising material to framed advertisements of a local character. In view of the difficulty in obtaining shelter accommodation the Committee were not entirely unfavourable to the Company's proposal provided advertisements were limited to the interior of the erections RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Company accordingly and report further thereon.

206—Pilley Bridge—Reconstruction—(Min. 1689/46) (a) The County Surveyor had been informed that an estimate had been prepared for this work amounting to £14,000. It was assumed that the War Damage Commission would accept responsibility for re-building the Bridge to its original width of 30 ft., at an approximate cost of £8,200, leaving the balance of £6,800 to be apportioned between the Ministry of Transport and the County Council. The County Surveyor was making provision in his annual estimates accordingly.

(b) The Borough Surveyor submitted tender amounting to £427 from Messrs. Let Grand, Sutcliff & Gell, Ltd. for sinking four trial holes on the site of the new abutments and other works. If the tests proved satisfactory designs for the Bridge structure could be commenced. RESOLVED, That the tender be accepted, the cost to be charged against the reconstruction scheme.

35

207—Trunk Road No. 44—Signs—The Ministry of Transport had discussed with the Borough Surveyor the re-signing the new trunk road 44. This road as signed at short notice just prior to the war, when first used as a by-pass, was had now arrived when standard signs should be erected, the Ministry to accept responsibility for all expenditure, The Borough Surveyor had not yet had an opportunity of considering the Ministry's suggestions in detail but, subject to siting of signs being satisfactorily arranged, he recommended that the proposals be approved. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be authorised to approve such siting.

208—Trunk and Classified Roads—(a) Preliminary Estimates—(i) Trunk Roads—The Borough Surveyor had forwarded preliminary estimates to the Ministry of Transport for maintenance and minor improvement works on trunk roads 10 and 44 for the year 1947/48 amounting to £11,033 and £11 14s. respectively. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(ii) Classified Roads—The County Surveyor had also been furnished with details of estimated expenditure in respect of maintenance and minor improvement works on classified roads for the year 1947/48 amounting to £6,000 for Class 1 roads ; £10,000 for Class 2 roads ; and £3,000 for Class 3 roads. Details of such expenditure would be submitted to this Committee in due course. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(b) Class III Roads—(Min. 2006/46)—The Ministry of Transport referred to the Council's recent application for classification to Class III, of certain unclassified roads in the Borough, and the roads now indicated had accordingly been accepted. The Ministry enquired whether the application had been formally approved by this Council and the Town Clerk pointed out that the Ministry's present proposals did not entirely agree with their previous, proposals reported in Min. 2006/46. The Borough Surveyor was, however, further considering the matter. RESOLVED, That the roads now indicated by the Ministry for classification to Class III be accepted subject to the Borough Surveyor being satisfied therewith.

209—Overhead Telegraphic Line—Kipling Road to Wordsworth Avenue—The Post Office applied for consent to the erection of this line. RESOLVED, That consent be given subject to no interference with electricity cables ; to reinstatement being carried out to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor and to the existing pole on the grass verge in Kipling Road being removed to the rear of the footpath.

210—Promenade—Telephone Kiosks—The Post Office Telephones proposed, with the approval of the Council, to erect 2 additional kiosks on the slabbery in front of the General Post Office. The Borough Surveyor did not consider the siting entirely satisfactory and pointed out that the Committee had previously had in mind recommending the removal of the ornamental gardens to remedy congestion frequently occurring outside the Post Office. The Committee felt that the position would be more satisfactorily met if an additional kiosk was added to each of the existing double kiosks on the slabbery thus reducing the number of erections RESOLVED, That the Post Office be informed accordingly.

211—Elmfield Estate—(Min. 1996/46). The Council had recently refused the application of the developers, Messrs. Cunningham and Gibbaud, to take over roads and footpaths on this Estate until

the same were constructed in accordance with the Borough Surveyor's specification. The matter had arisen upon the desire of the County Council to obtain access from Swindon Road Schools to the Elmfield Estate. Messrs. Cunningham and Gibbaud had since offered to surrender a strip of land 13 ft. wide to provide such access in exchange for the taking over of Elmfield Road by the Council but the Borough Surveyor could not recommend the Committee to accede thereto until further works had been carried out estimated at £829. The position was now being reviewed by the County Council  
RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be adopted.

212—Arle Avenue—An air raid shelter had been erected in this Avenue on land in front of premises owned by Mr. W. Prude. With the demolition of the shelter it became necessary to re-erect the brick wall belonging to the owner and an opportunity had been taken to approach him and also the owners of adjoining land to surrender an area sufficient to enable the wall to be erected to the new improvement line, Consent was forthcoming and it was anticipated that the cost of re-erecting the wall would be borne by the Government as part of the work of shelter reinstatement and the only cost devolving upon the Council would be for making up the footpath which the Borough Surveyor suggested he carried out for the time being in tarmacadam. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved and adopted.

213—Pittville Pump Room—De-Requisitioning—(Min. 29 Parks Committee)---The Parks Committee had agreed with the Military Authorities to purchase certain structures erected in the vicinity of the Pump Room and to offset the cost thereof by accepting responsibility for demolition of certain other structures and undertaking reinstatement and this would apply to the brick meat store, the materials from which would be extremely useful to the Council The Parks Committee asked if this Committee would undertake the work, the materials obtained being taken into stock on the understanding that the Parks Committee had first priority for the necessary materials required for the provision of garages at Sandford Nurseries and also for the conversion of the store room in the Garden's Superintendent's office into additional office accommodation. RESOLVED, That the suggestions be adopted.

214—Lansdown Road—Surface Water Drain—(Min. 2191146)—Four tenders for this work had been received and had been opened as authorised. The lowest tender was that of Messrs Costello and Kemple amounting to £6,721 7s 1d., which had been forwarded to the Ministry of Transport with a recommendation for acceptance. It was possible, however, that the Ministry might require a portion of the cost to be borne by the Council since a number of gullet's draining side roads and areas adjacent to the trunk road would connect to the new sewer. The Borough Surveyor thought it not unreasonable for the Council to bear the cost of the gullet's. He suggested that the Chairman be authorised to agree thereto should the Ministry so request. RESOLVED, That this suggestion be adopted.

215—Hatherley Road Improvement Line—When Messrs. Marshalls (Charlton Kings) Ltd. commenced building operations in Hatherley Roach, the line of their boundary was indicated to them, but on a complete survey of the whole frontage it was found that the improvement line was not correctly sited and a new line was accordingly set out Unfortunately a man-hole on the drains of the first house had been constructed and as a result of the new line this man-hole was in the footpath. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the man-hole be taken up and reconstructed inside the gates at a cost of £28 and that the Committee accept responsibility therefor. RESOLVED, That this be approved

216—No. 3 Queen Street—(Min. 2912146) —The Town Clerk reported upon negotiations for the purchase of this The Agent stated that his client was willing for the Council to acquire the same

provided that they also acquired No. 6 and that the terms arranged by the District Valuer was satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the District Valuer be asked to negotiate a purchase accordingly, the property being required for future road improvement purposes.

36

217 —No. 5 Hewlett Place—In 1938 these premises were the subject of a Demolition Order but had since been re-occupied under a temporary licence which the Council had decided not to renew as the premises were very dilapidated, The Public Health Committee enquired whether this Committee were interested in a purchase for street improvement purposes, the price quoted by the Agent being £150. RESOLVED, That a purchase be not entertained as it does not appear that the site is suitable for road improvement purposes.

218—Pittville Street Properties—No.12--This lock-up shop recently vacated by the Y.M.C.A., had now, with the approval of the Chairman, been re-let to Mr. G. Herbert at a rental of £25 per annum plus rates.

219—Bath and West and Southern Counties Show—The Local Secretary asked permission for a banner to be erected in High Street or the Promenade as the Show Committee were anxious to obtain as much publicity as possible. It was understood that it was desired to retain the banner from now until the date of the Show in May but the Committee felt that they could not accede to this request. They were not, however, unsympathetic to an advertisement of a more substantial character being erected upon Lance's site provided the Town Improvement Committee, who had control of the advertising thereon, raised no objection. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk discuss the matter with both the Show Secretary and the Local Secretary and that the views of the Town Improvement Committee be obtained.

220—Mechanical Plant—(a) Lorries and Trailers—The Borough Surveyor had been authorised to obtain tenders for three tipping lorries and two trailers for use in the Highways Dept. and the last day for receipt of tenders was 27th November. RESOLVED, That the tenders be referred to the Requisitions. Stores & Plant Sub-Committee with power to act.

(b) Sale of Redundant Vehicles—As instructed, the Borough Surveyor had authorised Messrs C. C. Castle & Sons to dispose of redundant horse-drawn vehicles and useless mechanical vehicles and the sale had realised £130 18s 6d. After deduction of incidental expenses, advertising and commission, there was a net balance of £109 18s. 9d.

(c) Mechanical Excavator—The Excavator ordered many months ago from Messrs Priestman Bros. Ltd. had now been delivered and tests were in progress The Borough Surveyor was very satisfied with the results so far achieved.

221—Road Safety Committee—(a) Appointment of Full Time Organiser-- (Min. 2198/40)—The Council had approved. in principle, the appointment of a temporary whole-time Road Safety Organiser upon a grade approximating from £275---£300 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus. The Establishment Committee had given consideration thereto but had not sufficient information before them to arrive at a decision and had asked that the Chairman of this Committee attend their next meeting. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor prepare details of the duties involved and that the Chairman of the Road Safety Committee (Councillor Readings) be asked to attend.

(b) Grant from County Council—The County Council were now embarking upon road safety measures and in view of the rate contribution of this Council thereto, the Committee considered that as the Borough were undertaking their own road safety activities and so relieving the County

Council, a grant should be made from County resources. The Town Clerk had therefore approached the County Council and reported that the matter had been before the County Road Safety Committee who could not see their way to accede to the request. The Committee felt that this was a matter which should be laid not only before the County Road Safety Committee but before the County Finance Committee and RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk urge for re-consideration of the decision and request that the matter be brought before the County FINANCE COMMITTEE.

222—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which included removal and re-planting of trees in public thoroughfares, and ten silver birches in the car park at Sandford Swimming Pool, Road works in Alstone Lane were almost complete ; 1,400 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,200 tons during the preceding month.

223 -Labour—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the serious labour situation in his department. During the summer he had recruited twenty employees but fourteen had now left. The position was not improved by recent retirements of a number of pensioners. At the present time only thirty men were working on road gangs whereas 100-200 were necessary to cope with work in hand and to overtake war-time arrears.

The reasons for the difficulty in recruitment were probably due to the nature of the work, which was not always of a pleasant character, and also to the fact that the rates of pay did not compare favourably with the rates for the Building Industry, The Borough Surveyor made several suggestions for overcoming the problem including a possible " application to the Joint Industrial Council for re-zoning from "B to " A " which would bring the rates of pay in the Highways Department more into line with the Building Industry ; also Polish labour might be recruited.

The Committee felt that the question of re-zoning was a matter which might well be referred to the co-ordinating Works Committee which they had previously recommended the General Purposes Committee to set up, as it would be necessary to consider the implications not only so far as they affect the Highways Department but other departments of the Council. Should, however, it be decided to apply for re-zoning an opportunity should be taken of urging the J I C. to include a condition which would result in the merging of the increased rate of 1d. per hour now received by certain temporary employees and thus remove the anomalous position existing between casual and temporary labour. RESOLVED, That the co-ordinating Works Sub-Committee be recommended accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That in view of the serious labour position of the Highways Department the Borough Surveyor be authorised to pursue the possibility of recruiting Polish labour.

224—Annual Contracts—Price Alterations—Messrs. G. Bence & Sons had advised that prices of cement had now been reduced by 2s per ton. RESOLVED, That this be noted.

225—Highways Department—(a) Motor Mechanic—The Borough Surveyor reported upon correspondence with the National Union of General and Municipal Workers with regard to the wages of this employee The Union asked for his wages to be controlled by the J.I.C. for the Motor Vehicles and Repairing Trade and that the employee be awarded the latest increase of 2 ½ d. per hour. When this appointment was made the employee was paid 2s 6d per hour, as compared with the appropriate rate at that time of the J.I.C. referred to, of 2s 1 ¼ d. per hour, increased from 20<sup>th</sup> May last to 2s 3 ¾ d. per hour. If the employee received the rates referred to by the Union he would now be placed at a disadvantage. RESOLVED, That further information be obtained with regard to the rates of wages and conditions of service J.I.C. for the Motor Vehicles and Repairing Trade, to which the Council are not affiliated, and that the matter again be considered at the next meeting.



(b) Electricians—The Union also raised a question on the wages of electricians The Borough Surveyor stated that as there appeared no rate applicable thereto in the J.I.C. classification, the men had received 2s 2d. per hour which was at the time of appointment, the rate paid to electricians in the Electricity Department. Upon further enquiry he had ascertained that an increase of 1d. per hour was granted to electricians some months ago and recently an application of the Union for re-classification, had been agreed. RESOLVED, That the necessary adjustment in wages be made to the employees as from the operative date.

(c) Mason and Bricklayer--(C. Denley and C. Prewer)—These employees had been engaged in the Highways Department for 14 and 17 years respectively. They were not eligible for inclusion in the Superannuation Act, 1937, as both had then attained the age of 55 years. Upon reaching the age of 65 during the war, they had expressed their willingness to continue to work for the department but had since asked to retire as from 4th October last. In the circumstances the Borough Surveyor suggested that the Council might wish to exercise their powers under the Superannuation Act and to make an ex-gratia payment to each man as a token recognition of his service. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to grant a gratuity of £50 to each employee, payable at the rate of £1 per week.

226—Borough Surveyor's Department—Chief Clerk—Mr. R. H. A. Clerehugh commenced duty on 11th November and Mr. F. A. Jenkins would retire on 31st December next having completed over 48 years' service with the Council. Meanwhile Mr. Jenkins was rendering every possible assistance to Mr. Clerehugh to enable him to become conversant with his new appointment, and the Borough Surveyor recorded his appreciation of the loyal and efficient service which Mr. Jenkins had always given to him. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their appreciation of the long, faithful and efficient services rendered by Mr Jenkins and that the Town Clerk convey to him the Council's best wishes for many happy years of retirement.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**19th November, 1946.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Trye, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson

227- Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush) be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

228—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara Winterbotham) be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year

229—Appointment of Sub-Committees—(a) **Market and Public Control Sub-Committee.**—Alderman Leigh James, Waite and Ward Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Green and Strickland.

(b) **Re-Organisation Sub-Committee**—Alderman Lipson, Waite, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bush Grimwade and Thompson.

(c) **Staff Joint Advisory Committee (Council Members)**—The Mayor ; Alderman Winterbotham Councillors Grimwade, Readings and Thompson.

(d) **Establishment Sub-Committee**—Comprises the same members as the Staff Joint Advisory Committee.

(e) **Standing Joint Committee—Finance Sub-Committee**—The Mayor, Councillors Bettridge and Biggs.

230--**Establishment Sub-Committee**—The Sub-Committee met on the 24th October, 1946 (report circulated) RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

231—Road Traffic Act, 1930—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Transport indicating that the Minister desired to revoke the Traffic Commissioners (Reduction in Numbers) Order, 1940, reducing the number of Commissioners from three to one, and to revert to the position prior to the war. Alderman Captain Trye previously held an appointment as a Commissioner but did not desire to be nominated on this occasion. After consultation with the Chairman and the Deputy Mayor, it had been decided to nominate the Deputy Mayor as a Traffic Commissioner and her name had been forwarded accordingly. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

232—National Fire Brigades Association—RESOLVED, That the annual subscription of £1 10s. 0d. to this Association be renewed for the year ending March, 1947.

233—Minutes—(i) RESOLVED, That the application of the Amalgamated Engineering Union to be supplied with the Council minutes each month be not approved.

(ii) Printing of Council Minutes—(Min. 1328/46)—Tenders had been invited from 15 local firms for printing Council minutes and reports on a three years basis, and suggestions invited for improvements in printing and reduction in the size of the page. In view of paper supply restrictions and other difficulties, it was not possible to bring into operation certain amendments to the existing methods of submitting reports to the Council at the present time RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Gillhams to supply 120 copies each month, including necessary proofs and corrections, at the sum of 42s per page be accepted and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

38

234—Montpellier British Restaurant—Min. 1504/461—A letter was submitted from the Gloucestershire County Council stating that this Council's suggestion that the Montpellier British Restaurant building be removed from its present site and re-erected on a site at the rear of the North Gloucestershire Technical College, had been considered, but in view of the fact that the cost would approach £1,000, this Council were asked to reconsider their decision and agree to the Education Committee having the use of the building on its present site for a period of three years by which time it was hoped other accommodation would have been provided A letter was also submitted from the Ministry of Food asking to be informed of the present position in regard to the restaurant building, as the Ministry of Works had made enquiries in view of their desire to obtain premises in Cheltenham for use as offices. The Committee considered that if the building was to remain in its present position, it was most desirable from many points of view that it should be used for purposes connected with the Borough, such as proposed by the North Gloucestershire Technical College. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the building remaining in position for a period of three years from the date upon which the building is taken over, and that the Ministry of Food be recommended to grant the use of the building to the College.

235—Downing Memorial and Boulton Prize Funds (Order), 1946—(Min. 211/44)—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Education enclosing the above Order, made under section 96 of the Education Act, 1944, directing that the that the above Funds should not be deemed to have been transferred to the Local Education Authority in pursuance of section 6 of the Education Act, 1944, so

that the benefit of the Funds would be restricted to the Borough. The Borough Treasurer would be Treasurer to the Funds, and would act on the instructions of the Education Committee as and when required.

236—South Western Provincial Council for Staffs of Hospitals and Allied Institutions—A letter was submitted from the Hon. Secretary of the Somerset Borough and Urban District Councils Association in regard to the Provincial Council recently set up in the Counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucester and Wiltshire. Two seats were available for representation of non-county boroughs in the six counties and it was suggested that the vacancies should be filled by the submission of names by individual non-county boroughs. In the event of more than two names being submitted a ballot would be taken and the two persons receiving the highest number of votes appointed to the Joint Council. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree with the proposal, and that the name of Councillor Biggs be submitted

237—Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928—The Secretary of State had intimated that consideration had been given to the exercise of his powers under the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928 (as amended by Defence Regulation 60 AB) during the days immediately prior to Christmas. In view of the continued need for economy in fuel and lighting, he did not propose to exercise these powers. RESOLVED, That the position be noted, that the Council do not exercise their powers in this connection, and that the local organisations be informed accordingly.

238—South-Western Provincial Council—Representative—RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor Grimwade be re-nominated a representative on the above Council for the period expiring 30th November, 1947.

239—Marle Hill House and Cottage—The Borough Surveyor submitted detailed specification and plan of the work required at this house and cottage to convert it into housing accommodation. He estimated the cost at £1,671 16s. 7d. It was proposed the work should be carried out by direct labour. RESOLVED, That this be approved. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £1,672 for the cost of carrying out the work.

240—Town Clerk's Department—Senior Assistant Solicitor—The Town Clerk reported that in the establishment and grading of his department, the salary attaching to the appointment of Senior Assistant Solicitor (Mr. J. Atkinson, LL.B.), was Grade VIII (£625-£700), but that when the National Scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service were approved by the Council in June, 1946, in view of Mr. Atkinson's comparatively recent return from service in H M Forces, his salary was retained at £435 rising to £465 per annum, it being understood that the Committee would reconsider the position in six months. He now recommended that Mr. Atkinson should receive the salary provided in the Scheme RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended that Mr. Atkinson should now receive the salary attaching to the appointment of Senior Assistant Solicitor shewn in the Scheme as from the 2nd December next.

241--Wages and Conditions of Service--Employees—The Committee considered Min. 194 (Street and Highways Committee) recommending that a representative Sub-Committee be appointed to deal with questions of wages and conditions of service in regard to employees in the various departments of the Council. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee, to be known as the Labour Sub-Committee and consisting of the Chairmen of the Street and Highways, Parks, Electricity, Town Improvement, Water and Finance Committees, and the J.I.C. representative for the time being, together with Mr. Councillor Addis, be appointed.

242—Cheltenham Chamber of Commerce Transport Committee—(i) RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor Grimwade be appointed this Council's representative on the Transport Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for the ensuing year.

(ii) A report was submitted of a meeting of the Transport Committee of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 5th November, 1946, dealing with car parking arrangements, which had been considered by the Street and Highway Committee (Min. 198), school signs, and matters in connection with the Airport, which would receive further consideration at the next meeting of the Joint Airport Committee.

243—Presentation to Ex-Mayors of the Borough—The Committee have received a kind offer from the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. ) who desired to present miniatures of the Mayoral badge to the present ex-Mayors and the die, which would have to be prepared in connection with the miniatures, to the Council. The miniatures would become the property of the ex-Mayors and be worn by them on ceremonial and civic occasions. In making the offer she hoped that it would become the practice for future ex-Mayors to be presented with miniatures. RESOLVED (i) That the generous offer of the Deputy Mayor be accepted with the grateful thanks of the Council. (ii) That the Committee being of opinion that the cost of the miniature for the Deputy Mayor should not be borne by herself, the Town Clerk take the steps now indicated to him.

39

244—War Memorial-The Borough Surveyor reported that he had discussed the inscription which might be placed on the War Memorial, with Mr. W. S. F. Harris, Messrs. R. L. Honiton & Sons, who had suggested that the existing raised letters " 1914-1919 " be cut away, a sunk panel formed and the letters "1914-19 and 1939-45 " re-carved in the sunk panel, which could be carried out at a cost of £9 10s. 0d. This would be without prejudice to any proposals which might be made as a result of the public meeting suggested in Min. 2207/46, and the substitution of a portion of the existing balustrading by a panel on which names of Cheltonians who lost their lives in the last war would be inscribed. RESOLVED, That the above proposal be approved and that the tender of Messrs. R. L. Boulton & Sons be accepted, the work to be deferred pending the public meeting and until such time as the Committee gave instructions for it to be carried out.

245—Street Numbering --(i) Application was submitted from Mr. P. E. Smith for the re-numbering of St. George's Place. The Borough Surveyor recommended that a re-numbering should be carried out, but owing to demands on his department, it was not possible to do this at the present time. To meet this case, he would indicate the numbers which would eventually apply and proceed with a general re-numbering as soon as possible.

(ii) Application was also submitted from Mrs. O. Hinton for the inclusion of four houses, known as Spa Buildings, in the numbering of Montpellier Spa Road. These buildings had always been known as Spa Buildings and would ultimately be demolished for street widening purposes. RESOLVED, That the application be not approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present—Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Mann and Morris.

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

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present—Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Compton, Fildes and Thompson.

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

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present—Councillors Bettridge, Grim Mann, Morris and Thompson.

248—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Thompson be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

40

#### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present--Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Brown, Compton, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, and Mrs. Booy.

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

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.**

**15th November, 1946.** Present—Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Green, Grimwade and Thompson.

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

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**20th November, 1946.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Alderman Ward ; Councillors Fildes, Gardner, Mann and Morris.

251—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

252—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

253-23 Lansdown Parade--The Rating and Valuation Officer reported that the arrears of rates on this property had now been paid.

254—Rating of Small Properties—(Min. 2, 11/12/27)—The Borough Treasurer reminded the Committee that, in pursuance of Section II of the Rating and Valuation Act, 1925, the Council had made an Order directing that in the case of properties of a rateable value not exceeding £10 per

annum the owners thereof should be rated instead of the occupiers and an allowance of 10 per cent should be made to the owners who paid the rates before the expiration of two-thirds of the period in respect of which such instalment was payable It had also directed that owners who entered into an agreement in writing to pay rates on such properties instead of the occupiers before the expiration of two-thirds of the period in respect of which the instalment was payable, whether the same be occupied or not, should be made an allowance of 15 per cent instead of the above mentioned 10 per cent. This Order was amended by Min. 2, 26/3/28 to apply to properties of a rateable value not exceeding £9. The Council was now in receipt of an allowance of 15 per cent in respect of rates on its own properties under the aforementioned Order and it had been pointed out by the District Auditor that this should not be maintained, but should be reduced in respect of Council houses to the allowance of 10 per cent. The effect of this would be to put the Council in the same position as an owner compulsorily rated instead of one rated by Agreement, RESOLVED, That with regard to the payment of rates in respect of property owned by the Council of a rateable value not exceeding £9 an allowance of 10 per cent shall be made in future instead of the 15 per cent allowance at present made.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

41

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**22nd November, 1946.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Waite and Ward; Councillors Biggs, Mann and Morris.

255—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Ward be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

256—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 22nd November, on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £36,055 amount outstanding £155,036.

257—Water Rate and Charges—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 22nd November, on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £6,586; amount outstanding £23,570.

258—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £2,663 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £916 for re-chargeable works carried out and £400 for electricity supplied.

259—Cheltenham Corporation 3 Per Cent Stock—Transfer of £3,300 of this stock had been made to Mr. D. V. Flannagan and the Commercial Bank of Scotland (Glasgow) Nominees Ltd. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Stock Certificates, 145 and 146.

260—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported (1) Loans amounting to £5,000 repaid since the last meeting.

(2) That various local charities and funds had invested in Corporation Securities at 3 and 3 ½ per cent. In view of the prevailing rates of interest, arrangements were being made to reduce the interest to 2 ½ per cent for the minimum statutory period of 7 years. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(3) Local Loans Stock.—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Redemption Certificate in respect of £10,000 Local Loans Stock (1971 Stock Redemption Fund).

261—Outstanding Accounts—The Committee considered a statement of outstanding accounts (a number of which had been outstanding for a considerable period) amounting in total to £1,767. The Borough Treasurer reported he had recovered £1,002 and recommended that £653 in respect of bankruptcy proceedings and irrecoverable accounts be written off ; that accounts amounting to £71 be referred to the Town Clerk for necessary action and that he make further efforts to recover the sum of £41. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Treasurer be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector be requested that in future when applications were made to him for sanitary certificates, the fee of one guinea should be obtained before the issue of the certificate.

262—Borough Treasurer's Department—Staff—(i) Accountancy Assistant—(Min. 1787/46)—Mr. L. F. Washbrook, Stourbridge, had been appointed to this position.

(ii) Costing Machine Operator—Miss J. C. M. Smith had resigned her appointment with effect on 22nd November, and Mrs. H. M. Lewis had been appointed to the position in accordance with the establishment.

(iii) Temporary Staff—The Borough Treasurer reported that on the return of servicemen, notices had been given to terminate the services of the following temporary staff :—Mrs. Boite (Electricity outdoor cashier and collector) ; Mrs. Fenner and Mrs. Hall (part time electricity accounts clerks) and Mr. B. Tate (Rates Office clerk). As a result of the re-arrangement of the duties in the Electricity Accounts Section and the Rates Office, a saving in salaries of £426 per annum would be effected.

263—Superannuation—(i) Mr. G. F. Lockey, Electricity Department—(Min. 118(a) (i)—Reported, that the Electricity and Lighting Committee had concurred in the recommendation of this Committee that the payment of the gratuity (£433 0s. 10d.) to Mr. G. F. Lockey, be spread over a period.

(ii) Refund of contributions had been made to the following officers on the termination of their employment :—

P. J. E. Davey (Rates Department)           £43 9s. 10d.

Miss P. Pethen (Thirlestaine Court)       £118 14s. 3d.

A. B. Holtham (Parks) ...                   £39 11s. 1d.

(iii) Transfer value of £134 6s. 4d. had been paid to the Lancaster Corporation in respect of Miss Latham (Health Department).

(iv) Transfer values had been received as below :—

Hove Corporation—Miss Rowe (Library)       £100 4s. 9d.

“       “ Miss Spencer (Library) ...           £58 19s. 10d.

Worcester Corporation—H. Hargreaves (Deputy Borough Treasurer) £793 12s. 1d.

(v) The Committee considered a recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee in regard to the retirement of Mr. J. Pounsett, owing to ill health. A certificate had been issued by the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Section 8 (i) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the effect that Mr. Pounsett was incapable', discharging his duties by

reason of permanent health. The Borough Treasurer reported that the amount payable to Mr. Pounsett, based on 7 years 6 months contributory service and 3 years 2 months non-contributory service, was £26 6s. 9d. RESOLVED, That Mr. Pounsett's retirement on superannuation be approved and that he be paid the above allowance.

42

(vi) Highways Department (Messrs. C. Denley and C. Prewer)—The Committee considered Min. 225 (c) (Street and Highway Committee) in regard to the above-named who had been engaged for 14 years and 17 years respectively in the Highways Department but who were ineligible for inclusion in the superannuation fund as both had attained the age of 55 years upon adoption of the scheme, and recommending that a gratuity of £50 be made to each employee payable at the rate of £1 per week. RESOLVED, That gratuities be paid to each of the above employees in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and that the Borough Treasurer be authorised to make payment as mentioned above.

(vii) Mr. A. Ricketts—Application was submitted from Mr. A. Ricketts, formerly clerk in the Rating Section, for re-consideration of the basis of calculation of his superannuation allowance, namely eightieths instead of one hundred and twentieths. Mr. Ricketts retired in July, 1937, and as he was ineligible for admission to the superannuation scheme on its adoption owing to his age, was only entitled to an allowance based on non-contributory service, namely £90 per annum, Mr. Ricketts, owing to the call-up of officers was re-called in January, 1940, and served in the Rates Department until 31st July, 1946, receiving a salary of £250 per annum, as he could not, under the provisions of the Local Government and Other Officers Superannuation Act, 1922, receive an allowance and salary higher than the salary he received prior to his retirement. Mr. Ricketts also pointed out the additional duties which were placed upon him when Mr. E. D. Ricketts, Assistant Rating and Valuation Officer, assumed part-time duties on 1st April, 1945. The Town Clerk reported that the Council had no power to vary the basis of an allowance once it was fixed and the Committee have therefore considered making some payment to Mr. Ricketts in consideration of the additional duties mentioned above. RESOLVED, That, subject to the observations of the District Auditor, an honorarium of £50 be paid to Mr. Ricketts, in respect of the additional services, the Council expressing their regret that they were unable to entertain his application for reconsideration of the basis on which his allowance was fixed.

(viii) Actuarial Report—(Min. 198 (d)/44). The Borough Treasurer reported that he had obtained a quotation from Messrs. J. H. Robertson, Actuaries for carrying out the fourth quinquennial valuation of the superannuation fund in accordance with Section 22 (3) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, amounting to 2s 10d. for each contributor to the fund. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

264—Bath and West Show—The Town Clerk reported that prior to the war, when it was proposed to hold the Bath and West Show in Cheltenham, an agreement was entered into with the Show Committee and the Council, including a condition that the Council would advance to the Show Committee £600 ten months before the Show, pending receipt of funds from an appeal. This sum would have first priority on the sums received and would be reimbursed to the Council immediately the funds reached £600. Formal application had now been made for payment of the sum in connection with the Show to be held next year. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to advance the above mentioned sum in accordance with the agreement.



265—Insurance—Food Poisoning—Quotations have been obtained providing "cover" in the event of claims from food poisoning arising from the Council's catering activities. The most favourable quotation received was that of the Fine Art and General Insurance Company at 7s 6d. per £1,000 per annum up to £10,000 cover. RESOLVED, That quotation of the Fine Art and General Insurance Co. Ltd. be accepted and arrangements made for indemnifying the Council against any claims up to £10,000.

266—Upkeep of Graves—The Committee considered Min. 127 (Cemetery and Crematorium Committee) in regard to the upkeep of graves, referred back at the meeting of the Council on October 28th (Min. 1922(a)/46. The Cemetery and Crematorium Committee now recommended that the figure be increased from £45 to £55 and it was understood that this figure only applied to graves having a curb but no memorial. In these circumstances, the Committee concurred in the recommendation of the CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

267—Public Works Loan Board—(i) Public Works Loans (No. 2 Bill) 1946—This Bill has received Royal Assent and the Public Works Loan Board were now in a position to advance in full loans, or parts of loans, which were previously approved subject to further funds being made available by Government. So far as this Council were concerned, no loan was affected by this condition.

(ii) Procedure—Letter, dated 15th November, was submitted from H.M. Treasury Office indicating the future procedure in making applications to the Public Works Loan Commissioners. The procedure generally followed that previously decided upon, the main alteration being that, previously in connection with housing where a loan was obtained for an equated repayment period of 60 years, authorities were required to obtain the whole of the money for that project from the Public Works Loan Board, but this condition no longer applied and portions of a loan might now be raised by other means.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

43

### **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 December, 1946. Present :**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fildes, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Leigh James and Taylor.

268—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9th November, 1946, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

269—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          | October 30       |
| Allotments                   | November 11      |
| Parks and Recreation Grounds | November 11 & 12 |

(Subject to the substitution of the sum £4 6s. 6d. for £4 4s. 6d. in the second line of para. 3 of Min. 50 (b). (Subject also to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Morris, " That the resolution to Min. 28 (b) (Cheltenham Motor Club) be not approved and that in respect of the two matches in aid of Nazareth House, the charge be reduced from £12 10s. 0d. to £7 10s. 0d. each match"). (An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter "That the portion of Min. 50 (b) (Upgrading of Gardeners), commencing from the words 'The Committee' in the sixth line of para. 3, to the word 'thereon' in the tenth line be deleted," was not seconded).

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Art Gallery and Museum   | November 13          |
| Public Library           | November 14          |
| Public Health            | November 11          |
| Housing                  | November 12, 20 & 27 |
| Electricity and Lighting | November 12          |
| Cemetery and Crematorium | November 15          |

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Grimwade " That Min. 130 (Recorded Music) be amended by the omission of the names from the resolution of the Vice-Chairman and Borough Surveyor in respect of the proposed visit to Leeds" was lost).

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Town Improvement and Spa | November 15 & 27 |
|--------------------------|------------------|

(An amendment moved by Councillor Biggs, seconded by Councillor Brown "That para. 15 of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee (Special Friday night Dances) referred to in Min. 277 of this Committee, be referred back for further consideration, with a view to dances on Friday nights being discontinued in future to permit the use of the Town Hall for other purposes for which there was a demand" was lost).

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Water              | November 12      |
| Planning           | November 13 & 14 |
| Street and Highway | November 19      |

(Subject to the' substitution of the figure £11,141 for £14 14s. 0d. on the third line of Min. 208 (a) (i) (Trunk and Classified Roads).

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| General Purposes and Watch | November 19 |
|----------------------------|-------------|

Rating November 20  
Finance November 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.

270—Cheltenham Grammar School and School of Art—RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor G. B. Compton, be appointed a Representative Governor to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman J. P. Pates, the term of office expiring on the 5th March, 1949.

271—Delancey Hospital Trustees—RESOLVED, That Mrs. F. M. N. Lewis-Hall be re-elected a representative on the Delancey Hospital Trustees, the term of office expiring- on the 9th November, 1949.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

45

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**27th November, 1946.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Deputy Mayor, Councillors Addis, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner and Strickland.

272—Furnished Houses Rent Control Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported that he had received an Order from the Ministry of Health applying the above Act to the Borough and adjoining areas with effect from the 25th November. He had arranged for the display of posters containing this information and had inserted an advertisement in the local press to the same effect. Circular 198/46 of the Ministry of Health had also been received, delegating further powers of requisitioning to clerks of those local authorities in whose areas the Act was in operation. The attention of the Minister had been drawn to cases where in spite of the protection afforded by the Act to lessees of furnished lettings who made applications to Tribunals, lessors had nevertheless evicted lessees making such applications. Although the lessee could apply to the court for possession of the letting he would in the meantime be homeless thus aggravating the present difficult situation in regard to housing accommodation. The Minister was, therefore, of the opinion that a more direct remedy was necessary and this would best be secured by the exercise in suitable cases of requisitioning powers. Power was, therefore, delegated to the Town Clerk to requisition occupied premises in cases of eviction or threatened eviction before the expiration of a period laid down under Section 5 of the Act, i.e. 3 months.

If the premises in respect of which application had been made to the Tribunal formed only part of a house and were without separate access or services, it would be necessary to requisition the whole house and to make suitable arrangements for other occupants to remain.

273—Lynworth Farm Scheme 1—The Committee inspected some of the houses nearing completion and expressed their approval.

274—Non-Traditional Houses (Min. 2445 and 102/46)—The Town Clerk submitted revised tender from Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., for 500 " No Fines " houses, based on current prices and local rates. As mentioned in Min. 102, the basic price per house was £1,168 11s. 9d., but the revised tender, which had taken account of the increase in present prices of materials and local rates of

wages increased the amount to £1,211 15s. 2d. The tender also included a quotation for the minor alterations in the specification required by the Committee which, if carried out, would cost £11 14s. 0d. per house. Provision was also made as mentioned in Min. 102 for alternative elevations at the extra cost referred to in the Minute but in the case of three of the alternative elevations these costs would be increased by £1 1s. 0d. to £1 10s. 0d. per house according to the type of elevation. RESOLVED, That the revised tender of Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd. be accepted and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval thereto. RESOLVED, also, That in submitting the tender, the Town Clerk inform the Ministry that it is proposed to erect the houses on three sites referred to in Min. 102 and that on receiving the Ministry's approval in principle to the acceptance of Messrs. Wimpey's tender the Council will submit detailed layout plans and composite tenders for the erection of the houses.

275—Estate Management Sub-Committee-26th, November, 1946. Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bishop, Compton, Grimwade and Gardner.

As authorised by the Committee, the following report is submitted to the Council :—

Brooklyn Gardens Estate—Further to an offer from Western Estates, Ltd., to erect a further 30 houses on this estate for sale to the Council, the Sub-Committee inspected the two types of houses under construction by Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., on this site.

The floor area of the one type was 888 super feet and the other (bay-window) type 1,000 super feet. No shed was included with either house.

The Town Clerk reminded the Sub-Committee of the conditions under which the Council could arrange to purchase houses from builders contained in Circular 92/46 from the Ministry of Health in which it was suggested that time might be saved by adopting the builders' own layout. Designs would have to be approved by the Ministry and the prices agreed. Land could either be purchased before the erection of the houses at the valuation of the District Valuer or after the erection of the houses, in which case the builder would be required to enter into a contract to sell the land as and when developed together with the houses under the necessary site works.

In either case, plans must in general accord with the Housing Manual as to room size, the floor area of a three-bedroomed house being not less than 900 super feet and no bedroom being less than 70 super feet.

If satisfactory layout plans, plans of houses or specification had already been prepared these should be accepted. The local authority must be satisfied with the form and design of houses and must ensure that a good standard of construction equal at least to that of the National House Builders' Registration Council was obtained.

It would be necessary to submit detailed specification and although that of the House Builders' Registration Council would be accepted as satisfactory it would usually need amendment to apply to present circumstances and to provide for the use of appropriate substitute materials where necessary.

With regard to price, this must not exceed that being received on tenders for the erection of similar houses. Before the contract was entered into proposals must be submitted to the Ministry of Health containing the proposed purchase price of the land, including the value of roads and sewers or partly developed sites, together with the valuation of the District Valuer, the number of houses, the layout plan, contract price of houses, purchase price of the land with buildings erected thereon, prices of

any site development work to be carried Out by builders as part of the agreement and plans and specification of the houses.

The Borough Surveyor reported that it would be necessary to amend the design of one type slightly in order to comply with the requirement of the Ministry that the floor area should be at least 900 super feet, and he thought this could be done satisfactorily. RESOLVED, (a) That the Council be recommended to accept the offer made by Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., to complete the remaining 30 houses at Brooklyn Gardens for purchase by the Corporation.

46

(b) That Messrs. Western Estates (Lawes Cherry), Ltd., be asked to submit layout plans, plans of houses and specification so that these may be examined by the Borough Surveyor to see that they comply with the standards required by the Ministry of Health.

(c) That the Company be asked to submit their prices for the houses and the developed sites and that in settling the layout plan the Borough Surveyor endeavour to agree with the Company that as many as possible of the larger type house shall be included. (d) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the proposed scheme.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

(Adopted at meeting of the Council held on 2nd December, 1946.)

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**27th November, 1946.** Present Alderman Waite (Chairman); the Mayor; Aldermen Smith and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson; Mr. A. Palmer.

276—Playhouse Sub-Committee--The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 21st November (Report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the Report be approved and adopted.

277-Entertainments Sub-Committee--The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 25th November (Report circulated herewith).

With regard to Item 13 (cycle park adjoining New Club) the Committee considered that adequate lighting was essential and the Borough Surveyor intimated that this request would be complied with. RESOLVED,

(i) That with the exception of Item 14 relating to the future promotion of the South of England Ballroom Championships, the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That Item 14 be referred back to the Sub-Committee for further consideration.

278-Sandford Pool-Boiler--The Borough Surveyor submitted final account from Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall, Ltd., for re-tubing the vertical boiler at a cost of £183 13s. 6d. The contract price was £168 to which must be added £7 17s. 0d. for wages increases since the contract date, and £7 16s. 6d. for cleaning and painting the inside of the boiler which was not included in the original contract, making a total of £183 13s. 6d. The Contractors had received payment of the contract sum, less £9 3s. 6d. retention money and also the two additional items mentioned, and the Borough Surveyor recommended that these sums be paid. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

279-Montpellier Rotunda-New Boiler-The Borough Surveyor also submitted this final account received from Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall, Ltd., and recommended that the outstanding retention money amounting to £12 13s. 3d. of the contract price of £167 13s. 10d. be paid. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

280-Services Club (Min. 144)-The Town Clerk submitted letters which he had received from Mr. Bird's solicitors and Messrs. Cavendish House, Ltd., together with other correspondence.

From the letter from Mr. Bird's solicitors it appeared that there was some misunderstanding as they maintained that their request was not that the Compulsory Purchase Order should be deferred but that the negotiations should stand over until Mr. Bird had returned from abroad.

The letter from Messrs. Cavendish House intimated that they were aware that a Compulsory Purchase Order might be made, but felt confident that when the Council knew the purposes for which they intended to use the premises they would not proceed with their proposal. The premises were acquired mainly for use as a social club for their employees, who numbered over 400. They proposed to make the building available for functions for which it might be suitable, such as whist drives, dances, exhibitions, conferences, etc.

The Committee gave most careful consideration to this matter and to all that appeared in the correspondence, but came to the conclusion the best interests of the town would be served by proceeding with the Compulsory-Purchase Order.

In view of the delay in this matter which had already occurred and in the special circumstances, the Committee considered as to whether this was a case where it was expedient that they should purchase this property by means of the procedure under Section 2 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, and for that purpose they were of Opinion that it was urgently necessary in the public interest that the acquiring authority should be able to obtain possession without delay. The provisions of the section referred to deal with temporary powers for speedy acquisition in urgent cases.

The Committee also considered a proposal that certain premises adjoining the Services Club consisting of an antique shop and cottage which would considerably improve access in due course should be included in the Compulsory Purchase Order.

47

The Committee also discussed the town and street improvements which had already been considered by other appropriate Committees in the past which had, as their objective, the extension of Ormond Place (now a cul de-sac) through to Rodney Road, and Cambray Place together with the consequential redevelopment this area, which was necessarily required in the interests of good planning, street and traffic improvement. The Committee felt that this scheme should be expedited.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Town Clerk make application for an authorisation under Section 2 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, in respect of the premises together known as the Service; Club.

(ii) In the event of the Minister failing to give the authorisation referred to in the preceding resolution, an Order be made in pursuance of Section 1 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, for the compulsory purchase of the premises known as the Services Club, together with the antique shop and small cottage referred to above.

(iii) That the Planning Committee, Street & Highway Committee and Re-Organisation Sub-Committee be asked to expedite their proposals for the improvement and re-development of this area as mentioned above.

(iv) That resolution (ii) of Min. 144 be rescinded.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

(Adopted at meeting of the Council held on 2nd December, 1946.)

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**9th December, 1946.** Present---Councillor Addis (Chairman); Alderman Smith; Councillors Compton, Fildes, Green, Midwinter and Yeend ; Messrs. Ball and Roe.

281--Arrears of Rent—(i) September Quarterly Statement [Min. 1820 (b)/46] The Town Clerk reported upon steps taken for payment of the arrears outstanding, for the September quarter.

RESOLVED, (a) That the following arrears be written off as irrecoverable :—

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| No. 15 (b) Asquith Road     | £1 10 0 |
| No. 10 Clevelands Drive ... | 10 0    |
| No. 63 Hatherley Park       | £1 0 0  |
| No, 19 Tommy Taylor's Lane  | £1 10 0 |

(b) That the Town Clerk take further steps to obtain payment of the arrears now indicated.

(ii) December Quarterly Statement-The Borough Treasurer submitted this statement. RESOLVED, That the same be referred to the Town Clerk for appropriate action and report. 282-Horticulture Committee-The Horticulture Committee met on 5th December (Report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That having regard to the proposed floral and produce exhibitions mentioned in Item 4, the Town Improvement Committee be urged to provide adequate floor covering for the Town Hall in order that the building may be made available for such purposes.

283-Land adjoining Ariel Lodge, Hewlett Road--The Electricity Committee were about to purchase a portion of this land (which was requisitioned for allotments) for a site for an Electricity Sub-Station. As a temporary measure, however, it was proposed to place a sheet metal kiosk in a position indicated on the plan produced to the Committee including the construction of an access road thereto. This would immediately affect allotments Nos. 1 and 2 and necessitate a portion of each being de-requisitioned. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Agriculture be asked to agree to the area now required for the temporary kiosk and road being de-requisitioned and that in such circumstances the Gardens Superintendent adjust the areas and rents of the two allotments.

284-National Allotments Society-The Annual General Meeting of this Society would be held at Blackpool from 8th to 10th May, 1947, and the Council were entitled to appoint delegates and also to submit nominations for officers and Management Committee. RESOLVED, That no nominations be submitted but should the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society decide to appoint

a delegate to attend the meeting, such delegate also he appointed the Council's proxy to vote for them accordingly.

285-North Ward Allotments—The Borough Surveyor reported that one of the land drains to these allotments, which was in had condition, had been repaired.

286-Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments (Min. 22)-The Gardens Superintendent reported that, in all four claims for damage to crops had been received and as the animals concerned belonged to the Butchers' Buying Committee, the Company had been asked to settle the same, which it was anticipated they would do at their meeting on the 11th December.

287-Rebates in Rent-RESOLVED, That in view of the had condition of the undermentioned plots the new tenants be granted four months rent free, namely :

Nos. 19 and 20 Charlton Lane, and 63 Hatherley Park.

288-Cultivation-Since the last meeting 16 allotments had been let and the tenancies of 8 terminated.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

48

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**10th December, 1946.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Grimwade, Gardner, Green, Strickland and Yeend.

289—Licensing Restrictions—Issue of Explanatory Leaflet—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 223/46, Ministry of Health, referring to their previous Circular 171/46 and drawing attention to a leaflet now being printed for distribution to applicants for building licences.

The leaflet was prepared at the request of local authorities in order to explain to the public the reasons for the restrictions at present imposed on the issue of licences. The leaflet pointed out that if all the necessary repairs and maintenance were to be carried out the whole building labour force would be needed so that there would be no possibility of providing new houses. It had, therefore, been necessary to restrict licensing of repairs and maintenance work to free Contractors and operatives for the direction of additional housing accommodation. (A copy of the leaflet accompanies the Minutes).

290—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—J. A. Pye Ltd.—The Town Clerk submitted offer from Messrs. J. A. Pye Ltd. to erect houses for the Council under Circular 92/46 on Orchard Estate. The Town Clerk reported that he had ascertained from the Company that their labour resources were fully absorbed on work at Oxford and they could only provide the nucleus for supervision, craftsmen and labourers being recruited locally.

In view of this it was not considered that any purpose would be served in accepting the offer under the present labour conditions. RESOLVED, That this offer be declined.

291--Essential Works Order [Min. 100 (i)]----The Town Clerk reported that he had received notification from the Ministry of Works that Lynworth Farm Scheme No. 2 had now been scheduled under this Order for three months from the 19th November.



292—King George V Playing Field—(a) Extension of Area—The Town Clerk submitted request from the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee that when Rowanfield Gardens was laid out a piece of land sufficient to square off the playing field at the northern end should be allocated to improve the layout. The Borough Surveyor recommended that this application should be acceded to. RESOLVED, That the application of the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee be acceded to and borne in mind when the final layout for Rowan-field Gardens is approved.

(b) Surplus Soil—The Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee asked that the surplus soil from the Rowan-field Road site should be transferred to the playing field as it would be suitable for surface dressing. The Borough Surveyor recommended that this be agreed to, the Parks Department being responsible for transport. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

293--17 Avon Road—The Committee reconsidered their decision to serve notice to quit on the tenant of this house. The Town Clerk pointed out he was not in arrear with rent and the ground on which it was proposed to take possession of the house was that it was not fully occupied, and he therefore suggested that the notice to quit should not be served until alternative suitable accommodation could be offered. RESOLVED, That this course be approved and adopted.

294—Appointment of National and Regional Production Officers---Read Circular 215/46, Ministry of Health, that the National Joint Production Council of Building Industry had been established comprising representatives of both sides of the building industry. It had appointed two National Production Officers and had completed arrangements for setting up Regional Joint Production Committees throughout the country to deal with matters affecting production other than those which were dealt with through established joint machinery in National Industrial Agreement.

Production Officers had been appointed to investigate any delays on housing sites, to suggest means for effecting higher rates of production and to exert every possible influence to secure improvement in rates of production by building workers and efficient management of building firms. The Minister asked that local authorities should offer Production Officers every facility in carrying out any duties. RESOLVED, That the Production Officer for the Region be invited to inspect the Council's housing contracts and suggest means for expediting the work.

295—Management of Housing Estates—Letter from the Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents was submitted stating that it had been decided to recommence the examinations established by the Society designed to meet the requirements of Housing Managers. The Society had necessarily curtailed its activities throughout the war and it was now hoped to adapt the syllabus to existing conditions. The examinations of the Society were accepted as a qualification under the new National Conditions of Service for Local Government Officers.

296—Differential Rent Scheme—(i) Contribution to Repairs Fund—RESOLVED, That the reduction to £5 10s. 0d. per house per annum operate as from the 1st April, 1946.

(ii) 14 Kipling Road—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the tenant of this house asking for special consideration in the matter of rent. He drew attention to the fact that this house had been severely damaged by enemy action in 1940 and repairs of a temporary nature had been carried out. The Town Clerk reported that the adjoining house was demolished with a view to rebuilding it and the Architect who was preparing the Contract for the re-erection had included on behalf of the Council a P.C. sum to be expended on any repairs which were found necessary to the party wall. It was proposed to carry out any other outstanding repairs when this was done. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Estate Management Sub-Committee for special consideration.

(iii) New Houses—The Borough Treasurer reported that he had calculated the approximate standard rent and maximum rent for the permanent houses recently completed for the Council. With regard to the four houses built to replace war-destroyed dwellings in Margrett Road the standard rent would be approximately 17s 3d per week and the maximum rent 21s 7d inclusive of rates. This was based on the subsidy payable in respect of the former houses under the 1924 Act but he had written to the Ministry to ascertain whether it would

49

be possible for the subsidy in respect of war-destroyed houses to be paid at the same rate as new houses, but he had not yet received a reply. In the case of the two houses on Lynworth Farm Estate the standard rent would be 21s 7d and the maximum 30s 1d. RESOLVED, That these rents be approved.

(iv) Minimum Rents—The Borough Treasurer reported that it was desirable that the minimum rents should be reviewed as since these had been fixed the rates had so largely increased that the amount actually paid in rent was in some cases infinitesimal. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned and that the Borough Treasurer be asked to submit his proposals.

297-40 and 42 Brunswick Street (Min. 1849/46)—Application was received from the Air Training Corps for this site, which was being acquired by the Council, to be leased to them for the erection Air Ministry Works Department. They had to leave the accommodation which they at present occupied at the Girls' Grammar School at the end of the year and wished to find alternative accommodation. They would need the site for a minimum period of three years. The Borough Surveyor reported that the land would not be needed for re-development for a considerable time. RESOLVED, That when the Council have negotiated the purchase of these sites the Committee agree to the site being leased to the Air Training Corps for a period of three years at a rent to be agreed upon.

298—Sites for Cheltenham Original Brewery—The Committee considered a recommendation from the Street and Highway Committee that sites on Rowanfield Road and Hesters Way Estates should be allocated for the erection of public houses by the Cheltenham Original Brewery Co. as an alternative to the Swan Hotel and Vaults, for which the Council had decided to negotiate in connection with their proposals for the establishment of an omnibus park. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Brewery Co. already owned a site for a public house in Orchard Way and that, while it was proposed to provide a site for shops, etc., on other parts of Hesters Way Estate it appeared that it might be sufficient if the Committee in the first instance dealt with the Rowanfield Site, which would accommodate a large number of houses and on which a site would be reserved for shops and other amenities. RESOLVED, That the Street and Highway Committee be informed that this Committee are prepared to reserve a site on Rowanfield Estate for the erection of licensed premises by Cheltenham Original Brewery Co.

299—B.I.S.F. Houses—(a) Construction of Ground Floor--The Town Clerk submitted circular, dated 22nd November, 1946, from the Ministry of Health referring to the previous circular drawing attention to the necessity for reducing the amount of timber used in B.I.S.F. Houses and containing amendments of the original specification for the ground floor and outbuilding.

In consequence of the reduction of the amount of softwood in new houses it had been necessary to reconsider the amended specification for the ground floor of B.I.S.F. houses. It was now directed that the floor of the kitchen and hall should be laid in  $\frac{3}{4}$  " granolithic composed of five parts of  $\frac{1}{8}$  th dustless granite chipping to two parts of Portland Cement laid with the screed under in one

operation, or alternatively laid immediately after the initial set of the screed. The granolithic was to be trowelled to a smooth surface and kept damp for seven days.

The remainder of the ground floor should be covered with an approved brown pitch-mastic flooring. A revised drawing was being prepared and would be issued.

The Borough Surveyor reported that it was now doubtful whether further supplies of pitch-mastic would be obtainable and he was of the opinion that eventually all ground floors would have to be laid in granolithic.

(b) The Borough Surveyor submitted claim from Messrs. Chivers for third interim payment on this contract. The total amount of work completed and materials on site amounted to £21,000, approximately £11,000 of this being represented by materials on the site. This amount of material had accumulated owing to the contractor being held up through non-arrival of small but essential components. It was now understood that some of these components had arrived so that it would be possible to proceed with the work. He proposed to issue a certificate for the amount due in accordance with the terms of the contract. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

300—Resources of Beneficiaries from Local Authorities Services—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 221/46 from the Ministry of Health which contained some points for the guidance of local authorities as to the effect of payment of family allowances and the recent increase in the rate of old age -pensions in cases where local authorities were accustomed to make an assessment of resources. Local authorities were required by statute to take into account needs and resources of applicants for relief under the Poor Law or financial assistance under the Blind Persons Acts, and as the family allowances and old age or blind persons pensions were not statutory disregards it would be illegal for local authorities not to take into account this source of income. In other cases where local authorities made an assessment of resources, e.g. in determining the contribution to be made towards the cost of services under the authority's Maternity and Child Welfare powers, etc., the statutes do not fetter the discretion of the authorities by reference to "disregards" or otherwise. Apart from statutory provisions, the Minister thought that this source of income should be taken into account for the following reasons :—

(a) Family allowances and the increased rate of pensions formed only part of the contemplated system of social security which aimed at replacing payment made on assessment of need by payment made as of right, thus reducing the number of people who needed assistance from general taxation or rates. The complete plan would dispel many of the apparent anomalies which arose at present when it was fully implemented.

(b) The purpose of the Family Allowance Act was to supplement the man's wages, which take no account of the size of the family. The conception of a man's total income varying with the size of his family was a new one ; on the other hand the income of a parent receiving assistance from an Assistance Board or relief from a Public Assistance Authority had for many years been determined by the size and composition of the applicant's family. Therefore the disregarding of family allowances in assessing resources or needs would make a double allowance for dependent children.

(c) The comprehensive plan aimed at avoiding such double allowances so that the National Insurance Act, 1946, when it had become fully operative, would include an allowance for the first child only, when the parent was not earning because of unemployment, sickness or industrial accident. The increased rate of old age pension and blind person's pension should also be considered in the light of the foregoing observations.

The Minister was confident that, during the present period of transition to a complete scheme of social security, local authorities would appreciate the importance of applying to their assessments of resources or needs the same principles as Parliament had adopted in legislation to bring the scheme into effect.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the Council had decided to disregard family allowances in applying their differential rent scheme and the various scales of income for determining contributions to the various services made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and that this decision had been made prior to the receipt of the Minister's circular.

Section 85 (5) of the Housing Act, 1936, empowered the Council to grant any tenant such rebates from rent, subject to terms and conditions, as the Council may think fit and by Sub-section (6) the Council were required from time to time to review rents and make such adjustments either in rents generally or of particular rents or rebates, if any, as circumstances may require.

RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision not to take into account family allowances when computing rents under the differential rent scheme and that the Town Clerk be instructed to inform the Minister accordingly.

301-Designs of Future Houses--The Borough Surveyor reported that he had discussed with the Regional Architect the amended house plans recently approved by the Committee. These plans aimed at standardising on certain designs so that small builders could be asked to tender on whichever type were suitable for a certain site. The Regional Architect had raised some minor points but particularly stressed his opinion that the ground floor W.C. could be out of doors and that the outside store could be turned into a wash-house. The Borough Surveyor had two objections to these points, the first being that the addition of a W.C. would increase the area of the outbuildings and curtail the available garden space and the second being that turning the outside store into a wash-house would involve extra cost which he did not think would be approved. He therefore recommended that the Committee should adhere to the amended plans as approved. RESOLVED, That no alteration be made to the amended plans and designs.

302-Non-traditional Houses-Layout for Rowanfield and Lynworth Farm Estates-The Borough Surveyor reported that he had also taken the opportunity of discussing " No Fines " houses with the Regional Architect, who was very definitely of the opinion that they were only suitable for south and west aspects. This being so, the number which could be erected on Lynworth Farm Estate would be reduced to 80 and on the Rowanfield Estate to approximately 170, making a total of 250 so that the remaining 250 would have to be erected on the Hesters Way Estate.

The Borough Surveyor now submitted layout for Lynworth Farm to conform with the views of the Regional Architect reducing the number to 80. RESOLVED, That the layout of the erection of " No Fines " houses on Lynworth Farm Estate be approved as submitted.

303-Brooklyn Gardens (Min. 184/46)-The Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. containing information as to the price at which they were prepared to sell to the Corporation the remaining 30 houses to be erected on this site.

The cost of the " Alstone Type " house of 1,000 super feet would be £1,275 and the cost of the new type of 900 super feet would be £1,187. These prices were based on the assumption that the Council would provide water and electricity mains on the same terms as for the houses already erected on this estate. The Town Clerk had asked the District Valuer for his report on the value of the land.

The Borough Surveyor submitted plans and specification deposited by Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. in connection with these houses. He had consulted the Regional Architect on these but it did not appear that they would be regarded by him as satisfactory. He therefore recommended that Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. should be asked if they were prepared to erect houses to the Council's own plans and specifications on this estate to fit in with their own layout as he felt that these would be more likely to be acceptable to the Regional Architect.

Messrs. Western Estates were pressing for the licence to proceed with 8 further houses but this could not be granted until the designs of the proposed houses had been approved. It was pointed out that if houses were erected to the plans and specifications adopted by this Committee the cost would be somewhat higher than that already quoted by Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. for erecting houses of the same type as they had previously erected. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. be asked to submit a tender for erecting houses of the design already approved by the Council on this estate to fit in with the layout already prepared.

304-20 Kipling Road-Three tenders were received for the electrical installation for the above house. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Stallard amounting to £33 17s. 3d. being the lowest tender be accepted.

305-Crawler Tractor-The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that he had been instructed in August last to report on the establishment of a direct works organisation for the development of Hesters Way Estate. Since this report had been prepared several changes had taken place which would make some amendments necessary. The Essential Works Order was shortly to be withdrawn, prisoner of war labour was not likely to be available and, as British labour was unobtainable, the most likely solution seemed to be employment of Polish Labour.

He had received information that certain surplus Government Stocks would be disposed of and as a Crawler Tractor appeared on the list he had made application for this and it had subsequently been allocated to this Council. A prompt decision was now necessary as to whether it was intended to purchase the machine or not. The quoted cost of the machine and accessories amounted to £2,141. There was ample work which the machine could perform but if it were not purchased at once it would soon be purchased by another authority or Contractor.

Another factor to consider was the fact that with the shortage of labour it was now necessary to mechanise as many operations as possible. It was pointed out that it would be more appropriate for this machine to be purchased by the STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE. It could then be hired to other Committees and Contractors as and when necessary. RESOLVED, That the Street and Highway Committee be recommended to purchase the Crawler Tractor.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

51

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**10th December, 1946.** Present—Councillor Bettridge(Chairman); Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Carter, Fildes, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Readings and Thompson.

306—Street Lighting—The Committee considered further the proposal of the General Purposes Committee that street lighting functions should be transferred to that Committee. The attention of the Committee was called to the implications of nationalisation of Electricity Undertakings.

It was pointed out that the duties of this Committee were twofold, namely, (a) To regulate and manage all matters relating to the Electricity Undertaking, and (b) the Public Lighting of the Borough (whether by electricity or gas).

The Borough Treasurer reported that the liabilities and assets of Street Lighting Account were at present amalgamated with those of the Electricity Undertaking and he felt that irrespective of whether street lighting functions were transferred to the General Purposes Committee or not, the time had come in view of the possibility of the nationalisation of Electricity Undertakings to separate these two accounts and transfer the street lighting accounts into the General Rate Fund Account.

The Borough Electrical Engineer was of the opinion that in view of the experience which this Committee had gained in the administration of street lighting functions, it would be better and more convenient for the accounts to be split as suggested, but for the public lighting functions to be retained by this Committee. RESOLVED, (a) That this Committee agrees to the separating of the Street Lighting Account from the accounts of the Electricity Undertaking and to their transfer to the General Rate Fund ; (b) That the Council be recommended not to make any alteration in the duties of this Committee in regard to Public Lighting.

307—Wayleaves on Corporation Properties—The General Purposes Committee suggested that the Committee should consider annual payments to the Corporation for wayleaves in respect of cables and electrical installations on Corporation properties and that a lump sum should be paid in respect of past years. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned and that the Borough Treasurer report thereon at the next meeting.

308—Proposed Sub-station, Shaw Green Lane—The Town Clerk reported on the position with regard to the acquisition of land in Shaw Green Lane as a site for a proposed sub-station. The transfer of the site for the sub-station from Major Capel was being negotiated but this land had no frontage to Shaw Green Lane. It was, therefore, necessary to approach the owner of the land in front of the sub-station site to endeavour to secure a right of way over her land.

It had been suggested that a right of way should be granted over an existing entrance by the side of a garage, but to this the owner would not agree and suggested that the Council should purchase a plot of land further up Shaw Green Lane and make an entrance road.

The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that this proposition was not acceptable in view of the fact that it would entail the construction of a considerable length of road parallel to Shaw Green Lane.

The Town Clerk was now in communication with the owner's solicitors and had suggested that the Council should purchase the plot of land immediately in front of the proposed sub-station site fronting Shaw Green Lane and he hoped that this arrangement would be satisfactorily completed. If a settlement could not be arrived at it might be necessary to make a Compulsory Purchase Order. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk endeavour to secure the proposed plot of land fronting Shaw Green Lane to give access to the proposed sub-station site.

309—Alstone Lane—Brooklyn Road—Street Lighting [Min. 1584 (b)]—The Town Clerk reported that it was now desired to make application to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £1,150 in connection with the proposed scheme of street lighting in lieu of the £1,066 mentioned in the previous minute. The cost of work in connection with the erection of columns and cable work amounted to £663 1s. 11d. which it was recommended should be charged to the Revenue Account. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £1,150.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order, and receipt.

(c) That £663 1s. 11d., being the cost of the erection of columns and necessary cable work be charged to Revenue Account.

310—Proposed Sub-Station Site—The Runnings (Min. 1891)—The Town Clerk reported that application had been made to the Public Health Committee for consent to the leasing of a piece of land 100ft. x 40ft. for a sub-station site with a frontage to Swindon Road in connection with the proposed supply to the factory belonging to Messrs. Taylor Nash & Co. The Public Health Committee had now agreed to lease this land to the Electricity Committee for a term of 20 years at a rent of £7 per annum. RESOLVED, That these terms be accepted.

311—New Sub-Station, Hewlett Road (Min. 116)—The Town Clerk reported that it was now found necessary to obtain a loan from the Public Works Board for £4,441 to cover the cost of the work. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £4,441 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

312—Electrical Development Association Representative—The Electrical Development Association had asked the Council to nominate a representative on the South-West England Area Executive Committee for the year 1947. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be nominated as the Council's representative and that Mr. H. V. Williams be nominated as Deputy.

52

313—Light Austin Van (Min. 111)—Since the last meeting of the Committee this van had been re-advertised and one further offer had been received. Although this offer also appeared to be low, it did not seem that increased offers would be forthcoming. RESOLVED, That the offer of Place Garage amounting to £45 for this van be accepted.

314—Mains Extensions—(a) Pittville Circus Road--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported application for a supply to three houses, a garage and a small workshop in the lane at the rear of this road. It would be necessary to extend the existing low voltage main from the temporary bungalows in Selkirk Gardens for a distance of approximately 166 yards along the lane at an estimated cost of £110 17s. 7d. for the extension and £23 18s. 9d. for the services. RESOLVED, That the work be carried out and that the cost of the extension of the mains estimated at £110 17s. 7d. be charged to the Unspecified Loan Account for Mains and Services.

(b) Housing Site.—Staverton--The Cheltenham Rural District Council had made application for a supply to 10 permanent houses to be erected at Staverton. Six of the houses would qualify for free services being wired with the five extra points. The wiring installation on the other four houses was commenced before the question of free services was considered, but the position was now being

reviewed. It was proposed to give a supply from the existing low voltage distribution system in Staverton by means of underground cable. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and that the cost of the extension of the main estimated at £86 17s. 7d., together with the cost of services to the six houses estimated at £39 14s. 0d., be charged to the Unspecified Mains and Services Loan, RESOLVED ALSO, That should the extra wiring points be installed in the further four houses the cost of services to these houses be also charged to the Unspecified Mains and Services Loan.

(c) Housing Estate---Shurdington—The Cheltenham Rural District Council proposed to erect approximately 54 houses on the site adjoining Church Road, Shurdington. The Borough Electrical Engineer had prepared a scheme to provide a supply direct from the Shurdington Sub-station transformer with an interconnection to the existing distribution main in Church Road. The replacement of the existing 50 kVA transformer with a 100 kVA unit was also provided for. The building programme would be spread over a period of years and the cost, although not being pro-rata to the number of houses erected at any particular time, would be small to commence with and increase gradually. RESOLVED, That the scheme be approved at a total cost of £1,209 14s. 5d. and that as the work would be spread over a period of years the cost excluding that of changing the transformer be charged to Unspecified Works Loan Account. RESOLVED ALSO, That the cost of labour and sundries involved in changing the transformer, estimated at £20, be charged to Revenue Account (Repairs and Maintenance).

315—Applications for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on two applications for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

316—Damaged Lamp Post—One lamp post was damaged during November and the vehicle concerned was known. Three damaged lamp posts had been replaced at Gratton Road, Naunton Lane and Arle Road. A replacement had been erected in a new position in Grafton Road but pressure of work had delayed the installation of the necessary cable.

317—Collection of Accounts—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report on the proposals he had made to the Establishment Sub-Committee in regard to the centralisation of the collection of all Corporation accounts. The Borough Electrical Engineer and the Borough Treasurer both agreed that the scheme submitted by the Borough Electrical Engineer would be satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be informed that this Committee approve of the scheme submitted by the Boroughs Electrical Engineer.

318-Overhead Line-Proposed Supply to Cleeve Cloud, Nutterswood--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Planning Committee had raised objections to the proposed line, and arrangements were now being made with the Post Office Engineering Department to afford a supply by means of a dual purpose telephone and power supply overhead line.

The cost of the original proposal was estimated at £333 but the cost of the new dual purpose line was estimated at £558. It was proposed that the Undertaking should bear £301 of this cost, the consumer having agreed to pay £257 by quarterly instalments over a period of one year. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the appropriate agreements with the Post Office.

319—Direction Signs—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported an application had been received from the Great Western Railway Company for the re-erection of direction signs to the Station on



lamp posts in the Promenade, Royal Well Place and the corner of Ambrose Street and High Street. These signs were removed during the war and he saw no objection to their re-erection. RESOLVED, That permission be given for these signs to be re-erected.

320—Staff—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had now advertised the four new appointments approved by the Council. RESOLVED, That with regard to the Deputy Electrical Engineer and Manager, the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer prepare a short list of applicants for interview by the Committee and that the Council be recommended to authorise this Committee to make an appointment. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to make the appointments of Service and Development Engineer, Technical Assistant and ex-Service Trainee.

A. J. BETTERIDGE, Chairman.

53

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**9th December, 1946.** Present—Councillor Green (Chairman); The Mayor ; Alderman Smith : Councillors Addis, Compton, Fildes and Midwinter.

321—Athletic Ground and Victory Sports Ground—Visitors—RESOLVED, That the Chairman (Councillor Greer,; the Vice-Chairman (Councillor Compton) and Alderman Smith be appointed visitors to these grounds.

322—Athletic Ground—(a) Car Park [Min. 28 (c)]--The Borough Surveyor had forwarded to the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club his suggested layout for this car park and the Club had now approved the same.

(b) Groundsman's Cottage—The Club had now obtained possession of this cottage and the Borough Surveyor was making an inspection and preparing a report upon necessary repairs and decorations. RESOLVED, That the report be referred to the Visitors with power to act. RESOLVED ALSO, That as soon as the work is completed, arrangements be made for the groundsman to occupy the cottage on a service tenancy at an inclusive weekly rental of 10s [Min. 28 (a)].

323—King George V Playing Field (Min. 2055/46)—(a) The Ministry of Health were now prepared to entertain the Council's application for consent to a loan for lay-out. It was observed, however, that grants totalling £600 had been promised and therefore it was proposed that such amount be deducted from the loan of £2,600. The Borough Treasurer stated that if it was intended that the loan, thus reduced, should cover past expenditure, regard should be had to the fact that after crediting the Street and Highway Committee's contribution of £1,250 a sum of £271 was still outstanding and difficulties might arise if this sum could not be met from grants. The Gardens Superintendent stated that in preparing his estimate he had excluded the grants as these amounts had already been partially expended in interim cultivation. He anticipated, however, that as excellent soil for surface dressing was now available from the adjacent Rowanfield Estate and taking into account the purchase of an implement enabling the Department to carry out work of cultivation, his estimate would be reduced. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the Ministry's proposal to reduce the loan accordingly.

(b) Grant—The King George's Fields Foundation had now forwarded £300, being the balance of their grant of £600 towards the lay-out of this field. RESOLVED, That the Council's appreciation and thanks be conveyed to the Foundation.

324--St. Peter's Recreation Ground (Min. 33)—The Ministry of Health had also decided to reconsider their previous decision and would now entertain an application for consent to a loan of £1,850 for lay-out. They enquired, however, the statutory authority under which the ground was held and whether the Council anticipated receiving any grants towards the work. The Town Clerk was informing the Ministry of the position and that no grants were expected. RESOLVED, That the ground be closed during reinstatement.

325—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—Schools Canteen—[Min. 38 (b)] The County Architect had discussed with the Council's officers the difficulties arising in connection with the retention of the Rugby Football Pitch. If the pitch was retained it would affect the area to be transferred to the Education Authority for the schools canteen. The County Architect explained that since negotiations commenced he had received further instructions to erect two domestic science rooms and to enable this to be carried out an additional 30ft. strip would also be required. To meet the Council's views upon the football pitch, the site of the canteen and the domestic science rooms might be adjusted and moved further south, and the Borough Surveyor asked for the Committee's approval, in principle. He was undertaking a survey and would submit details of the actual area involved. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle subject to exact details being submitted to and approved by this Committee.

326—Montpellier Gardens—Tennis Courts [Min. 39 (d)]—(a) Representatives of this Committee had met representatives of the Entertainments Sub-Committee on the site and consideration was given to the observations of professional players taking part in the recent British Professional Hard Court Tournaments on the subject of courts. The Council hoped to attract these tournaments annually to Cheltenham and the Entertainments Sub-Committee therefore suggested that three En-tout-cas courts be constructed on the foundations of the existing hard courts. The Gardens Superintendent, however, pointed out certain difficulties in adopting this suggestion. He submitted, as instructed, suggested lay-out for the large grass area on the north-eastern portion of the Gardens which, during the summer months, was occupied by grass courts. He suggested a centre court reserved mainly for tournament play with four hard courts on each side. The estimated cost of the centre court was approximately £619 and for the eight courts approximately £300 each.

Both Committees were reluctant to break up this attractive grass area as it would restrict the purposes for which the Gardens were now used, although no doubt the demand for such courts, both in winter and summer, would be such that the revenue would greatly exceed that now received for grass courts.

Attention had been drawn to the Gardens Superintendent's post-war proposals for the development of the field adjoining Marle Hill as a sports area and if this field could be de-requisitioned in the near future it might be very suitable for the championship court. It was therefore RESOLVED,

(i) That an effort be made to obtain from the Military Authorities an indication of the date of de-requisitioning of the field when the position be reviewed in the light of information available.

(ii) That should such de-requisitioning be at a not too far distant date, the Gardens Superintendent re-submit his comprehensive lay-out for this field as a sports area complete with tennis courts for tournament play, hard tennis courts, bowling green and other sports facilities, together with estimates of cost and revenue.

(b) Boundary Stop Netting—In December, 1945, the purchase of boundary stop netting for the four courts on the south-eastern side of the Pavilion was considered. This protection would permit improved maintenance and the cost was estimated at £208, for which provision was made in the estimates. RESOLVED, That netting be purchased as and when procurable.

54

327—Pittville Pump Room—Badminton—The Cotswold Badminton Club enquired if the Pump Room could be used for badminton as there were three large Clubs in the town with a total membership of 300 and no facilities for play. If the Council looked favourably upon their application they enquired the rental for one night per week (6-10 p.m.) for the season. RESOLVED—

(i) That the Borough Surveyor consider whether the room is suitable for badminton and also the special lighting required, and submit estimates of the cost involved in adapting the room for the purpose.

(ii) That the views of the Entertainments Manager also be obtained on the proposal.

328—West of England Ladies' Kennel Society [Min. 29 (c)]—This Society had inspected the Athletic Ground offered as an alternative to the Pittville Gardens as a venue for their May show, but they found the same entirely unsuitable. It was pointed out that before the war the Society's show in Cheltenham was known through-out the country as the " Ascot " of dog shows and this reputation was undoubtedly due, to a large extent, to the ideal surroundings of Pittville. They enquired if the Council would grant a portion of Sandford Park, in the vicinity of the Pool, the Council providing a stake and rope harrier ; otherwise the Show Committee must reluctantly accept the offer of more suitable sites in other towns. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for the 20th, 21st and 22nd May, the Council to provide the barrier required, the Club accepting responsibility for all damage incurred and out-of-pocket expenses for cleaning and other matters.

329—Winter Garden Site (Min. 140, Town Improvement Committee) — The Town Improvement Committee approved the suggested lay-out for the remainder of this site but considered the bandstand was unsuitable for a sun lounge and asked for it to be re-erected in another ground. The Borough Surveyor reported that the cost of re-erection would be considerable and he was doubtful whether it would prove satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the Town Improvement Committee be informed that this Committee have no use for the bandstand and suggest that either it be demolished, or for next season, it be retained in its present position, the Gardens Superintendent providing suitable floral decorations.

330—Whaddon Bowling Club—This Club, the tenants of the bowling green at the Victory Sports Ground, asked for permission to play on Sundays. No labour would be employed and the bar would be closed. RESOLVED, That permission be granted for Sunday afternoon and evening play.

331—Oxford. and Priory Parades (Min. 41) (a) The Solicitors acting for certain owners enquired if the Council would pay their legal costs. The Town Clerk stated that in the main he was dealing direct with the owners but suggested that where legal costs were incurred the Council might accept responsibility therefor. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Gardens Superintendent submitted estimate for lay-out of the ornamental gardens amounting to £177 which included re-levelling and re-turfing the major portion of the site, fixing

stone edging along the north eastern side, removal of trees, shrubs, etc., and the supply of soil and turf. His estimate, however, did not include the alteration of the access road between Oxford and Priory Parades. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent's estimate be approved and that the Borough Surveyor be asked to submit an additional estimate of the cost of road works. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to approve the latter.

332-Fun Fairs-- (a) The Rev. Bellerby, on behalf of residents in St. Paul's area, stated that although these fairs gave a considerable amount of pleasure to some, they were the cause of annoyance and nuisance to others, particularly in the vicinity of Agg Gardner Recreation Ground. Members of the Committee stated that from enquiries it was found that many people, and even those residing in close proximity to the ground, appreciated the fair, but to mitigate any annoyance it was RESOLVED, That until the Council have available a suitable ground for fun fairs, the use of the Agg Gardner Recreation Ground for this purpose be limited to not exceeding four weeks in any one year, such period to include the time required for erection and dismantling.

(b) Messrs. T. B. Phillips Ltd. enquired on behalf of Mr. C.' Studt for a site for a fun fair for August Bank Holiday Week. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned in order that the Entertainments Manager's observations may be obtained in the light of the previous decision.

333-Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Paddling Pool-The Borough Surveyor stated that tenders had been invited for the construction of this Pool and the last date for receipt thereof was 20th December. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to open tenders and accept a suitable quotation for submission to the War Damage Commission. (b) The Borough Surveyor reported that repairs to the shelter were completed and new gates fixed to the Hudson Street entrance. The gates leading to Pittville Gardens had also been repaired.

334—Boating—Income and Expenditure, 1946 Season-The Gardens Superintendent submitted statement showing that £451 18s. 6d. was received for hire of craft ; £281 2s: 6d. had been expended on the purchase of new craft ; and £222 14s. 2d for maintenance and repairs to existing craft carried out by the Borough Surveyor. In addition there was £141 9s. 11d. for wages, plus other sundry items. The Committee were satisfied with the position having regard to the limited craft available and to the bad season but considered the cost of repairs and maintenance was on the high side and asked the Borough Surveyor to submit details thereof.

335-Presentation of Trees—Councillor Thompson had kindly presented to the Department two Golden Cupressus trees and other conifers. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Councillor Thompson for his welcome gift.

336-Bath and West Show, 1947—The Gardens Superintendent anticipated that his department would be required to undertake certain ornamental lay-out of portions of the Show site and therefore he was arranging for considerable quantities of flowering and other ornamental plants to be produced hi the nurseries. In addition, how-ever, other material which he could not produce in time might have to be purchased and he sought authority therefor. RESOLVED, That such authority be given. ALSO RESOLVED, That provision be made in next year's estimates for a sum of approximately £75 to cover this expenditure.

337—Nurseries—Heating—The Gardens Superintendent recommended the purchase of a quantity of "carbon black" a heating product available at the works of the Cheltenham District Gas Co. Tests had proved that its heating capacity was greater than coke and the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Fuel and Power raised no objection to its use for glasshouse heating. It was, however, essential that dry storage accommodation be provided.

The Gas Company were willing to supply this material at the reduced price of £3 per ton on condition that the Corporation undertook to take 200 tons during the ensuing twelve months. The Gardens Superintendent reported there was a sum of £265 provided in the current year's estimates for fuel, and so far only £32 of had been spent, so there was sufficient in the estimates to provide for the first few months' deliveries. RE SOLVED, That the offer of the Gas Company be accepted, and the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to arrange for delivery of the material at the rate of 20 tons a month.

338—Food Production—Sales—During the month of November tomatoes to the value of £5 17s. 0d. had been supplied to the Town Hall and a potato acreage payment, amounting to £20, had been received from the Ministry of Agriculture.

339—Transport—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that the Patisson vehicle was likely to break down at any time and would soon be beyond repair. As instructed, he had obtained quotations for the purchase of either a Bedford or Morris lorry but twelve months' delay must elapse before delivery. Meanwhile hire charges amounted to £3 10s. 0d. per day. The Borough Surveyor stated that second-hand reconditioned vehicles recently acquired by the Highways Department had proved satisfactory. RESOLVED, That in view of delivery delays the Gardens Superintendent obtain quotations for the purchase of a second-hand vehicle and that if a suitable vehicle can be purchased, the Patisson vehicle and Morris lorry be disposed of.

(b) Hand Carts—The Gardens Superintendent recommended the purchase of two hand carts to replace those now beyond repair and he submitted quotation from Messrs. Smith Bros. amounting to £18 12s. 6d. each. RESOLVED, That the quotation be accepted.

40—Staff—Up-grading of Gardeners and Appointment of Stewards (Min. 50)—The Town Clerk reported that the General Purposes Committee had now set up a Labour Sub-Committee to deal with all questions relating to wages and conditions of service of employees in the Council's various departments, and that the Chairman of this Committee was a member thereof. RESOLVED, That the Union's application for up-grading and also for the appointment of stewards be referred to the Labour Sub-Committee accordingly.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**10th December, 1946.** Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye; Councillors Green, Mortis and Midwinter.

341—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of November was read :—

## DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Spring.          | For month ended<br>30th November, 1946 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during past 3 years. |
|------------------|--|---|
| Hewletts Springs | 199,000                                | 147,000   |
| Dowdeswell       | 1,846,000                              | 1,405,000   |

## CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity about 104,000,000 gallons.

342—Rural Water Supplies—(a) Leckhampton Hill [Min. 150 (13)]—The Town Clerk submitted further correspondence with the Cheltenham Rural District Council, who stated that it appeared considerable delay was likely to occur before a supply could be available for this area and, in the meantime, there was the certainty that further distress would be caused to Mrs. Wilding, of Daisybank, if not to other occupiers on the Hill.

The Rural District Council had been advised that although the tapping of a rising main was not altogether desirable, for technical reasons, it was possible for supplies to be taken without serious effect on the works if certain safeguards were taken. In view of the special circumstances they urged the Council to reconsider their previous decision not to tap the rising main.

The Clerk and Surveyor of the Rural District Council attended the meeting when the difficulties in regard to tapping the rising main and the probable delay in main construction due to the additional details required by the Ministry of Health, were more fully explained to them.

The Borough Engineer stated that the existing 6" main provided a supply to Ullenwood Camp and the pill: line pumps and storage capacity had been provided by the Government and accordingly he had no details thereof. At present the supply was satisfactory for the reason that the camp was still occupied, but unless position was clarified, should the camp be discontinued, difficulties might then arise and the supplies to Birdlip and other areas be affected.

56

With regard to the Rural District Council's proposals for tapping the rising main, the Borough Engineer pointed out that there was no storage, other than the capacity of the main itself, upon which Leckhampton Hill properties could rely during periods when the lower booster pump was not in action. The capacity of this main was approximately 6,500 gallons per mile for a length of 1.8 miles, and to secure the use of the Ullenwood Camp tanks it would be necessary to cross-connect the inlet and outlet mains for which, under the existing circumstances, Government approval appeared necessary. Any burst on the 6" main would drain the tower and deprive both Ullenwood Camp and the Birdlip area of water. He also gave other details showing the undesirability of adopting the proposals.

The representatives of the Rural District Council were also reminded that application for consent to a loan for the construction of a 3" main in Daisybank Road had been submitted to the Ministry of Health some months ago but their approval had not yet been received. The Rural District Council's representatives stated that they believed Mrs. Wilding was willing to bear the cost of an extension from Leckhampton Hill along Daisybank Road so that her premises could have a main supply, but the Borough Engineer pointed out that even so it would be necessary to tap the rising main.

The Rural District Council's representatives realised that the Council were anxious to expedite a supply and with the further information now available to them they were also concerned with the maintenance of the Birdlip supply and other areas which was dependent upon the existing main, wayleaves and water tower for which at present the Government were responsible, and they did not wish to urge anything which would impair the efficiency thereof. They would report fully to their Council in due course. RESOLVED,

(i) That in view of the urgency for a supply to Leckhampton Hill properties the Regional representative of the Ministry of Health be approached and asked to treat this scheme as an isolated unit and separate from the general application for rural mains extensions in order that approval may be expedited.

(ii) That the Town Clerk pursue his negotiations with the Government department concerned and the owners of land through which the main is laid in an effort to negotiate wayleaves and to acquire the water tower and pumps and other items.

(b) Twyning, Deerhurst, Walton and Shurdington Supplies (Min. 1938/46)-The Borough Engineer reported that on 6th December in company with Councillor Morris he visited Mr. Gourlay, the Consulting Engineer to the Gloucester County Council, and discussed with him the details of the second group of rural extension schemes. In general the schemes were agreed, but Mr. Gourlay suggested certain amendments, namely :-

(1) Twyning Supply-That the cost of the reorganisation of mains adjacent to Mythe Works amounting to £275 be borne, at least in part, by the Borough Council as an improvement would be effected in the general mains system. The Borough Engineer suggested that the Borough Council might well agree to bear the whole sum. It had also been suggested that the sizes of certain short lengths of main at Twyning Fleet might, with advantage, be changed, by increasing some to 4" diameter and reducing others to 3" diameter and the Borough Engineer saw no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That these suggestions be adopted.

(2) Deerhurst Walton-That since these mains were parallel with existing mains the new 4" diameter mains between Tewkesbury Road, Apperley Road and through Lower Apperley, be reduced to 3" diameter. The Borough Engineer stated that this main formed a much improved second link across the River Severn to the Parishes on the western bank and for this reason he could not recommend that the suggestion be adopted as he considered the additional expenditure of approximately 2s per yard was amply justified. It had also been pointed out that the 3" branch main in Lower Apperley, leading to Wicks Farm, was in the nature of a private supply and should be the subject of agreement with the consumer and be deleted from the scheme. RESOLVED, That no reduction be agreed to in the mains between Tewkesbury Road, Apperley Road and Lower Apperley. ALSO RESOLVED, That the 3" branch main in Lower Apperley be deleted from the scheme as suggested.

(3) Shurdington-That 3" mains be provided instead of 4" mains as it was considered that the 3" mains would be sufficient for this supply. The Borough Engineer agreed therewith for the reason that there was no likelihood of further extensions southward as any such extensions would encroach on the Gloucester City Council's area of supply. RESOLVED, That the size of the main be reduced accordingly.

(4) Estimated Cost-The Borough Surveyor reported the result of the above amendments to the schemes would alter the estimates as follows :-

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Twyning Supply                      | £11,721     |
| Lower Apperley and Deerhurst Walton | £4,721      |
| Little Shurdington                  | <u>£877</u> |
|                                     | £17,319     |

RESOLVED, (i) That these estimates be approved and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £17,319 for the cost of the work. (ii) That application be made to the Ministry of Health and the Gloucester County Council for grants towards the cost of carrying out these schemes. (iii) That Minute No. 1938/46 be varied accordingly.

(c) Wickridge Street-The Gloucester City Council applied for consent to supply properties lying adjacent to and north of the portion of Wickridge Street which formed the boundary between the Parishes of Hasfield and Ashleworth. The properties concerned were in this Councils statutory area of supply but the Borough Engineer recommended that the application of the Gloucester City Council be acceded to as it was snore economical and convenient for them to provide the mains to serve this particular area RESOLVED, That consent be given accordingly.

57

343—Gloucester Road—Extension of Main—Mr. G. Moulder applied for a 3" main to be extended to the private roadway abutting on the eight flats he was erecting, and which were nearing completion. The site lay to due south of Gloucester Road and immediately west of the Lansdown Inn. Mr. Moulder had already deposited the estimated cost of the mains, and the Borough Engineer recommended that the extension be provided, the cost to be refunded to Mr. Moulder upon the usual terms, namely, £8 for each £1 of new revenue derived. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendations be approved.

344-6" Main, New Barn Lane, Prestbury (Min. 418/45)—The Borough Engineer reported that the 6" main from Bouncers Lane, along Prestbury Road, Seven Posts Alley and New Barn Lane estimated at £3,497, had been completed for £2,431 19s.: 2d., of which £134 0s. 6d. represented retention money upon the Contract with tide Staveley Coal and Iron Company for the supply of cast iron pipes. The saving in cost was due to a subsequent arrangement with the Cheltenham District Gas Co. for the laying of a gas main in conjunction with the Ovate main along the same route. RESOLVED, That the position with regard to expenditure be noted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the retention sum of £134 0s. 6d. due to the Staveley Coal and Iron Co. be paid.

345-18" Main, Churchdown to Hewletts (Min. 154)—The Borough Engineer reported that he had now agreed with Mr. T. Sims, the owner of a house at the junction of Greenway Lane and London Road, that the cost of the work for which this Council had accepted responsibility would amount to £41 5s. 6d., and he asked approval thereto. RESOLVED, That such approval be given.

346—Dowdeswell Court (Min. 1948/46)—(a) Fixtures and Fittings---The Town Clerk stated that the Contract provided that the Council would take over certain fixtures and fittings at a valuation. The valuation made by Messrs. Jackson Stops (Cirencester) amounted to £321, and included a heavy safe, galvanised rainwater tank, Elsan Closet and fittings and a petrol pump storage tank, totalling £54 10s. 0d. Whilst the Council were not obliged to accept the items enumerated, it was suggested that they might do so, as certain of the articles could be taken into stock. RESOLVED, That the valuation of £321 be accepted, together with the sum of £1 19s. 0d., being half the cost of preparation of such valuation and stamp duty thereon, making a total of £322 19s. 0d., which be charged to Revenue Account.



347—British Waterworks Association—Conference Expenses—The Borough Engineer reported upon certain expenditure outstanding in connection with this Conference for such matters as labour, materials, postages and petty cash disbursements, making a total of £54 15s. 5 ½ d., and he asked for authority to charge the same to revenue—RESOLVED, That this be approved.

348—British Waterworks Association—Film Strip—This Association forwarded details of a film strip of 35mm. entitled " Water Supply Industry," complete with teaching notes. The Borough Engineer had inspected the film and considered it useful for lectures, especially to schools and he recommended the purchase of one set at a cost of 12s 6d. RESOLVED, That subject to the Borough Engineer being satisfied that schools are equipped with the necessary type of apparatus, the film strip be purchased.

349 -Typewriter (Min. 1613/46)- ---The Chairman had been authorised to accept a suitable quotation for a second-hand typewriter. The Borough Engineer reported an offer of a new Barlock machine at a cost of £35 10s. 0d., which compared favourably with that for a rebuilt typewriter. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted.

350--Appeals—The appeals entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**13th December, 1946.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Fildes and Yeend.

351—Superintendent's Report—During the period 1st to 30th November there were 59 interments and 40 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 2 ; 2nd position, 1 ; 3rd position, nil ; 4th position, 13 ; new memorials erected, 19 ; additional inscriptions, 13.

352—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold---RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,398 to 11,415 inclusive.

353—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4,315 to 4,321 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman, be approved.

354—Recordia Provision (Min. 129—(a) Book of Remembrance—A representative of Mr. Marshall, who held the copyright of the Book of Remembrance, attended to explain in detail the cost and types of Book offered, and the method of entering inscriptions therein. The complete Book could comprise either two or four volumes, the pages of which could be of either sheepskin vellum or hand-made paper, the Book itself being bound in calf vellum or leather. RESOLVED, That Mr. Marshall be asked to submit estimates for the cost of supplying two and four volumes respectively bound in calf vellum with pages of sheepskin vellum and alternatives' paper, and, at the same time to give some indication of how long it would take to produce the Book.

(b) Display Case—The Superintendent submitted designs and estimates obtained from four local firms for the making of the necessary Display Case in which the Book of Remembrance would be kept. RESOLVED, That subject to provision being made to wire the display case for lighting by electricity, the design and tender submitted by Messrs. H. H. Martyn and Co., Ltd., be approved in principle, and the scheme as a whole submitted to the next meeting for final consideration and approval.

355—Staff—Grave-diggers' Footwear—The Superintendent recommended the purchase of Wellington clogs at a total cost of £9 for use by the eight grave-diggers during very wet weather. These clogs, which were thoroughly waterproof - and had wooden copper-bound soles, were superior to rubber Wellington boots which soon punctured on the spade, and were highly satisfactory for the work. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

356—Cremation Advertising—The Superintendent submitted copies of two journals with a wide circulation amongst Funeral Directors, namely the Funeral Service Journal and the National Funeral Director, both of which were issued monthly. He recommended an advertisement be inserted under the special heading in both books, " British Crematoria," at a cost of £6 per journal for twelve months. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

357--Visits to Leeds (Min. 130)—The Chairman and Superintendent reported fully on the visit made to two Crematoria at Leeds. They were very impressed with all they saw, and considered the visit had been well worthwhile, and the experience gained would be of considerable benefit to the Council in planning the future of Cheltenham Crematorium and Garden of Remembrance. They had inspected a building which incorporated a Chapel of Rest, Waiting Room for relatives or friends, Ministers' Vestry, Toilets and Bearers' Room, The sound-recording equipment with concealed microphone in lecterns for remote control was excellent, and was used at practically every service. One Crematorium was at present being extended, and forced draught convertors and turbo blower were installed. Various methods of commemoration were adopted in the Garden of Remembrance, including a Columbarium, natural rock stones with plates, specially cast brick kerbing with bronze plates, memorial trees, memorial garden seats and memorial vases in Chapels. With regard to the Cemetery, the deputation inspected an extension in course of preparation in which it was proposed to prohibit the placing of any kerbstones, and only to allow a uniform type of headstone with no mounds, and a flower border 2ft. 6in. wide along the rows of headstones in a similar manner to the method adopted by the Imperial War Graves Commission for Service graves. As a memento of their visit the deputation had been presented with two tablets, one in marble, indicating the situation of the Garden of Remembrance, and the other of Portland stone indicating the Cemetery Office. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk write to the Leeds Burial Board expressing the Council's appreciation of the facilities provided for the deputation.

358-Future Improvements—The Borough Surveyor reported on his proposals for the extension of the Garden of Remembrance, including the extension of the existing Memorial Wall. With regard to the latter he submitted plan showing a limited extension so as to enable a connection to be made between the existing Garden of Remembrance and the proposed extension thereof. By placing plaques on the eastern side of the Memorial Wall it Would be possible to provide for all the plaques now in stock and possibly about 100 more. RESOLVED,

(a) That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor-in regard to the Memorial Wall be approved and that he be instructed to obtain tenders for carrying out the work.

(b) That the Borough Surveyor proceed with the preparation of plans for the extension of the Garden of Remembrance on the lines now approved by the Committee, such plans to include additional means of commemoration by the provision of kerbing to walks, memorial trees and memorial seats, and that a meeting be held at the Cemetery to consider the plans when these are prepared.

359—Priors Farm—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan showing the portion of Priors Farm which he suggested should be appropriated for future extension of the Cemetery. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**9th December, 1946.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton and Strickland.

360—Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements, North Lodge, North Place, 5 Albert Place, 3 Belle Vue Place, 12 Oxford Parade, 9 Montpellier Grove, 21 Great Norwood Street, 54 Bath Road, 53 Hewlett Road, Heath Lodge, 35 Clarence Square—The Standing Sub-Committee reported on their inspection of the above basements and reports of the Chief Sanitary Inspector were submitted. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above-mentioned parts of the said buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said parts of the said buildings, and the mortgagees if any, that the conditions of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of this Committee to be held on the 13th January, 1947.

(ii) 40 Evesham Road (Basement)—The Committee have had under consideration the closing of this basement. RESOLVED, That the undertaking of the owner, that the basement of No. 40 Evesham Road should not be used for human habitation until the Council were satisfied that it had been rendered fit for human habitation, be accepted.

59

(iii) Properties rear of 199 High Street, and Commercial Cottage, Commercial Street—The Committee considered representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to these buildings. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the above-mentioned buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said buildings and the mortgagees, if any, that, the condition of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works or the future use thereof would be considered at a meeting of this Committee to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January, 1947.

(iv) Unfit Houses—RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of 52a St. George's Place be renewed for a further period of six months from the 18th January, 1947.

361—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon samples Nos. 821 to 826 (milk), and samples Nos. 807 to 820 and 827-828 (various commodities, e.g. sauce, junket, etc.), all of which were satisfactory with the exception of No. 819

(Blackberry Jam). The attention of the manufacturers of the jam was called to the matter, and immediate arrangements were made to recall the whole of supplies affected by this sample.

(ii) Ice Cream Licences—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported on the condition of the premises, 18 Hope Street and 43 Queen Street, used for the manufacture of ice cream. RESOLVED, That notices be served on the occupiers under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, informing them that the Council do not consider that the premises satisfy the requirements of the Act, and were otherwise unsuitable for the purpose for which they were used, and requiring them to appear before the Committee on the 13th January, 1947. when consideration would be given to cancelling the registration of the said premises.

362—Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1936—(i) The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms which were satisfactory. (ii) RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. W. E. Lawrence, St. Anne's Dairy, 134 Albion Street, for a Dealer's Licence to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested " be granted.

364—Diphtheria Immunisation—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon Diphtheria Immunisation treatment during the month of November :—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| No. of new cases (immunisation commenced)                               | 44 |
| “        injections given   | 52 |
| “        cases in which treatment was completed during the month (total | 8) |
| (a) Under 5 years of age ...  | 8  |
| (b) Aged 5-15 years of age ...  | —  |
| Schick Tests  | —  |

Clinics were held as follows:—

School Clinic        1

365—Public Health Act, 1936—(a) (i) Statutory Notices--The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon certain defects at 42 Townsend Street, 26 Granville Street and Marston Cottage, Albert Road. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Sec. 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of the notices.

(ii) Dustbins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 27 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, upon the owners of the following properties requiring them to provide regulation dustbins for such properties :-

4 Tivoli Place

"Oulton," Suffolk Street (2 bins)

2 Prospect Terrace, Fairview Street.

(iii) The following statutory notices have not been complied with:-

69 Granley Road, 4 Burton Street, 5 Sun Street, 26 Priory Street.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised, in the event of the notices not being complied with, to institute legal proceedings.

(iv) 16 Waterloo Street--The Town Clerk reported that he had informed the owner of this property that failing compliance with the statutory notice served on him under Sec. 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, legal proceedings would be instituted, but the work had still not been carried out. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings to enforce compliance with the notice.

(b) Common Lodging Houses--RESOLVED, That applications from the keepers of the common lodging houses known as " Shamrock," " Rowton " and " Cumberland Villa," Grove Street, for the renewal of their registration for the period ending 31st December, 1947, be granted.

(c) Cleevemount Estate, Water Course (Min. 1621)—A considerable amount of obstructive matter had been removed by certain householders from this stream. In the opinion of the Borough Surveyor and the Chief Sanitary Inspector however, this would not eliminate the nuisance, as flooding would still recur in heavy rain at the sites of the houses were below the plane of saturation subsoil water level in time of flood. It was anticipated that this difficulty could be overcome by regrading the part of the water-course front the garden of the house abutting upon Overbrook Drive to a point some three or four gardens upstream and the removal of the obstructions at the entrance to the culvert constructed beneath Overbrook Drive. Whilst this would alleviate

60

the present nuisance, the only permanent solution was to culvert the whole of the stream course between Over-brook Drive and Welland Lodge Road. RESOLVED, That notice be served under Sec. 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owner of No. 1 Cleevemount Road requiring him to remove the obstructions in the water course at the premises. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out the work of regrading the stream as outlined above and that the matter be reviewed after completion of the work, and after an opportunity has been obtained of ascertaining the result.

366--Smiths Systems Ltd.—Cellulose Spraying—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon an interview between the Planning Officer and himself with the Works Manager of Smiths Systems Ltd. arising out of complaints from fumes due to cellulose spraying. Whilst expert advice had been obtained by the firm, and extractor ducts installed, the nuisance had not been completely abated and the matter was still being investigated. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting pending further investigation by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Planning Officer. (See Min. 378, Planning Committee).

367—Public Abattoir—(i) Automatic Air Compressor—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the Ministry of Food. Meat and Livestock Division had pointed out the desirability of installing an automatic air compressor for use when slaughtering calves at the abattoir. If this apparatus were installed they hoped to be able to send more calves to this area. In view of the estimated cost of £159, he could not recommend the Committee to incur this expense unless there was some financial return and he had accordingly suggested to the Cheltenham Butchers' Buying Committee that if this apparatus was provided they should pay 1 ½ d. per head, The Butchers' Committee considered this charge excessive. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle, and that the Chief Sanitary Inspector continue negotiations.

(ii) Overhead Run-way [Min 80 (v)]—Quotation was submitted from Messrs. Brook and Crowther, Ltd., for the overhaul of this run-way amounting to £37 14s. 0d. The Borough Surveyor also recommended that improvements be made to the sheep tracks in the Cooling Hall simultaneously at

an additional cost of £12 5s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the quotation of Messrs. Brook & Crowther, Ltd., at a total cost of £49 19s. 0d. be accepted.

368—Sewer—Factory, Kingsditch Lane [Min. 84 (ii)]—The Cheltenham Rural District Council had now agreed to pay their contribution of £185 towards the cost of a 9" foul sewer in this road. The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Alfred Miles, Ltd., were erecting a factory contiguous to the one of Messrs. Metalcraft, and he recommended that arrangements should be made with them to contribute to the cost to be borne by the owners! Certain amendments had been made to the original scheme for the construction of the sewer and the estimated cost, excluding £71 in respect of extension to the second factory, was now £455. If the work was carried out by Messrs. A. C. Billings & Co. with the help of the Council's mechanical digger, it was possible to keep within this figure and the contributions of the two interested Councils. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be authorised to approve the final figure, of Messrs. Billings' tender, providing that the Council's contribution was within the figure stipulated in Min. 84 (ii).

369—Royal Sanitary Institute—RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector be appointed representatives to attend the Annual Congress of this Institute at Torquay from the 2nd to 6th June, 1947.

370-26 Dagmar Road—Letter was submitted from the Solicitors to the owner, offering to sell this property to the Council. The Borough Surveyor and the Chief Sanitary Inspector reported on the condition of the property and intimated that it was not required in connection with any future scheme. RESOLVED, That the offer be not accepted.

371—Nursing Staff—Circular 227/46, Ministry of Health, was submitted in connection with the Minister's statement in the House of Commons regarding the action of certain local authorities who have required their nursing staff to join a trade union or other recognised organisation, and indicated that their employment would be terminated if they failed to do so, was submitted. Whilst the Minister was anxious that nursing staff should join a trade union, or appropriate professional association, this matter should not be determined by the unilateral action of Local Authorities. The primary duty of local authorities, as health authorities, was to maintain the efficiency and smooth running of their health services, and all other considerations must therefore, in his view, be regarded as secondary.

372—The Runnings—Electricity Sub-Station [Min. 1865 (ii)]—Plan was submitted showing the site which was recommended by the Borough Surveyor and the Borough Electrical Engineer as the most suitable one for the proposed electricity sub-station at The Runnings. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and offered to the Electricity Undertaking on a 20 years' lease at a rental of £7 per annum.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

61

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**12th December, 1946.** Present—Alderman E. L. Ward (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Mann and Morris; Major Shakspeare ; Messrs. Clegg and Harris. .

**13th December, 1946.** Present—Alderman E. L. Ward (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Bayliss and Bendall.

373—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name   | Description  |
|-------------|--|--|
| 5686        | Montal Watch Fittings Ltd.                     | New Factory, Priors Road   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved, subject to steel work details being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved   |
| 5929        | A. W. Beach                                    | Proposed Lodge, Clevelands Drive, Evesham Road   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Disapproved  |
| 5947        | G. H. Greville                                 | Garage, Moreton, Alstone Croft   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved   |
| 5967        | Major L. W. Mercer                             | Conversion of house into flats, Shelburne Hall, Lansdown Road  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved as to user of ground, 1st and 2 <sup>nd</sup> floors only. Use of basement as a residence not approved on grounds of insufficient information |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | As in previous column[above]   |
| 5983        | W. A. Barr                                     | Provision of dormer window, Overton Hotel, St. George's Road   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Deferred   |
| 5995        | N. Gray  | Garage, 8 Orrisdale Terrace  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved subject to the front wall being raised to form a parapet  |
| 6001        | Mrs. Woolard                                   | New bathroom, 376 Old Bath Road  |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved   |
| 6017        | N. H. Powell                                   | New bathroom and W.C., 3 Elwyn Terrace   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved subject to sanitary work being to satisfaction of Chief Sanitary Inspector  |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved   |
| 6018        | F. G. Higham                                   | Toolshed, 70 Milton Road   |
|             | Recommendation under Byelaws                   | Approved   |
|             | Recommendation under Interim Development Order | Approved   |

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 6019 | Mitchells & Butlers Ltd.                        | Alterations and sanitary accommodation  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved as in Plan No. 6017  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Approved  |
| 6020 | F. O. Martin                                    | Garage, Seagrave House, Pittville Gates   |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved   |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Disapproved   |
| 6021 | H. Goodridge                                    | Garage, 301 Hatherley Road  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Disapproved   |
| 6022 | A. J. Tapp                                      | New bathroom and pantry, 14 Swindon Street  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved   |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Disapproved   |
| 6023 | S. J. Hooper (Chelt) Ltd.                       | Extensions to garage, Suffolk Road  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved   |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Disapproved   |
| 6024 | H. Talbot                                       | Garage and staircase to first floor, Creden, Lansdown Road  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Disapproved   |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Deferred  |
| 6025 | Cheltenham Original Brewery Co.                 | New sanitary accommodation, Albion Inn, Gloucester Road   |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved as in Plan 6017  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Approved  |
| 6026 | W. T. Marshall                                  | Conversion of basement into two flats, 1 College Lawn   |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved as in Plan 6017  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Disapproved   |
| 6027 | G. B. Brushfield                                | Cycle and store shed; Tresco, Arle Drive  |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Approved  |
| 6028 | A. H. Tow                                       | Cycle and coal shed, St. Jean, Arle Drive   |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Exempt  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  | Approved subject posed trellis work not obstructing sight lines at the junction of Arle Drive to Alstone Lane |
| 6029 | Leonard Stace & Co. Ltd                         | Formation of Dope store, mixing room and erection of gantry   |
|      | Recommendation under Byelaws                    | Approved  |
|      | Recommendation under Interim Development Order. | Deferred  |



6030 Montal Watch Fittings Ltd. Pair of semi-detached houses, Priors Road  
 Recommendation under Byelaws Approved  
 Recommendation under Interim Development Order. Approved

62

| No. of Plan | Name                                   | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|--|---|------------------------------|--|
| 6031        | C. Jennings                            | Alterations and additions, 250 Bath Road                    | Approved as in Plan 6017     | Deferred                                       |
| 6032        | A. E. Challenger                       | Cycle and tool shed, 161 Arle Road                          | Exempt                       | Approved                                       |
| 6033        | L. B. Viner                            | Garage, 62 Brooklyn Gardens                                 | Exempt                       | Approved                                       |
| 6034        | B. Hanford                             | Cycle and garden shed, 165 Arle Road                        | Exempt                       | Approved                                       |
| 6035        | Bristol Tramways and Carriage Co. Ltd. | New double doors, Black & White Motorways Ltd., North Place | Disapproved                  | Disapproved                                    |

(b) Outside the Borough-In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans :-

| No. of Plan | Name                  | Description   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order                           |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| T.P.2216    | Mrs. E. Smith         | Proposed new bedroom, Fairview, Cheltenham Road, Bishops Cleeve             | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building  |
| T.P.2217    | Samuel Hanson and Son | Additions, 8 High Street, Winchcombe  | Approved   |
| T.P.2218    | E. R. Excell          | Proposed new water storage tank, Upper Beeches, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote | Approved   |
| T.P.2219    | G. Walters            | Proposed garage, Priory Cottage, Southam                                    | Approved for 12 months from date of consent                              |
| T.P.2220    | P. J. Crittenden      | Proposed house, Priory Lane, Bishops Cleeve                                 | Disapproved  |
| T.P.2221    | C. H. Stacey          | Proposed bungalow, Cheltenham Road, Bishops Cleeve                          | Approved   |
| T.P.2222    | A. G. Hill            | Proposed garage, Ferndale, Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury         | Approved subject to the roof being painted dark brown                    |
| T.P.2223    | A. Major              | Fish and Chip Shop, Margaret Villa, Two Hedges Road, Bishops Cleeve         | Approved for two years from date of consent                              |
| T.P.2224    | Alfred Miles Ltd.     | Proposed carriage building and repair shop, Kingsditch Lane, Swindon        | Approved, subject to building being set back to line of adjacent factory |

|           |                                  |   |  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| T.P.2225  | J. Palin                         | Proposed garage, Church Street,<br>Charlton Kings                   | Approved   |
| T.P. 2226 | W. Nunney                        | Proposed garage, 15 Brymore Estate,<br>New Barn Lane, Prestbury     | Approved   |
| T.P.2227  | H. Johns                         | Alterations to building at rear,<br>4 Church Street, Charlton Kings | Approved   |
| T.P.2228  | H. Hickman                       | Proposed glass porch, Fairways,<br>Okus Road, Charlton Kings        | Approved   |
| T.P.2229  | S. Smith & Son<br>(England) Ltd. | Preliminary plans of proposed<br>layout, Bishops Cleeve             | Approved in principle only,<br>formal consent being deferred<br>pending submission and<br>approval of final plans and<br>essential details required under<br>planning. |

374-Development Plans-(a) Pittville Court-Miss D. M. Albrecht applied for permission to use Pittville Court for old people's hostel. To ensure that the amenities of the area should not be affected by possible change of ownership it was RESOLVED that approval be granted for a period of five years from date of consent, the application to be reviewed at the end of that period.

(b) 23 Rodney Road-Application was submitted from Messrs. Hoover Ltd. for permission to use the ground floor of 23 Rodney Road as office accommodation. RESOLVED, That consent be granted.

(c) Montpellier Spa Road--Application was submitted from Messrs. Lear and Lear to convert the ground, first and second floors of No. 2 Spa Buildings into two flats and the basement into office accommodation. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for the conversion of the three floors into flats but that the use of the basement as offices be not approved and that the continued use of the basement be referred to the Public Health Committee for consideration.

(d) Andover Street-Application was submitted from Mr. H. Powell for permission to use premises in Andover Street for light engineering purposes. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as the proposals would injuriously affect the amenities of the area and were contrary to good planning.

(e) Cudnall Street, Charlton Kings-Mr. J. V. James applied for permission to convert the old stables at Charlton Lawn into a fried fish and chip shop. The building was adjacent to high class residential properties and objections have been received to the proposal. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(f) Blacksmith's Lane, Prestbury-Application was submitted from Mr. H. D. Twinberrow for permission to use the old smithy for the manufacture of wooden toys. The building would have to be removed when the County Council constructed a bypass to Prestbury Village. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved for a period of three years from date of consent.

63

(g) Leckhampton Station—Mr. R. J. Ames applied for permission to erect a Nissen hut in Leckhampton Railway Goods Yard for packing and bottling furniture cream in connection with his business as a polish manufacture; Buildings situate on railway property were now subject to the provisions of the Interim Development Order, and if there was an extension of this class of

development in the goods yard it would be contrary to the principles of good planning. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of two years from date of consent subject to plans of the building being submitted to and approved by the Committee.

(h) Elmstone Hardwicke—Application was submitted from Mr. R. F. Lea, for permission to erect a bungalow on land near Barn Farm, Elmstone Hardwicke. The building was not required for agricultural purposes and the proposed development, which was in a rural area, would be likely to lead to sporadic development. No services were available except water supply. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(j) Bath Road—Application was submitted from Messrs. E. W. and J. W. Moore for permission to remove the canopy and verandah of Northampton House, Bath Road. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(k) Park Estate, Prestbury—Mr. W. A. White applied for permission to erect a house at the old stables adjacent to the Prestbury Racecourse, to house the Manager of his blood-stock breeding farm. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle subject to the building not being used to house persons other than those employed in agriculture without the consent of the Committee ; to the Rural District Council being-satisfied with the proposed system of drainage and to submission and approval of detailed plans.

(l) Shurdington—Application was submitted from the Gloucestershire Tile and Sand Co., Ltd., for permission to use two large sheds at Shurdington for the manufacture of pre-cast concrete blocks, etc. This firm had agreed to reinstate land previously used for quarrying, and to remove the buildings when quarrying ceased. Quarrying operations ceased before the war, and the Company had not conformed to the agreement. A large area of land had also been quarried without consent. RESOLVED, That the application be not granted and the Company requested to comply with the conditions of the agreement.

(m) 81 Promenade—Further consideration was given to the application to erect signs at No. 81 Promenade. The Planning Officer submitted plans indicating a uniform scheme of name signs throughout the block of buildings adjoining the Municipal Offices. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to enable the Committee to discuss with owners in this block of buildings the Planning Officer's proposals.

375—Erection of Sheds (Min. 2163)—The Town Clerk reported that notices had been served upon the owners of the premises referred to in Min. 2163 requiring them to show cause why the buildings erected by them should not be pulled down or removed as being in contravention of the Building Byelaws. All the owners concerned had now complied with the Byelaws. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken.

376-48 Swindon Road—Mr. Dodwell made application for reconsideration of the Committee's decision disapproving Plan No. 5997 for the erection of a new fruit and vegetable store on a site adjoining the above property. The proposed building would project beyond the building line, but the owner was prepared to waive any claim for compensation in the event of the building being removed for road widening. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the proposed erection for a period of five years from the date of consent.

377-22 Evesham Road-- Complaints were received of alterations to the garage at these premises and its use for business purposes. The use was detrimental to the amenities of adjoining premises and a considerable amount of work had been carried out to the garage for which plans had not been

submitted. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the building requiring him to show cause why the building should not be pulled down or removed as being in contravention of the byelaws. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the owner that the use was in contravention of restrictive covenants relating to the land and the town planning proposals and that unless such use ceased immediately proceedings would be instituted under the Town Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943.

378—Smith's Systems—Cellulose Paint Spraying (Min. 366)—The Planning Officer reported on complaints received with regard to the nuisance caused by the fumes from cellulose paint spraying at Smith's Systems (Min. 366, Public Health Committee). The building was situate three feet from the boundary of Nos. 35, 37 and 39 Tennyson Road was originally approved as a timber store, and erected during the war. No application had been made for a change of use. The Works Manager was interviewed and had taken all possible steps to rectify the matter, The firm had other land on which they could erect a building for this purpose which would cause no nuisance. RESOLVED, That consent to the use of the building for cellulose spraying he refused, and that the Town Clerk call attention to the covenants contained in the conveyance of the site to them by the Council and request that such use immediately cease.

379—Hoarding--St. James' Station (Min. 170—Messrs. Mills & Rockleys have abandoned the proposal for a new hoarding and confirmed that the present hoarding would be removed at the end of the year.

380—Overhead Lines—(i) Winchcombe—The County Planning Officer had requested the Committee's observation on the proposal of the S.W. & S. Electric Power Company to erect overhead lines at the rear of the Council houses on the new estate at Winchcomb. The Planning Officer recommended that the Company be requested to place the lines underground as the site adjoined Winchcomb Village and the proposal would seriously affect the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer's recommendation be approved.

(ii) Whittington—The observations of the Committee were asked on the proposed extension of the overhead line from Whittington to Pucknam Farm. The route of the line was in the bottom of a valley, and would cause no injury to the area. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised.

(iii) A request was made by the County Planning Officer that, to avoid delay in approving applications for per- mission to erect overhead lines, the Planning Officer be authorised to forward observations to the County Council before such applications were submitted to the **PLANNING COMMITTEE**. RESOLVED, That this be approved. the proposals being subsequently submitted to the Committee for ratification.

381—Control of Mineral Workings (Min. 1061)—Further consideration was given to the proposal to hold a conference between representatives of the Committee and representatives of local industries concerned in mineral workings. RESOLVED, That a conference be convened as soon as possible and that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr. W. Clegg be appointed this Committee's representatives.

64

382—New Factory—Stoke Orchard (Min. 1966)—The Minister of Town and Country Planning has allowed the appeal of Messrs. Roy Fedden, Ltd., against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a testing house in connection with the light precision engineering work carried on at the factory at Stoke Orchard.

The Minister intimated that he agreed with the Council's view that regard should be had to the wider question of the desirability of introducing industrial development into a rural area, and was of the opinion that the establishment of industry on a production basis should not be encouraged in the Stoke Orchard locality. At the same time, however, he considered the use of the existing factory for limited purposes of research work in connection with the development of aero engines was not incompatible with the maintenance of the predominantly rural character of the area. He was satisfied that the proposed testing house formed an essential part of the Company's research and development, which could not be separated from the existing factory without loss of efficiency. The Minister considered that the amenities of Stoke Orchard Village and the welfare of the workers in the No. 1 factory would, best be safeguarded by siting the testing house on the western half of the adjoining land to the north of the present factory curtilage as proposed. The Minister however wished to make it clear that he would not regard with favour any further building for production purposes.

383—School Road, Charlton Kings—Mrs. B. Thorpe, Ewart Villa, Gladstone Road, Charlton Kings, has appealed against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a bungalow on a piece of ground off School Road, Charlton Kings.

384—Open Space, Prestbury (Min. 1673/45)— Reported, that as a result of a poll held on the 23rd November, 1946, it had been decided to purchase the proposed open space at Prestbury. The Committee would be notified when the negotiations were completed.

385—St. Paul's College (Min. 170)—The Town Clerk reported he had informed the parties concerned of the Council's decision to take the fullest steps possible to assist the transfer and extension of St. Paul's College to the site in Gloucester Road. A letter was submitted from the Solicitors to the owners of the land, stating that their clients were prepared to negotiate for the sale of the back land, and such portion of the frontage as they considered was reasonably required for its development. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the Solicitors that the Council do not favour the development of the back land disassociated with the frontage.

386—Town & Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946—Article 4 of this order indicated the five classes of permitted development, which included alteration or maintenance of existing buildings, except alterations affecting the exterior, or required in connection with an alteration of the use of such buildings. The Town Clerk suggested that having regard to the proposed re-development of certain areas in the Borough the Committee should consider the advisability of making a Direction under Article 5 of the above Order, excluding certain development from permitted development in particular areas. Such a Direction, which would have to be approved by the Minister of Town and Country Planning, would provide that such work should not be undertaken without the permission of the Interim Development Authority. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be approved in principle, and that the Borough Surveyor and the Planning Officer prepare maps showing the proposed re-development areas to which the Direction should apply.

387—Cambray-Regent Street Development Scheme—The Committee considered Min. 280 (iii) (Town Improvement and Spa Committee) and confirmed their views that this was a scheme which would be for the benefit of the town, both from street improvement, traffic, shopping and a business point of view, and was one which should receive early attention. The Committee considered the re-development might be carried out in stages and the first essential was the making of a new road from Ormond Place to Cambray, which would only necessitate the demolition of four or five houses, to be carried out when the present housing position improved. The Committee tentatively proposed to call the new street Ormond Street. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk, Borough

Surveyor and Planning Officer, in consultation with the Ministries concerned, expedite the necessary work involved and report further to the Committee with a view to formal steps being taken by the Council for the re-development of this area at an early date.

388—Gravel Workings—Circular No. 27, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, was submitted indicating that the Minister had appointed a Committee to investigate gravel problems. In order to avoid undue prejudice to the Committee's recommendations, and to ensure that permission for gravel workings were on a scale to meet the anticipated heavy demands, special interim administrative arrangements have been made and were outlined in the circular.

389—Agriculture Land—Private Development—Circular No. 28 (Ministry of Town and Country Planning) was sub-mitted pointing out that one of the important objects of government planning policy was to ensure that agricultural land was not taken for development where less productive suitable land was available. Rural Land Utilisation Officers have been appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Minister was anxious that liaison should be established between these Officers and Local Authorities on matters of interim development affecting farming interests, The Rural Land Utilisation Officers have drawn up plans demarcating three areas in relation to towns, and they should be consulted on, and informed, of all applications for interim development permission in the rural area. Insofar as the Council's housing schemes and development were concerned, consultations had already taken place between the Council's Officers and the Rural Land Utilisation Officers.

390--Temporary Planning Assistant—Travelling Allowance—The Planning Officer reported difficulties experienced in proceeding with the planning scheme, due to long delays occasioned by his staff having to travel by bus in the course of carrying out surveys. Mr. A. T. Wellings, Temporary Planning Assistant, was prepared to use his car for this purpose, and it was recommended that he be paid a travelling allowance. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and the County Council asked to make the necessary financial provision.

391--88 Portland Street—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had condemned the pediments at this property as dangerous structures. Application had been made by the owner for permission to reinstate the pediments with a straight parapet, so as to avoid excessiv6 expenditure. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

65

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**17th December, 1946.** Present :The Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson.

392—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on the 4th December, 1946 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted. ALSO RE, SOLVED, That, in view of the grants made by the Council under the provisions of the Cheltenham Improve. meat Act, 1889, and the Cheltenham Order, 1905, the Town Improvement Committee, Parks Committee, and other committees of the Council concerned, be asked to bear in mind such grants when applications were being considered for the use of Council property, either free or at a reduced charge, and that such Committees be recommended to give consideration to the policy to be adopted in future in regard to the granting of such facilities.

393—Establishment Sub-Committee--The Establishment Sub-Committee met on the 5th and 13th December, 1946 (reports circulated). RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

394—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—(i) The Staff Joint Advisory Committee met on the 5th December, 1946. RESOLVED, That the Committee's proceedings be recommended for adoption.

(ii) The Cheltenham Municipal Officers' Guild have appointed Dr. D. E. Morley and Messrs. Bird, Board, Jefford and Steel their representatives on this Committee for the current year.

395—Vacancies on Committees—RESOLVED, That Councillor T. K. Waite be appointed to fill vacancies on the Public Health, Art Gallery and Museum, Parks and Recreation Grounds, Allotments, and Assessments Committees. (Note : Councillor Bush, as Mayor, is ex-officio a member of the Parks and Allotment Committees, and has agreed to withdraw from his normal membership to permit Councillor Waite's appointment.)

396—Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee (Min.2203)---Mr. Councillor Bettridge, being unable to be nominated, the Chairman and Deputy Mayor instructed the Town Clerk to submit the name of Councillor Miss E. K. Bayliss. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

397—Montpellier British Restaurant (Min. 234)---The Council at their last meeting decided to support the application of the Gloucestershire County Council, that the former British Restaurant at Montpellier should be allowed to remain in position and be allocated to the North Gloucestershire Technical College in connection with bakery classes for a period of three years. The Town Clerk reported that the A.T.C. (Cheltenham) were required to vacate their present accommodation at the end of December, to permit its use as a junior school in connection with the Grammar Schools. Whilst the Housing Committee had agreed to lease a site in Brunswick Street to the A.T.C. on completion of its purchase by the Council, negotiations had not yet been concluded. It was, therefore, suggested as a temporary measure that the A.T.C. might be granted the use of the former British Restaurant until they were able to take possession of the site in Brunswick Street, and had erected their build-ing, which it was felt would not seriously delay the occupation of the restaurant buildings by the Technical College. RESOLVED, That provided satisfactory arrangements can be made with the North Gloucestershire Technical College, in the event of the College being allocated the buildings, the Ministry of Food be recommended to permit the temporary use of the building by the A.T.C. as mentioned above.

398—Aged Persons' Hostel, 109 Old Bath Road--Circular 195/46, Ministry of Health, was submitted in regard to the future responsibility for the management of hostels and the proposal that such responsibility should now pass from the Ministry of Health to the County Council as the Poor Law Authority. Local authorities such as Cheltenham, who have managed an old persons' hostel, otherwise than as agents for the County Council, should now ask that Council to assume responsibility, as from the 1st January, 1947, although there was no reason why such a hostel should not continue to be operated after this date by the local authority as agents of the County Council. The Town Clerk reported on the present position in regard to the aged persons' hostel at 109 Old Bath Road, and upon an interview with the County Public Assistance Officer, when it was understood that a small Sub-Committee had been appointed by the Public Assistance Committee to consider a proposal that this hostel should be run by this Council. RESOLVED, (i) That the County Council be

asked to assume responsibility for the above hostel from the 1st January, 1947, but that application be made for this Council to manage the hostel as agents for the County Council from that date.

(ii) That the Council place on record their sincere appreciation and thanks to the Deputy Town Clerk who has been personally responsible for the management of the hostel during the past six years, and who has given much of his already severely limited leisure time to this valuable work.

(iii) That the Town Clerk convey to the Matron (Mrs. E. Gardener) the Council's sincere appreciation of the efficient services rendered by her during the time she has been Matron at the hostel, and her magnificent gesture in devoting herself to the interest and well-being of the old people resident at the hostel.

399—Mark Hill House (Min. 239)—Reported, that the Ministry of Health by letter dated 5th December, 1946, has raised no objection to the conversion of the above property by direct labour into flats at an estimated cost of £1,671 16s. 7d.

400—Contracts of Local Authorities—Standing Order—Circular 206/46, Ministry of Health, was submitted calling attention to a resolution passed by the House of Commons on the 14th October, 1946, with respect to the fair wages clause in Government contracts, and stating that local authorities might wish to amend their Standing Orders and bring them into line with that now proposed. The amended clause did not vary to any great extent from the Council's present Standing Order. RESOLVED, That Clause 10 of the Standing Orders with regard to contracts be rescinded and that the following clause be substituted therefor.

66

In every written contract for the execution of work or the supply of goods or materials, the following clause shall be inserted :—

(1)—(a) The contractor shall pay rates of wages and observe hours and conditions of labour not less favourable than those established for the trade or industry in the district where the work is carried out by machinery of negotiation or arbitration to which the parties are organisations of employers and trade unions representative respectively of substantial proportions of the employers and workers engaged in the trade or industry in the district.

(b) In the absence of any rates of wages, hour or conditions of labour so established the contractor shall pay rates of wages and observe hours and conditions of labour which are not less favourable than the general level of wages, hours and conditions observed by other employers whose general circumstances in the trade or industry in which the contractor is engaged are similar.

(2)—The contractor shall in respect of all persons employed by him (whether in execution of the contract or otherwise) in every factory, workshop or place occupied or used by him for the execution of the contract comply with the general conditions required by this resolution. Before a contractor is placed upon a Department's list of firms to be invited to tender, the Department shall obtain from him an assurance that to the best of his knowledge and belief he has complied with the general conditions required by this resolution for at least the previous three months.

(3)—In the event of any question arising as to whether the requirements of this resolution are being observed, the question shall, if not otherwise disposed of, be referred by the Ministry of Labour and National Service to an independent tribunal for decision.



(4)—The contractor shall recognise the freedom of his workpeople to be members of Trade Unions.

(5)—The contractor shall at all times during the continuance of a contract display, for the information of his workpeople, in every factory, workshop or place occupied or used by him for the execution of the contract a copy of this resolution.

(6)—The contractor shall be responsible for the observance of this resolution by sub-contractors employed in the execution of the contract, and shall if required notify the Department of the names and addresses of all such sub-contractors.

401—Territorial Army and Air Force Association—A circular was submitted from the Association of Municipal Corporations forwarding copy of a letter from the War Office upon a review of the functions and composition of the Territorial Army (and Air Force) Associations, with particular regard to widening the representation of local authorities. The letter indicated the purposes and functions of Associations and the present constitution which enabled the appointment of representative members recommended by county and county borough councils. The War Office considered it desirable representatives of non-county boroughs, urban and rural districts should be appointed to such Associations and for the time being it was proposed that representatives of these Councils should become co-opted members. It was, however, intended that at least one representative of each type of local authority should be appointed to each Association, the general principle being that half the local authority representation should consist of members of county and county borough councils, and remainder other types of authorities. The actual representation was still under consideration, but the Army and Air Councils desired the co-operation of Association of Municipal Corporations and had asked that local authorities should be informed of the proposals. The Town Clerk had communicated with the Gloucestershire Territorial Army and Air Force Association on the proposals, who pointed out they had received no information additional to that forwarded by the Association of Municipal Corporations, but added that it was anticipated this Council would in due course be asked to appoint one member and that it might be thought fit to appoint such representative at this stage. RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor T. K. Waite be appointed this Council's representative.

402—joint Fuel Saving Committees—The South West Regional Board for Industry have forwarded a circular addressed primarily to industries, and called attention to the difficult fuel position, which would increase during the winter months. A plan had been approved jointly by leading industrialists and responsible trade union officials which provided for the setting up of Committees, upon which management and employees were equally represented and which applied to establishments of more than 50 persons to ensure that every means was taken to conserve the use of fuel. The circular set out the constitution of such Committees and urged the necessity for saving fuel in all its forms.

The Borough Surveyor reported the circular was primarily intended for industrial establishments with power plants, and having regard to the fuel watchers' system set up by this Council, there did not appear to be any necessity for setting up a Committee as suggested. He proposed, however, to arrange a meeting of the fuel watchers, point out the urgency of the matter and to renew and, if possible, extend their activities. RESOLVED, That the matter be left in the hands of the Borough Surveyor and the fuel watchers appointed in respect of each department.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

## TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

**13th December. 1946.** Present—Aldermen Waite (Chairman), Smith and Ward; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Thompson and Readings; Messrs. E. Baring and A. Palmer.

403—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 3rd December (report circulated herewith)

With regard to item 9, provision of amplifying apparatus for the Sandford Park Swimming Pool, the Borough Surveyor stated that underground cables were likely to involve cutting up lawns and flower beds and he also considered that the fixing of amplifiers on the buildings would detract from the pool's general appearance. In support of the proposal, however, it was pointed out that when large crowds attended it was impossible under present conditions to make audible announcements even when these were required for safety purposes, The Sub-Committee desire to cause annoyance or nuisance to the Hospital and for this reason they were recommending 16 speakers operating at low volume level distributed around the Pool and controlled from the Superintendent's office. It was felt that such a system would minimise sound and it was intended to carry out tests in consultation with the Hospital authorities. RESOLVED, (i) That with the exception of Item 9, the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That Item 9 be referred back to the Sub-Committee for further consideration and report, including the views of the Hospital authorities. It was also felt that further quotations might with advantage be invited for wiring by means of underground armoured cables from the two firms who had previously quoted for wiring by means of conduits laid underground and which method the Borough Electrical Engineer considered unsatisfactory.

404—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 29th November and 4th December (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That with regard to Item 10 (c) relating to the disposal of old chairs, 18 of such chairs at 2s 6d each be allocated for use in the extended accommodation for the Municipal Offices now provided at 59 Promenade.

405—Playhouse Sub-Committee---The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 11th December (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report, as amended, be approved and adopted.

406—Advertising Sub-Committee The Advertising Sub-Committee met on 9th December (report circulated here-with). RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That the Sub-Committee be asked to consider the question of advertising, on a limited scale, in American papers, especially in connection with the Cheltenham Annual Music Festival.

407—Town Hall—(a) Bar—Justices' Licence—The Town Clerk stated that the Licence granted by the Justices for the Town Hall bar remained in force from 5th April, 1944, to 5th August, 1947, and, therefore, it would be necessary for application to be made to the next General Annual Licensing Meeting for an annual licence.

The Committee were of opinion that the bar had been run successfully and efficiently without the trouble that had previously occurred and that it was in the best interests of the town and the amenities provided at the Town Hall that the licence should continue to be held by the

Entertainments Manager on behalf of the Corporation. A condition in the existing licence limited the functions at which a bar might be provided to a banquet, dinner, luncheon, dance or reception. The Committee felt- that this condition was too restricted and there had been occasions during past years when it would have been appropriate to open the bar but which did not strictly comply with such conditions. The Committee themselves felt there was no reason to suggest any other material alteration of the terms of the licence, which included provision that no intoxicating liquor be sold for consumption off the premises, the prohibition of sales on Sundays, and that notice be given to the Police not less than twenty-four hours in advance of occasions when it was proposed the bar should be open. RESOLVED,

(i) That application be made to the next General Annual Licensing Meeting, in the name of the Entertainments Manager, on behalf of the Corporation, for an annual licence in respect of the Town Hall, and that endeavours be made to obtain modification of the existing conditions on the lines now indicated.

(ii) That the Town Clerk be authorised to take all necessary steps to this end, including the instruction of Counsel.

(iii) that in the event of decisions on matters of detail being required in connection with the application and confirmation thereof, including the settlement of monopoly value, they be left in the hands of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

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

(b) Floor Covering [Min. 139 (a)]—The Entertainments Manager reported that, as instructed, he had obtained two quotations and samples of suitable covering for the floor of the main hall. Several other firms were unable to quote under existing conditions. The most satisfactory quotation was for £340 (or £250 without an underfelt). Both quotations required the covering to be fitted to the edges of the hall with sockets and pins.

After giving the matter careful consideration, taking into account all factors, including expenditure, the few occasions when floor covering was necessary and the difficulties of laying, due to weight and size and the consequent labour and time involved, it seemed to the Committee that the proposal was both expensive and tilt to catty The Committee therefore RESOLVED,

(i) That the Council be recommended to abandon the proposal to provide floor covering.

68

(ii) That such functions as have hitherto been promoted at the Town Hall, particularly produce and flower shows, be permitted to continue provided promoters take all reasonable precautions to avoid damage to the surface of the new floor.

(iii) That when planning the hall for such shows, promoters be required to consult and fully acquaint the Entertainments Manager of their proposed exhibits and layout and should he consider undue damage likely to occur he be empowered to prohibit the same.

(iv) That a condition, giving effect to the above recommendations, be inserted in all future hire agreements for the Town Hall for such purposes.

(v) That in conjunction with the recommendations now submitted, the Entertainments Sub-Committee be asked to report upon the suggestion that exhibitors in future be required themselves to provide adequate floor covering beneath their exhibits.

(c) Cheltenham and District Chrysanthemum Society--The Committee had before them the adjourned consideration of the application of this Society for the free use of the Town Hall for a combined show of early flowering chrysanthemums and produce on 10th and 11th September, 1947, and also for a similar show of late flowering chrysanthemums and produce on 12th and 13th November, with the usual one day prior thereto for preparation purposes and the day following for dismantling. This application had been deferred pending a decision as to provision of floor covering. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to compliance with the conditions mentioned in the preceding minute and to any subsequent recommendations the Entertainments Sub-Committee may wish to make in regard to floor covering for individual exhibits.

408—Publication of New Guide (Min. 702/46)--The Council's representatives upon the Joint Guide Committee stated that at their last meeting they had before them information of the difficulties experienced in obtaining advertisements for the new Guide due to the fact that it would be published in two parts, namely, the Guide proper and an Information and Advertisement Supplement. Other difficulties had also arisen in regard to costs of publication and it would appear that if the proposal to publish the Guide in two parts proceeded, the expenditure was likely to be high with an advertisement revenue much below that obtained for previous publications. In these circumstances it had been decided by the joint Committee to recommend to the Council and to the Chamber of Commerce that for the next issue of the Guide, the same be published as before, in one book and upon the same financial basis as hitherto, namely, the Council and the Chamber to guarantee one-fifth and four-fifths respectively of any loss sustained and to receive a similar proportion of any profits. It was intended that 12,500 copies of the guide containing approximately 96 pages (48 pages of illustration and letterpress and 48 pages advertisements) be published to cover a period of two years, RESOLVED, . That in the circumstances the recommendation of the Joint Committee be approved.

409--Alstone Baths—Christmas Closing—The Borough Surveyor recommended that the Alstone Baths be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day as it was not anticipated there would be a great demand for bathing on the latter. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved and the establishment closed accordingly.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**16th December, 1946.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Fisher ; Green, Grimwade, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

410--Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 11th December (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

411—Requisitions, Stores and Plant Sub-Committee—The Requisitions, Stores and Plant Sub-Committee met on 11th December (report circulated herewith).

With regard to Item 2(ii) the Committee considered it essential that the Council's vehicles should, as far as possible, be standardised and as the Highways Department was now equipped with Bedford vehicles they were not in favour of the recommendation to purchase two Fordson lorries. It was also stated that it was possible that if Fordson vehicles were acquired, additional tools would be

necessary for maintenance and repairs at an approximate cost of £50. The Committee therefore considered there would be no ultimate saving to the Council if Fordson vehicles at £556 each were purchased as against Bedford vehicles at £681 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, (i) That with the exception of Item 2(ii) the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That Item 2(ii) be not approved and that the quotation of Messrs. Haines & Strange for the supply of two 3/4 ton long wheel base Bedford tipping lorries be accepted.

(iii) That with regard to Item 5, this Committee inspect the new " S. & D." freighter during its visit to Cheltenham on 19th December and that in due course a quotation from Messrs. Shelvoke and Drewry for new refuse vehicles be considered.

412—Traffic Sub-Committee--The Traffic Sub-Committee met on 11th December (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, (i) That the report be approved and adopted. (ii) That the suggestion now made be referred to the Traffic Sub-Committee for consideration and report, namely, that traffic proceeding in a south easterly direction along High Street should, at the Promenade junction, be diverted up North Street and thence along Albion Street and via Pittville Street again to join High Street,

69

413—Cambray/Regent Street—Improvement Scheme (Min. 144 Town Improvement Committee)--The Borough Surveyor submitted outline plan, already approved in principle by the Planning Committee, for the construction of a proposed new link road between Promenade, Regent Street, Rodney Road, and Cambray. This was an improvement which the Council had in mind for many years, and which would not only tend to reduce traffic congestion in High Street and Promenade but would enable the area bounded by Regent Street, Rodney Road, and Imperial Lane to be re-developed at some future time and a fine shopping area to be created.

The Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor had already been in touch with some of the Ministries and owner concerned.

The Planning Committee proposed re-development should take place in stages and further discussions would shortly be held with representatives of the Ministries concerned. Though association with Cambray was favoured by some members of the Committee, the use of the term "Ormond Street scheme" was generally most favoured. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved, in principle, and that the scheme be referred for the consideration of the following Sub-Committee : The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Deputy Mayor, Councillors Fisher and Strickland.

414—Royal Crescent Garden (Min. 2001/46)—Following the recent visit of the Regional Transport Commissioner, the Borough Surveyor submitted alternative lay-out plans embodying the Commissioner's suggestions for this site. The Committee expressed their views on the merits of each lay-out which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the appropriate officers of the Council would shortly discuss with the Regional Transport Commissioner and it was hoped, subsequently, with the owners of properties in Royal Crescent. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

415—Pedestrian Shelters (Min. 205)—Messrs. Grayson Mann Publicity Limited had now offered to provide, free of charge, six double unit shelters with advertising material confined to the interiors. The Borough Surveyor did not favour the design submitted for various reasons and recommended that consideration of the matter be deferred until the Cheltenham and District Traction Company had completed their shelters in Swindon Road and at Pike House, when an opportunity might be taken of inspecting the same. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred accordingly.

416—Post Office Telegraphs—Overhead Telegraphic Lines—(a) Malvern Road—The Chairman had authorised consent to the application of the Post Office for permission to erect this line subject to the poles being placed at the back of the footpath, to no damage being caused to electricity cables and to reinstatement work being carried out to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(b) Spenser Road—The Chairman had also authorised consent to a similar application for permission to erect this line subject to like conditions. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(c) Naunton Crescent—The Post Office also applied for consent to erect a line in Naunton Crescent between Nos. 45 and 46. RESOLVED, That consent be given subject to the pole being placed between the houses and at the rear of the footpath in a position which will cause no obstruction of light ; to no damage being caused to electricity cables ; and to reinstatement work being carried out to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor.

(d) Priors Housing Estate —The Post Office also applied for consent to erect a line across this Estate. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that 173 dwellings had been erected within a somewhat restricted area and he suggested that before sanction was given the Post Office should submit a scheme for the whole Estate. It did not follow that such a scheme would be carried out forthwith but connections could be made in an orderly mannerly manner as and when circumstances rendered this necessary. The Post Office had been informed accordingly. RESOLVED, That in the event of the Post Office submitting a scheme on the lines indicated, the Chairman be authorised to consent to the application subject to the usual terms and conditions.

417—Protecting Sign, Railway Hotel, Ambrose Street—The Stroud Brewery Co., Ltd. applied for permission to erect a sign at this Hotel. The sign, however, did not comply with the usual conditions and the Company were asked to submit amended proposals. RESOLVED, That if the revised proposals conform with the usual terms and conditions the Chairman be authorised to grant the application.

418—G.W.R. Station, St. James, Direction Signs (Min. 1991/46)—The Borough Surveyor had in September last reported upon an application from the Railway Company to erect direction signs to St. James' Station. This application was approved, in principle, subject to siting being agreed with the Borough Surveyor and that it, report further thereon. The Borough Surveyor stated that he had interviewed representatives of the Company and it had been agreed that the signs be placed upon lamp posts in the following positions and the approval of the Electricity Committee had been obtained : High Street Island (St. George's Square); Boots Corner ; Promenade opposite Will R. Rose ; Clarence Street Island ; Promenade opposite New Club ; and Royal Well Bus Station Island.

419—Athletic Ground—Car Park--The Traffic Sub-Committee had recommended the use of a portion of this Park as a park for country buses arriving from the northern portion of the County. The Parks Committee and the Rugby Football Club had now approved the Borough Surveyor's suggested layout, and he was, therefore, proceeding accordingly.

420—Rodney Road Car Park—The Borough Surveyor had received an application for permission for three or four cinema vans touring rural districts to park over-night and the Company also asked for a reduction in the usual charge of 2s per night per vehicle. The Town Clerk drew attention to the Byelaws governing this parking place. RESOLVED, That the vehicles be accommodated but that no reduction in charges be made.

421—Hatherley Road—Some months ago Messrs. Marshall (Charlton Kings) Ltd. applied for an extension of the sewer in this road and the Public Health Committee agreed to make a contribution towards the £500 involved in consideration of Messrs. Marshall's surrendering an area of land for road widening purposes. The Company had not obtained licences for the number of houses intended and were restricted to eight, and the sewer extension, therefore became unnecessary. As they had surrendered the land they, therefore, asked if the Council would accept responsibility for kerbing, channelling and paving the footpath and relieve them of all future

70

liability. The Borough Surveyor recommended that, in the circumstances, the Council might provide a tar macadam footpath with grass verge (excluding footpath crossings) as this would suffice for some time to come, the site being on the extreme outskirts of the Borough. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed accordingly and that the Council regret that they cannot relieve them of future liability for paving, kerbing and channelling.

422—Gloucester Road—Flooding—The Borough Surveyor reported that on two occasions recently flooding had occurred opposite Benhall Farm where the main road, T.R.10, falls both ways to a low point. He submitted proposals for laying a length of surface water sewer across the carriageway to intercept storm water at a cost of £215, which with the Divisional Road Engineer's approval would be charged to trunk roads account. The Borough Surveyor also drew attention to the deterioration of the wide verge known as " The Ride " in the ownership of the Unwin Trustees and for the use of which the Council made a nominal annual payment. He suggested that endeavours be made to acquire this verge to enable improved maintenance to be undertaken including road widening. RESOLVED, That subject to the Ministry of Transport accepting responsibility for the cost of the surface water sewer, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out the work. ALSO RESOLVED, That subject to the Ministry accepting responsibility for the expenditure involved, negotiations be entered into for the acquisition of " The Ride for the purposes mentioned.

423—King George V Playing Field—Hard Core Base—The Parks Committee were now proceeding with the development of this site and would no doubt shortly require the removal of the considerable hard core base constructed near Brooklyn Road entrance and upon which fuel had been stored for the Ministry of Fuel and Power. The Borough Surveyor stated that the new excavator could well be employed upon this work and he recommended that this Committee accept responsibility for the cost thereof. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

424--Nos. 5-7 Sherborne Street and 1 Hartley Place, Witcombe Place—The Agents for the owners enquired whether the Council were interested in the acquisition of these properties, now in poor repair, for road widening purposes. The Borough Surveyor stated that this area was included in the Council's re-development proposals and he recommended the acquisition of Nos. 5 and 7 Sherborne Street to enable improvements to be undertaken to the junction of Trinity School Lane. With regard to No. 1 Hartley Place, he would make an inspection and report further. The Committee also had in mind that, in the meantime, the views of the Education Committee might be obtained as to whether they were interested in the purchase of this property for possible extensions to St. John's Schools. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate the purchase of Nos. 5 and 7 Sherborne Street at a price not exceeding that approved by the District Valuer, and that the views of the Education Committee be sought in regard to No. 1 Hartley Place.

425—Road Safety—(a) Grant-----The Ministry of Transport referred to Circular 588 whereby approved expenditure incurred by local authorities on road safety activities was accepted for grant from the Road Fund at the rate of 50%. This procedure would continue in future years as far as could be foreseen and the Minister anticipated that local authorities would welcome such information in order that immediate consideration could be given to the preparation of future schemes. RESOLVED, That the Road Safety Committee be asked to submit, at an early date, their estimated expenditure for the year March 1947/8 in order that appropriate application may be made for grant.

(b) Organiser (Min. 2198/46)—The Establishment Sub-Committee had now approved the appointment of a full-time Organiser at a salary of £275-£300 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, and it was stated that the Ministry of Transport had approved the proposal and would make a grant towards such additional expenditure. RESOLVED, That the Road Safety Committee be asked to make appropriate provision in their estimate of expenditure for the year 1947/48 and also to submit their recommendations for the appointment.

426—Price Increases—Messrs. H. Halden & Co. and Messrs. Siemens and General Electrical Co. had notified price increases, the former in respect of drawing office paper from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per roll as from 2nd December, and the latter in regard to maintenance of the Park Place automatic traffic signals, from £22 15s. to £33 per annum. RESOLVED, That the increased prices be accepted.

427—Mechanical Excavator [Min. 220 (c)]—The Borough Surveyor stated that the contract for the purchase of this machine provided for payment within a month of delivery and he had, therefore, issued a certificate for £2,186 9s., which included £2,141 9s. for the machine with the two price increases notified in March and April last ; £5 for tests and a certificate in accordance with the Factory Act, 1937 ; and £40 delivery charges provided for in the contract as additional to the contract price. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

428—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which included cleaning out the River Click, repair of traffic lights, speed limit signs and traffic signs, and re-painting the latter including halt signs and pedestrian crossing posts. New trees had been planted in 11 roads and pruning had been carried out where necessary. 1,570 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,400 tons for November.

Owing to vehicle breakdowns it had not always been possible to maintain weekly refuse collections but it was now hoped to overcome this temporary set-back. It had been found, however, that the new aluminium kypes had not proved satisfactory during recent bad weather and the Borough Surveyor proposed, when renewals were necessary, to revert to the use of baskets.

429—Staff—First, Second and Junior Engineering Assistants (Min. 917/46)—The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to shortage of office accommodation he had deferred filling the posts of First and Second Engineering Assistants (A.P.T. Division, Grade III and I respectively £390-£435 per annum and £330-£375 per annum) but he proposed now to invite applications therefor.

The temporary junior engineering assistant (Mr. D. P. Creese) had also obtained an appointment with another local authority and as there was a vacancy in the establishment for his Department for a junior engineering assistant, he proposed also to invite applications for this appointment (Miscellaneous Division, Grade II, £315- £360 per annum). RESOLVED, That approval be given.

71

430—Highways Department—(a) Protective Clothing—The Borough Surveyor stated that the supply of protective clothing, particularly for refuse collectors and other heavy manual workers, had now



become an urgent and he had therefore obtained quotations from three firms for the supply of 100 donkey jackets. Only two firms, however, had quoted for the type of jacket required. RESOLVED, That the quotation of George Pike and Sons, of Birmingham, amounting to 42s. 6d. per jacket, less 2 ½ % discount for prompt monthly payment, being the lowest quotation, be accepted.

(b) Workmen's Social Club—The Highways Superintendent had placed before the Borough Surveyor an application from the highways employees to be permitted to use a portion of the room formerly allocated for A.R.P. purposes and which adjoined the stables, as a billiard room. The employees were prepared to make their own arrangements in regard to billiard table. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that this was additional to the facilities already available at the Depot where a small social club had been established for many years and recommended that the application be granted. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

431—Highways Employees—(a) Motor Mechanic [Min. 225 (a)]—At the last meeting it had been decided to obtain further information relating to the wages and conditions of service recommended by the Joint Industrial Council for the Motor Vehicles and Repairing Trade, to which this Council were not affiliated. It was intended when such information was available the rates of wages for the Council's Motor Mechanic should be considered. In view, however, of the setting up of the Labour Sub-Committee it was RESOLVED that the information now obtained by the Borough Surveyor be referred to that Sub-Committee and that they be asked to deal appropriately with the matter.

(b) Electricians [Min. 225 (b)]—The Borough Surveyor submitted a further letter from the National Union of General & Municipal Workers with regard to the rates of wages of these employees. RESOLVED, That this matter also be referred to the Labour Sub-Committee.

432—Typewriter—The Borough Surveyor reported that early in the month one of the typewriters in his department became unusable and to avoid impeding work the Chairman had authorised the purchase of a suitable machine for replacement purposes. The Borough Surveyor also reported that two of his existing machines were almost worn out and he recommended that the same be replaced at an approximate purchase price of £35 each. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to obtain two additional machines as indicated.

E. L. WARD. Chairman

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**18th December, 1946.** Present—The Mayor ; Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Grimwade, Morris, Strickland and Yeend.

433—Housing Contracts—Increase in National Health Insurance and Pensions Contributions—The Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell, Ltd., asking that two clauses should be embodied in the contract for Scheme No. 2, Lynworth Farm. These amendments had been approved by the Joint Contract, Tribunal of the Master Builders' Federation.

The first provided that National Insurance for workmen should be paid by the Contractor and any authorised fluctuation in the current rate of employers' contributions should be adjusted in the final account. No adjustment in the contractor's profit or established charges based on fluctuations in the current rate would be made in the contractor's final account.

The second clause provided that the inability of the contractor to secure the necessary labour and material and/or failure of his suppliers to deliver such materials should be deemed to be a delay

outside the control of the contractor and would, therefore, warrant an extension of time. RESOLVED, That, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, that these clauses be embodied in the contract for Scheme No. 2.

434—Land Rear Orchard Terrace—A report was received from the Gardens Superintendent with regard to the tree' on this land recommending that the tenant be allowed to remove the four cider apple trees in respect of which application had been made. RESOLVED, That permission be given for the removal of these trees.

435—Differential Rent Scheme—The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had been asked to receive a deputy Lion from the Council Tenants' Association in regard to Differential Rent Scheme and had agreed to meet the deputation on the 18th December.

436—Shrubberies—Kingsley Gardens (Min. 176)—The Town Clerk submitted report from the Gardens Superintendent giving further information of the proposed improvement. He estimated the cost of the work including the removal of the old hedge on the Gloucester Road, supplying and laying of turf and sowing down a portion with grass seed mixture, at £112 for each of the two main sections of the shrubbery. It would be necessary to renew the existing grass verge between the pedestrian walk on the Gloucester Road and the existing thorn hedge and it was suggested that the authority of the Street and Highway Committee should be obtained to include this in the work proposed to be carried out. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to carry out this work and that the cost be charged to Repairs Fund. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Street and Highways Committee be recommended to agree to the existing grass verge being included the proposed improvement.

72

437-26 Dagmar Road—Letter was submitted from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green asking if the Council would be prepared to consider the purchase of this property. The property was in a bad state of repair and the beneficiary to whom it had been left could not afford to carry out the necessary work. The Borough Surveyor reported that the property was not required for any redevelopment scheme. RESOLVED, That the property be not purchased.

438—Supplies of Bricks—Read Circular 208A/46 from the Ministry of Health that the output of common bricks had considerably increased and it was expected that production would soon exceed demand. Brick-makers were already accumulating stocks which absorbed storage space and it was recommended that orders for bricks should be placed as far in advance as possible. Regular ordering and acceptance of deliveries should also be maintained during the winter months. A schedule was included setting out brick yards in the Region which had bricks for immediate disposal. It was recommended that bricks should be purchased locally as far as possible. The preceding observations also applied to a large extent to facing bricks. The Borough Surveyor reported that the contents of this circular had been noted.

439—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee of their meetings held on the 26th and 29th November were submitted. The following matters inter alia were dealt with :—

(i) 12 applicants were interviewed and 8 applications were considered.

(ii) Margrett Road Houses--The former tenants of the four war-destroyed houses were interviewed and allocated the four new houses erected on this site.

(iii) The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made in the carrying out of works to requisitioned properties.

Laurtison—Awaiting approval of the Ministry.

3 Crescent Terrace—Work in hand, estimated completion 14 days.

35 All Saints Terrace—Work in hand, estimated completion 14 days.

Oldfield Court—Specification being prepared.

3 Sydenham Villas Road— Specification being prepared.

1 and 2 Moorend Villas—Inspected : it was hoped to make two self-contained flats with separate access.

(iv) W.B.A. Priority was granted in respect of four applications for conversion.

(v) Emergency Accommodation—One application for registration was submitted and approved.  
RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

440—Requisitioning Sub-Committee--Reports of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 2nd and 10th December were submitted.

13 Henrietta Street ; Flat at Ravenhurst, Pittville—These properties had been de-requisitioned on conditions laid down by the Sub-Committee.

Western Lawn—A time limit had been fixed for completion of the conversion of this property, after which the Council's right to requisition would be exercised.

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

441—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on Schemes 1 and 2. Both schemes had been retarded during the past month due to the inclement weather, but inside work had been carried out wherever possible. With the exception of certain small but vital components such as living-room grates and flue pipes for domestic boilers the supply of materials had improved. If flue pipes were not received for the next 8 houses very shortly the houses could be handed over and the pipes fixed when delivered which would mean that the hot water service could only be used by means of the electric immersion heater.

(b) (i) Gas Services—The Borough Surveyor submitted a revised quotation from the Cheltenham and District Gas Co. for supplying wash boilers fitted complete with flexible gas tube in the 72 houses of Scheme 2 at £3 2s. 6d. each, showing a reduction of 17s 6d on their previous quotation. The Gas Company now suggested that they should be allowed to provide taps instead of blanked-off points to their service points as follows:— 96 connections to living-rooms provided with gas burners.

26 branch taps suitable for portable fires.

46 taps for gas pokers for igniting domestic boilers.

54 taps for gas pokers or portable fires in living-rooms having normal open fires.

10 taps for ditto in parlours.

90 taps for ditto in bedrooms.

This work, including the provision of wash boilers but not gas poker, was quoted at £313 8s. 0d. The total sum allowed in the contract was £327 12s. 0d., and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the revised quotation should be accepted. RESOLVED, That the quotation of the Gas Company to carry out the fixing of taps and provision of wash boilers be accepted.

(ii) The Borough Surveyor reported that on inspection of the first house to be occupied it was found that instantaneous gas water heater had been fixed over the sink by the tenant and the electric immersion heater blanked off. It was considered that these houses were sufficiently well provided with gas and electric appliances and it was not desirable that the walls should be damaged by the fixing of further appliances and additional pipe runs. RESOLVED, That a condition be included in the tenancy agreement for these houses providing no extra pipe runs or appliances be installed without the approval of the Committee.

73

(c) Footpaths---The Borough Surveyor submitted an estimate amounting to £7,477 10s. 0d. for slab paving tar-mac verges and trees to the footpaths on this estate. The work was not included in the contract for the preparation but would be carried out by direct labour. As the first ten houses would be completed by the end of the month it was desirable to proceed with the paving in front of these houses. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £7,477 for the estimated cost of carrying out this work and for approval for these capital works being carried out by direct labour. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and that the Connor, Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

442—Hesters Way Layout—The Borough Surveyor submitted a preliminary layout of this estate embracing the whole of the area included in the clearance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It was intended only to indicate the general lines of development and could not be finally settled until a decision had been reached regarding school sites, the Grammar School Site and the various amenities. A plan had been submitted to the Planning Committee who considered it was desirable to obtain a model. The immediate development of Rowanfield Estate had necessitated the departure from the original planning and the draft layout for this portion had met with the general approval of the Ministry of Health. Since this site was rectilinear in shape and was to be used largely for non-traditional houses, straight roads had generally been adopted. After consideration by the Site Sub-Committee of the Education Committee it had been agreed in principle that a school site could best be provided in juxtaposition to King George V Playing Fields, thus enabling the fields to be used by the school. If the layouts were approved the formal approval of the Ministry of Health would have to be obtained so that a final layout could be prepared and a survey had already been made with this end in view. The site of the present school would then become available for development at a future date.

RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of health for approval to the preliminary layout of Rowanfield Road Estate. (b) That this Committee agree to the preparation of a model of the whole of Hesters Way Estate.

443—Brooklyn Gardens----The Borough Surveyor reported that he had been in communication with Mr. Cassini of Western Estates Ltd., informing him that the Ministry of Health Architect was not prepared to approve the plans submitted for the 30 houses on this site for sale to the Council. He had, therefore, suggested as instructed by the Committee that Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. should erect houses to the Council's own design. It appeared that the foundations had been commenced for

two pairs of houses and the builders now asked for W.B.A. priorities to be issued to proceed with these two pairs and a further pair. The Borough Surveyor recommended that application should be made to the Ministry for approval to the issue of priority for these six houses and submitted layout for the remaining 24 houses on this site, consisting of three blocks of four houses for south aspect and layout pairs for the north aspect, all of a three-bedroomed type.

The Town Clerk reported interview with representatives of Western Estates Ltd. in which they stated that they considered they should have had an opportunity of amending their plans in order to meet the approval of the Ministry of Health, They considered that their proposal was in keeping with the terms of the Ministry's circular No. 92/46, and they thought it desirable that houses of their design should be erected as the purchasers of houses already erected might feel that the erection of houses of the Council's design would detract from the amenities of the estate. They emphasised that unless further work could be provided immediately, the labour force at present employed on the site would be lost or the firm would have to accept work other than housing, which course they did not desire to adopt. They stated that in accordance with R.H. Circular No. 7 from the Ministry of Health, they could satisfy the Council that the prospective purchasers were badly in need of accommodation and would rank high on the Council's priority list.

RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the issue of W.B.A. priorities in respect of the three pairs of houses subject to the proposed purchasers being approved by the Council.

(b) That the Town Clerk continue negotiations with Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. for the erection by them Of the remaining 24 houses on this site to the Council's design.

444—Future Housing Proposals—The Town Clerk reported on an interview on 11th December with the Principal Housing Officer. The following matters were discussed.

(i) Housing Association for Industrial Concerns—The proposal for the establishment of Housing Associations for Industrial Concerns for the provision of accommodation for their employees was discussed. The Ministry were of the opinion that the firms in question would not be able to provide labour to carry out the scheme and the Council's own housing programme would, therefore, suffer through loss of labour. Furthermore, with the introduction of the programme for 1947 it was anticipated that the number of houses in each area would be rationed by reference to the amount of labour and materials available so that the same number of houses would be built irrespective of the agency by which they were erected. They suggested that the Council should offer the minimum number of houses to meet urgent requirements in return for such assistance as the firms were able to give to supplement the labour force engaged on the Council's Housing Contracts. The Ministry's view still was that local authorities should only resort to the promotion of Housing Associations where for some good reason they were unable themselves to use all the available labour and materials, RESOLVED, That the firms be informed that in view of the Minister of Health's proposals for 1947, the Council are unable at present to support the promotion of Housing Associations and that the Committee will be prepared sympathetically to consider applications from such of their employees whose housing needs are urgent.

(ii) Wimpey " No Fines " Houses—The Ministry had approved Wimpey " No Fines " as a house, not as a lay-out. They were only suitable for two aspects and should be interspersed with houses of a traditional nature. An estate consisting entirely of houses of this type would only be approved if a further design were evolved to suit the remaining two aspects but it was preferable to split them up over different sites.

It was pointed out that Messrs. Wimpey would not bring much labour with them. A further point was that a big contract would freeze prices over too long a period and it was suggested that Messrs. Wimpey should either be asked to tender for 250 houses or a " break clause " should be included in the Contract providing for the reconsideration of prices after the erection of the first 250. If a substantial reduction in the cost of 500 houses could be obtained the Ministry would be prepared to approve a firm contract for 500 houses. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to negotiate for the reduction in prices from Messrs. George Wimpey and Sons and for the inclusion of a break clause in the contract providing for a review of the prices after the erection of the first 250 houses.

445—Over Expenditure on Loans—(a) Lynworth Farm—As the Council were aware, a considerable sum had been over expended on Lynworth Farm Estate. The Borough Surveyor reported that he was now checking up the Contractor's returns and hoped shortly to submit final figures. It appeared, however, from the preliminary statement that he had been able to compile, that the expenditure would be in the region of £90,254. Of this sum £5,594 was recoverable from Public Utility Undertakings and there would of course be the contribution due to the increased costs of Prisoner of War labour to be recovered from the Government. The original loan sanction amounted to £45,492. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for the issue of an interim loan sanction on account of excess expenditure amounting to £30,000. (b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for a payment on account of the estimated increased cost due to the engagement of Prisoner of War labour.

(b) Priors Farm—The Borough Surveyor reported that the layout and residual works on Priors Farm Estate had now been completed and he was now going into the final costs with the Contractors (Messrs. Bugbird and Son). The actual cost appeared to be £59,239, which included residual works which were undertaken at the request of the Ministry after the layout of the estate had been commenced. As at Lynworth Farm Estate, Prisoner of War labour was employed on this contract and in addition to the above amount there was a sum of £1,730 for fencing. The above figures were only provisional as the accounts had not yet been examined, but he hoped to be able to submit final costs at an early meeting. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for a loan sanction on account of this expenditure and also for a payment on account of the proportion of the cost which would be payable by the Government.

(b) That the Town Clerk point out to the Ministry of Health the difficulties which beset the Council in applying for loan sanction where Government grants are involved so long as the Ministry maintain their present policy of only issuing loan sanction for the expenditure to be borne by the Council and that the Ministry be asked to devise some method whereby the Council are not required to finance for a considerable period works for which part of the cost was payable by the Government.

446---The Knole, St. Mark's—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan and brief specification for the conversion of this house to accommodate a maximum of 18 old people excluding the caretaker. The total estimated cost of the work was £660, which it was proposed to carry out by direct labour and which was made up as follows :

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Electrical installation                    | £224       |
| 3-phase service                            | 90         |
| Double-oven gas cooker                     | 81         |
| Adapting bathrooms and kitchen decorations | <u>265</u> |
|  | £660       |

This estimate did not include the provision of a separate meter for each tenant but it was now felt that the installation of such separate meters was necessary and that the views of the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society should be obtained as to whether it would be preferable to instal slot sub-meters or not. The Borough Surveyor reported that Miss Faithfull had asked if she might have the key in view of the fact that there was no longer a caretaker on the premises. RESOLVED, (a) That the Borough Surveyor be asked to obtain an estimate for the provision of separate meters and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for the consent to loan for the total cost of carrying out the scheme. (b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the total estimated cost and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt. (c) That permission be given for Miss Faithfull to have a key.

447-Oldfield Court—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan for the conversion of this property into three flats. He proposed to carry out the work by direct labour at an estimated cost of £532 9s. 6d. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and application made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £532.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

75

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**18th December, 1946.** Present— The Mayor ; Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Councillors Fildes, Gardner, Mann and Morris.

448--Proposals --The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Office. RESOLVED, the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

449-- Arrears --The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

450—Staff --Car Allowances—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported that it had been found necessary for Mr. H. V. Webb to use his car in order to carry out the work of valuation. Application was now made for a car allowance and to, recommended that an allowance should be granted in view of the necessity of transport for carrying out this work RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve an allowance of £60 per annum and that a report of the mileage be submitted at the end of six months.

451—Rating of Small Properties—(Min 284)—The Borough Treasurer submitted a report on the resolution passed by the Council in 1927 as amended by the Committee on the 26th March, 1928, in regard to allowances made to owners under Section 11 of the Rating and Valuation Act, 1925. The existing resolution only applied to dwelling houses of a rateable value not exceeding £9 per annum, whereas under Section 11 the resolution should apply to all hereditaments and not merely to dwelling houses.

The resolution also provided that to obtain the allowance the owner must pay the rates before the expiration of two-thirds of the rate period whereas other owners were expected to pay their rates at a much earlier date. The Borough Treasurer also drew attention to the fact that an allowance of 15 per cent was made to owners who entered into an agreement with the Council to pay for any void periods as at the present time voids were practically unknown.

The Town Clerk reported that in the case of the 15 per cent allowance agreements had been entered into with the owners which could only be terminated by 12 months notice given before the 31st

March in any year and in the case of this agreement the same agreement also provided for the payment of the rate before the expiration of two-thirds of the rate period. RESOLVED, (a) That the resolution be amended so as to apply to all hereditaments instead of dwelling houses, (b) That no action be taken at present to determine the agreements,

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**20th December, 1946.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) Aldermen Waite and Ward : Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Grimwade and Mann.

452—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 20th December, on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £191,091 ; amount outstanding £109,610.

453—Water Rate and Charges—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 20th December, on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £16,840 ; amount outstanding

454—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £22,628 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £1,178 for re-chargeable works carried out and for electricity supplied.

455—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that loans amounting to £2,955 had been repaid since the last meeting.

456—Superannuation—(i) Refund of contributions had been made to the following officers on termination of their employment:-

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Miss M. M. Lavers (Borough Surveyor's Department) | £4 15 0 |
| Miss S. M. Prothero (Delancey Hospital) ...       | £14 6 7 |
| Miss P. Leech (Thirlestaine Court)                | £7 13 5 |

(ii) Transfer value had been received from the North Cotswold Joint Superannuation Committee in respect of Mr. E. W. Cook (Borough Surveyor's Dept. ) amounting to £57 15s 5d.

76.

(iii) Employees returning from War Service—(Min 2223 (v) 1946)—The Southport Borough Council were asked if they would be prepared to make a contribution to this Council if it was decided to recognise the service with that Council during Mr. R. P. Crompton's articles as non-contributory service. A letter was submitted from that Authority pointing out the legal position in this matter, with which the Town Clerk reported he agreed, which indicated that in the circumstances it was regretted the Southport Council were unable to make a contribution. The Town Clerk of Southport also forwarded a resolution adopted by that Council in relation to this matter, the effect of which was to designate service under articles (after attaining the age of 25 years) as non-contributory service, irrespective of whether the officer in question served his Articles with an officer of that Council, or of another authority. Mr. Crompton would be 31 years of age on 11th April, 1947, and since 12th June, 1946 had been a contributor under this Council's superannuation scheme The Town Clerk also referred to the cases of other articulated clerks, mentioned in the above Min., and the discussions which the Borough Treasurer and himself had had with the District Auditor in regard to the recognition of service for superannuation purposes during their period of war service.



RESOLVED, That, having regard to all the circumstances, the Council be recommended to recognise as non-contributory service the period between the date on which Mr. Crompton reached the age of 25 years and that upon which he took up his duties with this Council and became a contributor under the Scheme.

457—Resources of Beneficiaries from Local Authorities' Services--The Committee considered circular 221/46, Ministry of Health, details of which were set out in Min. 300 (Housing Committee) concerning the policy of taking into account family and other allowances RESOLVED, That the appropriate Committees of the Council when formulating scales be informed that this Committee would welcome consultation upon any scheme which they proposed submitting to the Council prior to its submission.

-458—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received from the Ministry of Health as follows :—

| Date                | Proposal                    | Amount | Term      |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-----------|
| 25th November, 1946 | 59 Promenade ...            | £5,669 | 20 years. |
| 17th December, 1946 | Marle Hill House conversion | £1,672 | 30 years. |

In connection with the loan sanction for Marle Hill House, the Town Clerk pointed out that a condition was attached to the sanction which prohibited part of the salaries or wages of the Council's permanent staff, including employees, being defrayed out of the loan. It was proposed to carry out this work by direct labour and the Town Clerk was communicating with the Ministry of Health in regard to this.

459—Income Tax-Claimed Roads –The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Town Clerk, Scarborough, enquiring the present position in regard to the action of that Council in requiring the Special Commissioners to State a Case for the opinion of the High Court towards the cost of which the Council had been asked to contribute A reply was submitted stating that the majority of the 300 Councils circulated had replied but a number were still outstanding Roughly 50 per cent of the authorities contributing were doing so on a pro-rata basis, whilst the remainder had promised cash payments of varying amounts from as low as one guinea, to 100 guineas: The Borough Treasurer reported that, whilst this authority were not concerned in regard to claimed roads, the point raised might be of considerable importance in relation to the reimbursement of education loan charges by the County Council, RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to contribute the sum of £10.

460—Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act, 1946—Circular 224/46, Ministry of Health, relating to interim supplementary exchequer grants under the above Act was submitted calling attention to Section 2 which indicated the method of apportionment among counties and county boroughs of the interim supplementary exchequer contributions of £10,000,000 for 1945/46 £11,000,000 for 1946/47 and £12,000,000, for 1947/48. For the purpose of apportionment, particulars were required of the rate and grant borne expenditure of each county council and rating authority for the years 1942/43, 1943/44 and 1944/45, and of the produce in each rating area in those years respectively of rates of 8d. 9d. and 10d. in the £. Attention was also called to the Local Government (Calculation of Rate and Grant Borne Expenditure, Etc.) Regulations 1946 and the prescribed forms were forwarded which the Boroughs Treasurer was required to complete and sign giving the information required, and the Council's rate and grant borne expenditure, and in the case of rating authorities, the produce of the specified rates in the J. The Town Clerk was directed by the

Regulations to submit the forms not later than the 31st January, 1947 to the Minister. The Town Clerk also called attention to the fact that any grant made to the Borough would be based on the estimated population of 51,390 in respect of the year 1936 for the Boroughs as constituted on 1st April, 1945, and suggested that he should take up the question of the basis of population with the Ministry of Health and also the Association of Municipal Corporations. The Borough Treasurer reported that the information was required to enable the Minister to ascertain the financial resources of the various local government areas, so that the contributions could be apportioned on the basis of need of the respective areas, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Ministry of Health and the Association of Municipal Corporations in regard to the basis of apportionment of population referred to above.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

77

### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**19th December, 1946.** Present—Councillors Biggs (Chairman), Carter, Compton and Strickland.

461—Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements-5 Lansdown Terrace, 32 Evesham Road, 20 Park Place, 3 Oxford Parade, 12 Royal Parade, 30 Painswick Road, 3 Sydenham Villas Road, 18 Montpellier Villas—The Committee further considered the question of making closing orders in respect of the above mentioned basements. The owners, or their representatives, attended in respect of 5 Lansdown Terrace, 20 Park Place, 3 Oxford Parade, and 3 Sydenham Villas Road. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which occupied, or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than for story, kitchen, sculleries, or other domestic offices.

(ii) Basement, 33 Imperial Square—The Committee considered making a closing order in respect of this basement RESOLVED, That the Council accept an undertaking by the Owner that this basement should not be used for human habitation until the Council were satisfied that it had been rendered fit for human habitation.

(iii) Basement, 46 St. George's Street—RESOLVED, That an undertaking by the owner that this basement would not be used for sleeping purposes, and would only be let in conjunction with the ground floor flat and used as a kitchen and domestic office, be accepted.

462—Public Health Act, 1936 —(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon certain defects at is following properties :-170 High Street, Nos. 2, 3 and 44 Bloomsbury Street. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of the notices, and that failing compliance therewith the Town Clerk be instructed to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dustbins—RESOLVED, That notices be served in pursuance of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 27 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889 upon the owner of 42, Townsend Street, requiring him to provide a regulation dustbin for this property.

463-63, Sun Street —The Standing Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of these premises in respect of which an application has been made for registration as a rag and bone dealer for the 12

months ending 31st December, 1947. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Planning Committee to the use of the premises for the purpose mentioned the application be approved,  
C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

78

### **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 January, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward ;

Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Addis,, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Smith and Taylor ; Councillors J. Bendall, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., and Fildes.

464—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 2nd December, 1946, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

465--Gift---Silver Cake Basket—Sir Francis Colchester Wemyss, K.B.E., D.L., J.P.—The Mayor reported letter from Sir Francis Colchester Wemyss offering, as a New Year gift to the Council, a silver cake basket, dated George III, 1778, which had been suitably inscribed. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That the generous offer of Sir Francis be accepted and that the sincere thanks

of the Council be conveyed to him for this further evidence of his extreme generosity, which will form a valuable addition to the gifts already made by him and to the Corporation Plate.

466—New Year's Honours List—The Mayor referred to the Honours conferred by His Majesty the King upon :—

(i) General Sir Hastings Ismay, K.C.B., D.S.O., (Barony).

(ii) Mr. Ralph Richardson (Knight).

(iii) Mrs. D. Perkins, M.B.E. (O.B.E.).

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the above-named, the Council's sincere congratulations on the Honours which had been conferred upon them.

467—"Gloucestershire Echo"—Mr. W. Ansell—Service—The Mayor reported that Mr. Walter Ansell, Assistant Editor of the "Gloucestershire Echo," would conclude 50 years' service with that newspaper on the 17th January, 1947. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Ansell, the Council's congratulations upon this magnificent achievement ; their sincere appreciation of the services which he had rendered so unselfishly in the interests of Cheltenham and the townspeople during his long service ; the cordial and friendly relationship which had at all times existed between Mr. Ansell and the Council, and their recognition of his lifelong devotion to

the work of the Church and the Free Church Council, in which he has taken a prominent part. Also, his devotion to his newspaper and journalism as a whole.

468—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 :—

Allotments ... December 9

Housing December 10 & 18

ALSO RESOLVED, That application, be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of 1:4,000 in respect of the cost of the erection of two pairs of houses in Chelt Road, Lynworth Farm Estate tinder the building apprenticeship scheme, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for that sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Order, mortgage and form of receipt.

(An amendment moved by Alderman Lipson " That Min 290 (Erection of houses by small builders) and Min. 444 (i) (Housing Associations for Industrial Concerns) be referred back for further consideration" was not seconded).

(A further amendment moved by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Alderman Lipson "That Min. 443 (Erection of houses, Brooklyn Gardens Estate) be referred back for further consideration" was accepted by the Chairman with the consent of the Council).

Parks and Recreation Grounds December 9

Public Health December 9

Electricity and Lighting December 10

Water December 10

Planning December 12 & 13

ALSO RESOLVED, That arising out of Min. 382 the Town Clerk write to Sir Roy indicating that apart from the particular issues in which his Company and the Conned had been in conflict, the Council welcomed him to the town.

79

Cemetery and Crematorium ... December 13

Town Improvement and Spa December 13

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the Entertainments Manager and the officers connected with the bar at the Town Hall, the Council's appreciation of the efficient manner in which they had conducted the business of the bar since the Council first obtained their licence, ALSO RESOLVED, That the Council's sincere appreciation and thanks he conveyed to the Entertainments Manager, the Town Hall and catering staffs for their splendid services to the public attending the Town Hall during the Christmas and New Year festivities.

Street and Highway December 16

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Capt. Trye, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That Min. 411 (ii) (Purchase of two Bedford tipping lorries) be referred back for further consideration."

General Purposes and Watch    December 17

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Food, having intimated that pursuant to Article 7 of the Food Control Committees (Constitution) Order, 1943, the persons named in Mins. 2203/46 and 396/47 had been approved by the Minister of Food for appointment to the Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee, that the persons so named be appointed to the Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee for the year commencing 1st January, 1947.

Rating                    December 18

Finance                  December 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.

469—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting held on the 13th December, 1946, with the exception of paragraph 3 (Payment of overtime—Cashier —Medical Baths) which was withdrawn by the Chairman with the consent of the Council, be received.

470—Street Lamps- Damage—The Town Clerk reported that, during the Council meeting, he had been informed that a small boy had been apprehended whilst throwing stones and damaging a lamp and that in view of the considerable damage which had been caused in the past, it was thought that this was a case in which proceedings should be taken in the Juvenile Court. RESOLVED, That, subject to the Town Clerk being of opinion this was a suitable case after reviewing the evidence, that proceedings be taken.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### **STAFF JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

**13th December, 1946** Present: Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Grimwade, Readings and Thompson—representing the Council.

Dr. D. F. Morley, Messrs. Bird, Board, Jefford and Steel—representing the Staff side.

471—Chairman--The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Winterbotham) was appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

472—Vice-Chairman—Dr. D. E. Morley was appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

473 --Payment of Overtime—The Committee considered a reference from the Establishment Sub-Committee upon the application of Miss D. Smith, cashier, Spa Medical and Wash Baths, for overtime payment in respect of 5) hours worked each week in excess of the normal working hours of 38 hours. Having regard to the conditions laid down in the National Scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service and the interpretation of the Scheme in regard to overtime by the National Joint Council, individual officers with whom it was a special condition of employment to work normally hours in excess of 38 hours per week, would only be entitled to overtime payment when the hours worked exceeded the normal working hours, and not after the revised hours of 38 hours. RESOLVED, UNANIMOUSLY, That the application for payment of overtime be not granted having regard to the conditions of employment of this officer and the conditions of the Scheme.

474--Subsistence Allowances—The Committee's attention was called to the subsistence allowances provided in Clause 19 of the National Scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service and the amendments which were now proposed by the National Joint Council, consideration of which has been deferred by the Establishment Sub-Committee. The staff side were asked to take this matter into consideration and to submit their observations to a future meeting, and the Borough Treasurer was instructed to prepare a report on the practice which could be adopted in connection with the payment of allowances.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

[ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 6TH JANUARY, 1947]

80

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**10th January, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Leigh James (Chairman), and Capt. J. H. Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, Waite and Yeend; and Mr. J. S. Bond.

475—The Late Capt. Wild—The Curator reported the death of Capt. R. P. Wild, which took place suddenly on the 24th November, 1946. He recalled the interest Capt. Wild had taken in the Museum over the past quarter of a century, interrupted only by his periods of service as Inspector of Mines in the Gold Coast. The Committee directed the Curator to express to his brother, Dr. Oliver Wild, and his sisters, their condolence and sympathy.

476—Late Capt. Wild's Estate—(a) The Curator read letter from Messrs. McIlquham and Co. containing an extract from the Will of the late Capt. Wild, who had bequeathed, free of duty, to the Museum, the following items : Sundry scientific and historical books ; antique oak dresser ; two antique pierced brass fenders ; gun-metal candlesticks ; Bristol glass bowl and cream jug ; Jacobean mortar and pestle ; pair Queen Anne steel fire dogs ; Irish bog oak notepaper box ; and ten pieces of lustre ware. RESOLVED, That these items be accepted and the thanks of the Committee conveyed to the Executors.

(b) The letter further stated that after certain other bequests, Capt. Wild bequeathed the remainder of his Real and Personal Property to his Trustees, the income thereof to be paid to his brother and sisters during their lives, and upon the death of the last survivor of them, the Trust funds to be transferred " to the Cheltenham Corporation for the benefit of their Museum and to be applied by the Museum Committee for the purchase and display of objects and specimens in their said Museum and the equipment thereof and for the purchase of books to facilitate the study of objects and specimens in museums." RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to accept this Bequest.

Curator's Report for November and December, 1946.

477—Visitors during November and December 5,641 (Nov. and Dec. last year 9,828—photographs of Cheltenham Bomb Damage were on view during this period). Daily average 115 (last year 189). Included in this figure were 7 parties from colleges and schools.

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards. etc., £8 13s. 5d. "Friends of the Art Gallery & Museum " A/c., £5 12s. 7d.

Exhibitions—The 26th Annual Exhibition of the Cheltenham Group of Artists was on view from the 4-30 Nov., 1946. During this period of 24 days it was visited by 3,156 persons, an average of 122 daily.

An Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture by C. W. Northing, Percy Braisby and Maurice Kent, of Cheltenham ; and Edward Wakeford. of London, was on show from 4 Dec. to 1 Jan. During this period it was visited by 2,485 persons, an average of 112 daily.

A Selection of Pictures from the 94th Annual Exhibition of the Royal West of England Academy was opened on 4th January and will remain on view until 31st January, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Curator's action in arranging the transfer of this exhibition from Bristol to Cheltenham be approved.

Saving of Fuel and Light—The Curator reported as to what had been done in order to save fuel, and suggested a possible saving of electricity by closing the Art Gallery at 5 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, as a temporary measure during the present fuel crisis. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be adopted.

" Leslie Young Bequest "—RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the reduction of interest on this fund to 2 ½ %. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Treasurer be instructed to invest a further £100 from the balance of income in hand bringing the total capital sum to £1,000.

Annual Report—The Annual Report had been published and circulated to donors and others, and many expressions of appreciation had been received.

Cheltenham Cultural Council--Literary Circle—RESOLVED, That the use of the Gallery on the night of Thursday, 6th March, for a talk on drama be granted to this Committee.

Nantgarw and Swansea Porcelain—The Curator reported as to the deficiency of examples of this ware in the Museum, and recommended that any suitable pieces which might come to light should be secured without delay. RESOLVED, That he be empowered to use his discretion in this matter, and to use portion of the funds lately bequeathed to the Museum for this purpose.

478—Donations--Gifts had been received from the following donors :—Mrs. Ayscough (domestic cutting knife found at Bredon, late 16th or early 17th century); Miss M. J. Ford (Staffordshire lustre porcelain tea-pot, c. 1840); Mr. T. C. Nixon (Spode soup plate, c. 1820 ; colour-print of Sir James Horlick); and other items from Miss Hemsley and Mrs. Williams. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors. RESOLVED ALSO, that the water-colour drawing of the Vale "From Prestbury Hill" by Mr. C. W. Northing. F.R.S.A., offered as a gift in appreciation of the Exhibition he had recently held in the Art Gallery, be accepted with thanks.

479—Specimens purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved :— " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c : New Hall porcelain tea-pot stand (£2 5s. 0d.); New Hall porcelain circular saucer-dish (£1 7s. 6d.); Spinning wheel (£2).; English glass lustre ornament (£2).

480 Exhibitions—(a) The Curator reported as to the Blackwell Family Collection of Modern British Art, which was going on tour, and recommended that this display be booked for a four-week period. for which a share of the expenses would amount to £28 18s. 4d. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) Murals by Gerald Gardiner, A.R.C.A.—RESOLVED, That the Committee accept with thanks the offer of these murals on loan for display in the gallery, for a period of three weeks, from the 10th February, 1947.

481—Staff—An application was received from Mrs. L. Buchanan, part-time Art Gallery Attendant-cleaner, for an increase in her rate of pay. RESOLVED, That, subject to the approval of the Labour Sub-Committee, the Council be recommended to advance her pay from 1s 6d per hour to 1s 8d per hour,

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

81

**PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**10th January, 1947**, Present—Alderman D. L. Lipson (Chairman); Councillors J. L. Bendall, S. Bendall, Compton, Grimwade and Mann ; Mr. H. J. Norris.

482—The late Mr. C. E. Walsh—The Chairman referred to the valuable and long service rendered to this Council by the late Mr. C. E. Walsh. RESOLVED, That the sympathy of the Committee be conveyed to Mr. Walsh's widow and family in their sad bereavement.

483—Librarian's Report for November and December, 1946 :—

Issues—Reference Dept., 9,854 ; Lending Dept., 67,389 ; Junior Dept., 8,937 ; Branch Libraries, 3,099; Loan Collections, 800. Total, 90,079. (November and December last year, 92,854.)

Receipts amounted to £153 6s. 0d.

Replacements and Binding-216 volumes had been replaced. 584 had been dispatched to the Binder. 165 had been returned.

Lectures—Two Lectures given in November and December produced an average attendance of 71, and a series covering the period January to March had been arranged, all on Mondays at 3 p.m.

Annual Report—This had been circulated to all donors and to similar institutions in exchange.

484—" Leslie Young Bequest "----RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the reduction of interest on this to 21%. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Treasurer be instructed to invest a further £100 from Si balance of income in hand bringing the total capital sum to £1,000.

485—Saving of Electricity and Fuel—The Librarian reported that he was experimenting with breeze with a view economising in anthracite, and that wherever possible lamps of smaller wattage had been introduced throughout the Library.

486—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 767 volumes, published at £341 13s. 11d., be purchased for £306 15s. 7d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding.

(c) That the sum of £50 be spent on Replacements.

(d) That the sum of £26 be expended from the " Leslie Young Bequest " Fund on nine volumes of "Ink Kewensis," to complete the set already in the Library.

(e) That the Chairman's action in authorising the purchase of the new edition of the Encyclopaedia (24 volumes at £50) be confirmed.

487—Periodicals—(a) The Librarian reported as to the use of Engineering during the past six months. RESOLVED, That this periodical be placed on the permanent list of those purchased.

(b) RESOLVED, That the English Historical Review (30s per annum) be added to those purchased.

488—Staff—(a) The Librarian reported the resignation of Miss S. G. Smith, F.L.A., as from 31st December, 1946, on her appointment as Deputy Librarian at Guildford.



(b) An advertisement had been inserted in the Times Literary Supplement which produced two candidates, and Miss K. E. Petrie, an assistant in the Cirencester Public Library, had been appointed in the Clerical Division (E: of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Service on the understanding that after satisfactory service and on having qualified for the Associateship of the Libre'' Association she be promoted to a vacancy in the Higher Clerical Division. RESOLVED, That this be approved, subject to the approval of the Establishment Sub-Committee.

D L. LIPSON, Chairman.

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**13th January, 1947.** Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman); the Mayor, Alderman Smith ; Councillors Compton Green, Midwinter, Waite and Yeend ; Messrs. Ball and Whittall.

489—Carters Field Allotments—(a) Electricity Cable (Min. 1385/46)--At the suggestion of this Committee, cable laying had been deferred until the autumn to avoid damage to crops. The work was now proceeding and tenants concerned informed accordingly so that the minimum of inconvenience might be caused.

(b) Damage to Crops—Mr. G. C. Townley had terminated his tenancy of allotment No. 1 owing to extensive, damage to crops by children from the Cleevemount Estate. Unfortunately, however, he could give no information leading to a prosecution. The Gardens Superintendent stated that the fencing had frequently been repaired but damage still continued. He had placed Mr. Townley fourth on the waiting list for an allotment in Whaddon Road and would endeavour to satisfy his requirements as soon as possible. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances Mr. Townley be offered the first vacant plot on the Whaddon Road site.

82

490—" Dig For Plenty " Campaign, 1946/47—In view of the continuing world food situation, the Ministry of Agriculture stated that the need for food production was still imperative and a campaign entitled " Dig for Plenty had been launched with a view to maintaining and, if possible, increasing production of vegetables from private gardens and allotments.

The Minister, with the full support of the Minister of Food. wished to impress upon local authorities how essential it was in the national interest to make the maximum effort in this connection. Farmers had been asked to increase potato acreages and sugar beet but there could be no certainty that commercial growers would produce sufficient variety of vegetables for the country's needs and the private citizen would serve both the national and his own interests by growing vegetables.

Press publicity would be embarked upon and a publication would shortly be available at 1s per copy entitled " Grossing for Health & Profit." Propaganda leaflets and posters were also available, and local authorities were asked to support national propaganda by local drives.

Existing war-time allotments should be retained in cultivation as far as possible until the end of 1947 or until the world situation improves, and food production must have priority over recreation and amenity. War-time allotment land should only be released for such urgent national purposes as building or essential industrial development and even then tenants should continue in occupation until building actually commenced.

The Minister was anxious that allotment demands should be met on a permanent basis by land appropriated for this purpose under the Allotments Acts, and he hoped that where war-time tenants

were displaced every effort would be made to accommodate them on permanent sites. When drawing up planning schemes and in housing development, satisfactory provision should be made for permanent allotment land.

Expert advice was also still required upon such matters as soil fertility, planned cropping, better cultivation and eradication of pests.

The Town Clerk stated that the circular would be submitted to the Horticulture Committee who would, no doubt, consider the best method of undertaking the propaganda required. With regard to permanent sites, the Council had this matter actively before them and provision was being made therefor in preparing the layouts of new housing estates. The main difficulty was in obtaining suitable land within reasonable distance of built-up areas of the town. RESOLVED,

(i) That a supply of leaflets and posters be obtained for distribution.

(ii) That every effort be made to provide additional permanent allotment sites.

(iii) That in connection with the film display to be arranged by the Cheltenham and District Allotments Society on the 27th February, an opportunity be taken of including in the Society's press publicity, information relating to vacant allotments and that the Council bear the appropriate cost thereof.

491—Temporary Allotments, Alstone Lane—The Town Clerk reported that in December an application was made by an allotment-holder on this site to be accommodated on other land as a portion of these allotments was required for the erection of a drill hall. In view of the necessity for continued food production the matter had been taken up with the Gloucestershire Territorial Army and Air Force Association to ascertain the exact position and the number of tenants to be displaced. The Sub-Committee were reminded that this site was acquired by the Association before the war for their new drill hall but the proposal was then postponed and the land had been let temporarily to Mr. G. Weaver who had sub-let the same to about 35 allotment tenants. As the Association had been unable to find accommodation for the Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment which was to be raised in Cheltenham, they now proposed to erect temporary buildings thereon and had accordingly given Mr. Weaver notice to terminate his tenancy on 14th March, and which would affect 18 of the allotment-holders. The majority, however, were old age pensioners and unable to walk a distance to other sites and Mr. Weaver anticipated that only five of the tenants might require new allotments.

In view of the recent circular from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Committee were very concerned at the position and various suggestions were made for other suitable sites for the Association's temporary buildings to avoid interference with food production activities. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Association be informed that whilst the Council fully recognise their needs, the hope is expressed that it will be possible for the buildings to be erected on another site, thus avoiding interference with food production.

(ii) That the Association be asked to consider the possibility of acquiring the cleared site in New Street which it is thought would be of sufficient dimensions for their purpose and have the added advantage of a central situation.

(iii) That the attention of the Ministry of Agriculture be drawn to the position and their assistance sought in endeavouring to persuade the appropriate Government Department to find an alternative site.

492—Elmfield Gardens—(a) During the war the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Committee had requisitioned and cleared this site and had leased the same to the Council for allotment purposes. The owners now asked if the land could be freed in order that they might consider plans for houses. The War Agricultural Committee pointed out that the Defence Regulations enabled possession to be retained for three years after the official termination of the war and this period had now been extended to December, 1950, but their practice was, when land was required for development or satisfactory cultivation, to release the same as soon as possible. The Council's observations were, therefore, sought. RESOLVED, That as it is unlikely that the owners will obtain a building licence at the present time, the War Agricultural Committee be informed that in view of the urgent food situation the Council desire to retain possession of the land at any rate until building development can actively commence.

(b) Roadways—Complaints had been made of the access to certain allotments on this site. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent investigate and report thereon to the next meeting.

83

493—Folly Lane-Tipping Site—The Borough Surveyor reported that he required the sites of additional allotments on this land for tipping purposes and the tenants of Nos. 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15 had accordingly ceased cultivation, he had, therefore, asked the Borough Treasurer not to forward applications for rent renewals. RESOLVED, That the tenancies be terminated and that no further rent be accepted from the tenants concerned.

494—North Ward Allotments—Roads--Complaints were made of the very bad condition of these roads. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to spread loads of clinker and rubble thereon, including the approaches at Gardeners Lane and Marsh Lane.

495—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting eight allotments had been let and the tenancies of 25 terminated. Altogether 88 allotments remained vacant but this number included 29 at Shelley Road and 10 in Brooklyn Road. Much of the land at Shelley Road was unfit for cultivation and tenants were, therefore, reluctant to accept plots on this site. In due course advertisements would be issued in the press notifying the positions of vacant allotments and inviting applications therefor.

496—Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society—This Society were reviving their activities after a somewhat difficult period. and hoped to arrange a series of " Quizzes " in the near future and also to continue the promotion of summer competitions. A film display would be held in February, coupled with a recruiting drive. Application was, therefore, made for a grant towards such activities. The Town Clerk stated that the Horticulture Committee would also have the application before them and would no doubt give favourable consideration thereto. RESOLVED, That a grant of £15 be made to the Society.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**14th January, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Alderman Waite ; Councillors S. Bendall, Carter, Grimwade, Midwinter, Readings, Smith, Taylor and Thompson.

497—Sub-Station, Ewens Farm (Min. 109)—The Town Clerk submitted consent from the Electricity Commissioners to the borrowing of £1,230, being the balance of £6,280 in connection with the purchase of land and erection and equipping of this Sub-Station. This included a sum of £125 for the

cost of land as agreed by the District Valuer and a formal resolution was required for the borrowing of this latter sum. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to the borrowing of £125, being the cost of the purchase of the land.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

498—Oakley and Benhall Farms—The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that negotiations had been carried on with the Ministry of Works for a considerable period with regard to the supply of electricity to Oakley and Benhall Farms. It had been agreed that separate meters should be installed for power and electric light but this had not yet been carried out. The Ministry of Works now asked that future claims for the supply of electrical energy should be at a provisional rate of 2d. per unit pending the subsequent adjustment of the whole matter from 1st July, 1945.

The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had endeavoured to apportion the amount of energy consumed as between power and lighting and it was found that in order to meet the total cost for the electricity supply a flat rate of approximately 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  d. per unit would have to be charged. RESOLVED, That electrical energy supplied to Oakley and Benhall Farms be charged at the rate of 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  d. per unit until such time as the necessary meters are installed.

499—Wayleaves of Corporation Properties—The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the General Purposes Committee had recommended that the Electricity Undertaking should pay to the Corporation wayleave rentals in respect of cables and electrical installations on or under Corporation properties and that a lump sum should, be paid in respect of past years.

The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a list of the various electrical installations on or under Corporation properties which, if wayleave rentals were paid at the appropriate rate, would involve payment of £13 16s. 0d. per annum. RESOLVED, That this Committee agree to pay wayleave rentals in respect of cables, poles and other electrical installations on or under Corporation properties at the appropriate rate and that, with regard to the existing wayleaves as set out in the list submitted, the Committee agree to pay for these as from 1st April, 1946.

500—Electricity Bill—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk, Borough Electrical Engineer and Borough Treasurer be asked to report on the provisions of this Bill at the next meeting.

501-Water Heating Conference—It was reported that conferences had been organised by the Electrical Development Association in the South Western Area at which papers on space heating and water heating had been read. It was felt in view of the success of these conferences that they might be extended and it had been provisionally arranged in consultation with the Cheltenham Electrical Circle to hold a half-day conference in the Drawing Room at the Town Hall on February 12th, at which a member of the Electrical Development Association would give a talk on water heating.

It was proposed to invite members of Gloucester and Cheltenham Electrical Circles as well as builders, architects, Local Authority Officers and other interested parties, and it was suggested that tea should be provided. RESOLVED, That the proposed arrangements be approved.

84

502—Electricity Department Sports and Social Club—The Borough Electrical -Engineer reported that a Sports and Social Club had been formed by employees of the Undertaking and rooms at 28a St. George's Place had been obtained at a rental of £75 per annum. It was intended to begin the Club with indoor games and later to extend the activities when the necessary equipment could be

acquired. It was desired that the Club should be officially recognised by the Committee and that the Borough Treasurer should be asked to deduct a weekly subscription of 6d. from the members' pay or salary on the necessary authorisation slip being completed. It was also desired that the Committee should consider making a grant towards the expenses of the Club. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that this request should be acceded to and that the Undertaking should accept the responsibility for the rent of the rooms and provide lighting and heating.

The Town Clerk reported that the County Council had for disposal 40 chairs and seven folding tables which were loaned for use at the A.R.P. Report and Control Centre. The reduced cost of these was £48 9s. 7d. RESOLVED, (a) That the Council undertake to accept responsibility for the rent of the rooms and provision of lighting and heating.

(b) That the 40 chairs and seven tables be purchased from the County Council and loaned to the Club.

503—Staff--(a) Demonstrator—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Miss Pike, who was engaged as a trainee, had now completed 12 months' course at the London School of Electrical Domestic Science and had been awarded a School Certificate, 1st Class, with the highest average marks in the School. He recommended that Miss Pike be appointed to fill the vacancy for Demonstrator on the General Division Scale, commencing at a salary of £172 per annum. He also recommended that the vacancy for a trainee demonstrator thus caused should be advertised and filled as soon as possible. RESOLVED, (a) That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve of the appointment of Miss Pike on the General Division Scale at a commencing salary of £172 per annum.(b) That the vacancy for a trainee demonstrator be advertised and filled at the earliest possible opportunity.

(b) Shorthand-Typist—Mrs. Templeman- -Mrs. Templeman, who was to be resident in Cheltenham for the next three years and held an American High School Certificate, had been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Housden and the transfer of Miss Bayley to the Records Office at a salary of £184 per annum according to the General Division. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve and confirm this appointment.

(c) Filing Clerk—At present this post is designated as a female Filing Clerk and the Borough Electrical Engineer asked that this should be amended so that he could engage either male or female. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to amend the establishment accordingly.

504—Zoning of Cheltenham—Information had been received that a resolution of the Negotiating Committee of the National Council recommending that Cheltenham be transferred to " A " zone as from 1st January, 1947, had been approved by the National Council. This had been considered and approved at the District Meeting held in Bristol and the new rates would come into force as from 1st January, 1947. The resulting increase in wages under present conditions would be approximately £900 per annum. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

505—National Wage Agreement—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that negotiations for a national wage Agreement for the Electricity Supply Industry had now reached the stage when a national agreement had been drawn up and provisionally approved by the National Council. The proposals were being considered by the District Employers and would be considered by the National Employers on the 17th January. It was hoped that the agreement would be approved by the National Council on the same day. Under the agreement there would still be two zones, in the Provinces and Cheltenham would remain in zone " A." The present war bonus of 8d. per hour would be

consolidated in the new rates. If approved the proposals would operate in the first full pay week in February and would result in increases varying for different grades from ½ d. to 2 ¾ d. per hour.

506—Electrical Research Association—The Committee were reminded that two years ago they agreed to increase their subscription to this Association by 50% subject to other municipalities adopting this course. As no support was received the normal subscription only was paid. Last year it had been agreed to increase the subscription irrespective of the course adopted by other authorities and as this might well be the last year in which the Undertaking could subscribe as a municipality the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended the increased subscription be paid as was done last year. The total subscription would be £115 10s. Od., as compared with £127 10s. Od. last year. The annual meeting and luncheon of the Association would take place in London on February 14th. RESOLVED, (a) That the increased subscription of £115 10s. Od. be paid to the Electrical Research Association.

(b) That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend the annual meeting and luncheon on February 14th.

507—Street Lighting—(a) Damaged Lamp Columns—Seven lamp posts were damaged during December and enquiries were being made to trace the vehicles where these were not known. Seven lamp posts were re-erected during the month and one lamp was brought into commission.

(b) St. George's Road Lighting—Complaints, supported by the Road Safety Committee, had been received of inadequate lighting of this road between the Promenade and Bayshill Road. The final scheme for lighting this road was dependent on the layout of the Royal Well site but it was recommended that a lamp column should be erected outside the War Savings Office as soon as possible to remove present cause for complaint and that the section between Montpellier Street and Bayshill Road should be considered later. The cost of carrying out the work was estimated at £29. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and the cost charged to Street Lighting Revenue Account.

(c) Prestbury Road Lighting—The existing gas lamp in Prestbury Road opposite Cromwell Road, would have to be removed for the purpose of road improvement. In view of the fact that Prestbury Road was a main traffic road and that Lynworth Farm Estate would house a large population, the lighting of this road should comply with that laid down by the Ministry for Group " A " roads. At present electric lighting was installed

85

up to the old borough boundary, after which there were seven gas lamps. 244 ft. apart up to the existing boundary. It was suggested that sodium lamps should be installed from Pittville Circus to the existing borough boundary by converting the existing lamps and erecting new columns with an average spacing of 135 ft. and mounting height of 25 ft. Alternative suggestions were :—

(i) The existing lighting could be omitted from the scheme and extended with sodium lighting to the existing boundary.

(ii) The gas lamp to be removed could be replaced by a 25 ft. column with either a sodium lamp or a temporary tungsten filament lamp, the column being in a position to fit in with the full scheme.

(iii) The gas lamp could be replaced by a temporary steel lamp column with a tungsten filament lamp instead of the concrete column.

The estimated cost of these schemes were £875 for the complete scheme and £700, £49 10s. Od. and £30 10s. Od. respectively for the three alternatives.

The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that in the first instance a concrete column should be erected opposite Cromwell Road and a sodium lamp installed so that an opportunity might be afforded of inspecting the sample 25 ft. concrete column which were more easily obtainable than steel columns. It was recommended that the cost of this one lamp should be defrayed from Street Lighting Revenue Account. RESOLVED, That the one lamp be erected as suggested and that consideration of the further scheme be deferred pending inspection of this lamp.

(d) Thirlestaine Road—Attention had been drawn by the Police Superintendent to the inadequate lighting of Thirlestaine Road in view of the large amount of traffic using the road. The Borough Electrical Engineer re-ported that this thoroughfare should be lighted to comply with the requirements of Group "A" roads and he estimated the approximate cost of the conversion at £800. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be instructed to prepare and submit a scheme for the conversion of the lighting of Thirlestaine Road to comply with the requirements of Group "A" roads.

(e) Swindon Passage—The Town Clerk submitted complaint regarding inadequate lighting of this passage. There were two lamp standards but neither was lit at the time of the complaint, and it was felt that one or both should be illuminated immediately in view of the fact that a considerable number of people had to use this footpath. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that this matter was actually receiving attention when the complaint was received. RESOLVED, That the complainant be informed accordingly.

(f) 40 Wymans Road—Read letter from the tenant of this house asking for the lamp outside the house to be extinguished permanently. A nuisance was created by a number of children who congregated round the lamp when it was lit and it was felt that such a nuisance could be obviated if the lamp were extinguished. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that in his opinion it would be unsafe to accede to this request. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to accede to the application.

508--2,000 Volt Change-over Scheme, London Road Area—The Borough Electrical Engineer considered, in view of the fact that preparations were already made for the change-over to 3-phase system in this area by laying 11,000 volt cable which was used temporarily at 2,000 volts, that it was now desirable to fill in the gaps by laying additional 11,000 volt cable and providing two new sub-stations, one of the sheet steel kiosk type and the other an outdoor switching unit. The scheme provided for the change-over of the single phase distribution system covering the district bounded by London Road from Holy Apostles Church to Dowdeswell Reservoir on the one side and Cirencester Road from Holy Apostles Church to Lilleybrook Hotel on the other. Fourteen 2,000 volt transformers in addition to the 250 K.V.A. Scott connected transformers at Overbury Street sub-station would be superseded by the proposed new works which included two new 3-phase transformers of 200 and 100 kVA respectively.

The scheme also allowed for the laying and jointing of 11,000 volt cable from Overbury Street to join up with the existing 11,000 voltage cable to supply two new 3-phase transformers. The kiosk type sub-station would be sited in London Road opposite the junction of Hearne Road and the outdoor type sub-station would be adjacent to Whithorn Quarries. A 4-core 3-phase low voltage cable would be laid with the high voltage cable to supply the surrounding area and provide a means of interconnecting low voltage bus bars of a separate sub-station. In the Cirencester Road area the work would consist mainly of changing over single phase low voltage distributors to the existing 4-core 3-phase cables. The estimated cost of the scheme was £10,684. RESOLVED, (a) That application

be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to the scheme and sanction to borrow £10,549 for the cost of new mains and sub-station.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £10,549 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(c) That tenders be invited for the laying and jointing of the underground mains and link boxes.

(d) That the cost of transferring the existing services to the new mains be charged to the Revenue Account.

509—New Sub-Station, Church Road, St. Mark's—A section of single phase network, supplied from small trans-formers connected to a 2,000 volt feeder from Westal Green, still remained in parts of Lansdown Road, Gloucester Road and Church Road and between Glencairn Park Road and Tennyson Road. The proposal to convert The Knole, The Granleys and Oldfield Court into flats had made the necessity for a change-over to 3-phase network more urgent as the estimated load was in excess of the capacity of existing cables and transformers. To effect the necessary change-over and strengthen the existing 3-phase network it was necessary to erect a new sub-station in the land at the rear of Church Road equipped with a 500kVA transformer and 11,000 volt distribution board supplied from the existing cable from St. Mark's sub-station to Benhall Farm sub-station.

86

Low voltage cables would be laid to interconnect with those from St. Mark's sub-station and the L.M.S. kiosk. By laying ducts where appropriate provision would be made for a future installation of 11,000 volt cable from Westal Green together with a low voltage cable along Lansdown Road. A skeleton 11,000 volt switch panel was also being installed in the sub-station. The estimated cost of the scheme was £6,679. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for approval to the scheme and consent to borrow £6,679 for the cost of the work.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(c) That tenders be invited for the erection of a sub-station building.

(d) That application be made to the Housing Committee for the sale of a piece of land of the Knole Estate for the sub-station site.

510-Supply to New Estate, New Barn Lane—Plans had been submitted by the Cheltenham Rural District Council showing the layout of 26 new houses in New Barn Lane. The Borough Electrical Engineer had prepared a scheme to supply electricity which provided for the laying and jointing of low voltage 3-phase 4-core cable from the existing distributors in New Barn Lane and New Barn Avenue and the installation of service cable to each house. The estimated cost of the scheme was £718. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for approval to the scheme and consent to borrow £481 for the cost of the mains.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(c) That the cost of the services estimated at £237 12s. 0d. be charged to Unspecified Mains and Services Loan Account.



511-New Low Voltage Distribution from Cambray Sub-station-The bulk of the load for the low voltage network supplied from Cambray sub-station was carried by one 0.25 sq. in. 4-core cable from the sub-station to a link box in Rodney Road. At the time of the peak demand the load on the distributors supplied from this link box amounted to 350 amperes which was 73 amperes in excess of the safe carrying capacity of the cable. It was proposed to relieve the load on this cable by installing an additional one of similar size and connecting to a new distribution unit in the sub-station and to a new underground link box in Rodney Road. The cost of carrying out this work was estimated at £102 17s. 2d. RESOLVED, That the work be carried out and that the cost be charged to the Unspecified Mains and Services Loan Account.

512-Supply to Cirencester Road, Birdlip-Application was received for supply of electricity to Highclere, Cirencester Road. It would be necessary to extend the mains approximately 200 yards into the West Gloucester Power Co.'s area of supply and a Fringe Order would be required for this extension. Negotiations were in hand with the Power Company for permission to give this supply and it was thought that this would be forthcoming. The cost of the extension amounted to £131 4s. 2d., plus the service charge of £8 10s. 7d., and the applicant had agreed to pay £45 8s. 6d., being the cost of the service and contribution towards the cost of extension and also to guarantee a minimum annual revenue of £18 17s.3d. The cost to the Corporation would be £94 6s. 3d. RESOLVED, That the above terms be approved and that an Order under Section 6 of the Electric Lighting Act, 1909, be applied for permitting the Corporation to supply these premises in the Parish of Birdlip in the area of supply of the West Gloucester Power Co.

513-Application for Supply-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported six applications for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

514-Cooker Wiring Allowances-Since September, 1940, the Undertaking had provided for consumers using electrical cookers the necessary wiring circuit up to 24 feet free of charge. The Electrical Contractor members of the Cheltenham Electrical Circle had agreed to carry out this wiring on behalf of the Undertaking for 8s. per installation plus 9d. per foot run. They now asked that these two charges should be revised. Negotiations had taken place and the Contractors had now agreed to accept a revised rate of 10s. per installation plus 1s. per foot run. For a 24 foot run this was equivalent to an increase of 11s. RESOLVED, That the increased payment be approved as from 1st January, 1947.

515-Appointment of Deputy Engineer and Manager-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that 64 applications had been received for this appointment and he submitted seven names for interview by the Committee. RESOLVED, That these applicants be interviewed at a special meeting of the Committee on the 23rd January, 1947, at 2.30 p.m.

516-Interruptions of Supply-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on four interruptions of supply during the month of December.

517-Power Tariff-The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report on the existing tariffs for electricity taken for power purposes. He recommended that consideration should be given to a revision of the existing tariff to benefit consumers of energy for motive power. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned for one month and that in the meantime the Borough Electrical Engineer consult the Electricity Commissioners as to the possible affect of the new Electricity Bill on the

proposed alterations, and ascertain whether the Commissioners will be prepared to give consent to the proposed modified tariffs.

A. J. BETTERIDGE, Chairman.

87

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**14th January, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Alderman Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bishop, S. Bendall, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Morris and Strickland.

518—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—(i) J. A. Pye Ltd. (Min. 290)—The Town Clerk submitted further let from Messrs. J. A. Pye Ltd. regarding their offer to build houses for the Council under Circular 92. The Clerk reminded the Committee that Messrs. Pye Ltd. had previously stated that although they could provide the nucleus for supervision they would require craftsmen and labourers locally, according to the speed of progress, They now stated that they had a good staff of bricklayers and other craftsmen who would, if required, be work in Cheltenham. They further pointed out that some of their land upon which they intended to build included in the Compulsory Purchase Order for Hesters Way and they asked that, if the Council would not consider entering into a Contract with them for the erection of houses, the affected portion of the their land should be omitted from the Compulsory Purchase Order.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he had now prepared plans and quantities upon which is was proposed to ask small builders to tender and he was, therefore, in a position to call the proposed conference. It would be possible to invite Messrs. Pye Ltd. to attend this conference.

The Committee were reminded that the Council could either enter into Contracts with small builders for the erection of houses of the Council's own design or for houses of a type which the builder was accustomed to build. RESOLVED, That a conference of interested small builders including Messrs. Pye Ltd. be convened for the 21st January, 1947, with a view to them building either to the Council's own design or to the designs to which they are accustomed, RESOLVED ALSO, That the members of this Committee be invited to attend the conference.

(ii) Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. (Min. 443)-----The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had made representations to the Ministry of Health asking for authority to issue W.B.A. Priority for the 6 houses which had already been commenced. He had set out the position, which was that Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. had been granted licences for the whole of the houses on this estate before instructions were issued to the Council to stop the issue of licences, He had now submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that where licences had been granted for the erection of houses and work had been commenced on the site, the builder was entitled to W.B.A. Priority in respect of all the houses covered by the original licences.

The Town Clerk therefore advised the Committee that W.B.A. Priority should be granted for the remaining 24 houses. This decision would also affect Messrs. Marshall Ltd., who were in a similar position. RESOLVED, That W.B.A. Priority be issued to Messrs. Western Estates Ltd. in respect of the remaining 24 houses at Brooklyn Gardens and also to Messrs. Marshall Ltd. in respect of houses at Hatherley, subject, in each case, to the proposed purchasers being submitted for approval to the Committee, so as to ensure that they are in urgent need of accommodation and are at present living under unsatisfactory conditions.

519--Walker Memorial Church—Read letter from the Hon. Secretary to Walker Memorial Church asking the Council to make good the hedge which had been destroyed during the laying of service pipes, etc. The Borough Surveyor recommended that cleft chestnut fencing be erected along the original line at an estimated cost of £10. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

520—Building Materials and Components—The Town Clerk submitted supplement to the Ministry of Health Circular 76/46.

(a) Copper Sheet Representations had been made that builders were specifying thin gauges of copper sheet not normally in production. The recommendation of the Housing Manual was 24 S.W.G. but 26 S.W.G. could now be accepted. Lower gauges than this should not be specified.

(b) Bricks--In view of the current increase in brick production, instructions contained in previous circular regarding the use of rat trap bond could now be dispensed with. Furthermore, instructions with regard to concrete blocks or bricks to sleeper walls would no longer be applicable in view of the general use of solid ground floors.

Stocks of bricks were now at a low level and it was essential that during the winter large stocks should again be accumulated. Recent advice to local authorities did not imply any relaxation of economy measures but was intended to ensure that supplies of bricks in excess of current needs should be stacked on sites during the winter. This would assist in the maintenance of continuous production at a maximum rate throughout the winter. At the same time economy in the use of bricks was still very necessary.

(c) Electrical Components—Difficulty was being encountered in meeting the demand for electrical component, due in part to the fact that certain makes of fitting were no longer in production or were only produced in small quantities. Insistence therefore upon a specified article was likely to cause unnecessary delay and local authorities were advised to instruct Contractors to accept suitable alternatives in order to obviate delays. Efforts were being made to increase the supply of conduit pipe for housing, but meanwhile local authorities were asked to consider the use of T.R.S. Cable, which was in good supply.

521—Non-traditional Houses (Min. 444)—In consequence of the interview with the Principal Housing Officer a letter had now been received from the Ministry of Health setting out the points upon which agreement had been reached.

(i) It was agreed that "No Fines" should be interspersed with groups of traditional type dwellings on all the sites.

(ii) The Council should approach Messrs. Wimpey for a reduction in their tender on the basis of 500 houses and for a "break clause" to be included in the Contract to operate after the erection of the first 250 houses.

(iii) The Council should approach Messrs. Wimpey with a view to their submitting plans for additional types of houses, one for a south aspect plan and two for north aspect houses. The Town Clerk had communicated accordingly with Messrs. Wimpey Ltd. and expected to have their reply in time for the next meeting of the Committee.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he was experiencing considerable difficulty in obtaining approval to the pay out of Rowanfield Road Site from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, who were also pressing for the submission of an additional design to suit different aspects. He would

be having a further interview and hoped to be in a position to report further to the next meeting of the Committee.

88

522—Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported that intimation had been received that the County Borough of Worcester was included in the area served by the Local Rent Tribunal as from 23rd December, 1946.

523—Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1938—Read letter from the Clerk to the Rent Tribunal reporting an offence under the above Act, i.e. failing to supply a rent book. It was understood that a rent book had now been supplied. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk point out to the owner of the premises concerned that it is an offence not to supply a rent book and that proceedings would be taken in the event of a re-occurrence.

524—Temporary Bungalows—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health that in view of the fact that all the 241 temporary houses had already been erected it was not considered an economical proposition to arrange for the erection of one bungalow on a fresh site. It had, therefore, been necessary to reduce the original allocation from 242 to 241.

525—Arle House—The Establishment Sub-Committee asked if they might use the boiler and some of the radiators removed from Arle House, in connection with the heating installation for 59 Promenade. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Committee raise no objection to the surplus radiators from Marston, Albert Road, being used subject to the Establishment Sub-Committee either purchasing these from the owner or obtaining her consent to their use.

526—Conversion of 1 Royal Crescent—Read letter of the 2nd January from the Ministry of Works in reference to the application made to them for a licence to convert 1 Royal Crescent into a Girls' Hostel and Women's Centre. In view of the present difficult labour position the Ministry asked to know whether this work could be carried out at the present time without detriment to housing and other works of high priority in the district. The cost of the work was estimated at £3,950 which only allowed for the absolute minimum essential work. The Borough Surveyor disclosed an interest in the proposal as an honorary member of the Board. The builders, who were at present engaged on the erection of temporary bungalows in the district, had stated that the under-taking of the contract would not affect this work in any way. A good deal of the work would be of a specialist nature and it was anticipated that two bricklayers would be required to work with the men employed on the steel work for about six weeks, two carpenters would be employed intermittently for three months, two plumbers for two months and four decorators for two months.

The scheme would provide sleeping accommodation for about 30 girls of the working class type who are unable to afford to stay in hotels. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed that the Committee consider there is a great need for the accommodation proposed in the scheme and that in the opinion of the Committee the licence applied for should be issued.

527—Hatherley Camp—The Town Clerk submitted notice from the Ministry of Health that this camp had been declared surplus to the requirements of the War Department and offering it for transfer to the Council. The Borough Surveyor reported that the buildings were dilapidated and in a bad state of repair and unsuitable for housing purposes. The Sub-Committee had also inspected the camp and recommended that no application for transfer should be made. RESOLVED, That as the Committee

do not feel that this camp could be utilized for housing purposes, no application for transfer be made.

528-2, 3 & 4 Orchard Place—Read letter from the Education Committee asking the Committee to consider rehousing the tenants of 2 & 4 Orchard Place, No. 3 being at present vacant, in order that these three cottages, which had been condemned, could be demolished and school canteen for Dunalley Street School erected on the site. The tenants in question were three old ladies. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Estate Management Sub-Committee for consideration.

529-Lynworth Farm-(a) Progress-(i) Scheme 1-The total labour strength on this scheme was now 100 consisting of 43 tradesmen, 44 labourers and 13 apprentices. Ten houses had been completed with the exception of certain minor fittings and it was hoped to hand over eight more at the end of January. Of the remaining 44 houses, 14 had been tiled, eight were ready for tiling and eight more were approaching eaves level.

(ii) Scheme 2-Foundations had been completed for the first 20 houses and 27 men were employed on the scheme including four bricklayers.

(iii) Scheme 3-B.I.S.F. Houses-A total labour force of 65 was now employed on this scheme and it was hoped to hand over a substantial number of houses at the end of March. Supply of materials had improved.

(b) Essential Works Order-The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that application of the Essential Works Order would lapse on Scheme 1 on 30th January and on Scheme 2 on 19th February so that if it was desired to continue its application, renewal should be sought. The Borough Surveyor reported that the application of the Order had increased the total men on these schemes from 115 to 127 but that while about 20 men had been directed by the Ministry of Labour an equal number had left. It was emphasised that bad weather had had an adverse effect and that if improved weather conditions were experienced better results would be obtained. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Works for a renewal of the Scheduling of these two schemes under the Essential Works Order.

(c) Supply of Electrical Components-The Borough Surveyor reported that the contractors were experiencing difficulty in obtaining ceiling switches for bathrooms and suggested as an alternative that wall switches could be fixed outside bathrooms where necessary. RESOLVED, That if ceiling switches are unobtainable wall switches be fixed outside bathrooms at the discretion of the Borough Surveyor.

(d) Scheme 3-(i) Electrical Installation of Steel Houses-Samples of power sockets and lighting switches had been submitted by the sub-contractors and approved by the Borough Electrical Engineer who expressed the opinion that these should be fixed in fire-resisting boxes, this fixing being usual and recommended in the Institute of Electricity Engineering Regulations. Boxes were not provided for in the specification and would work out at about 3s. each, there being seven sockets per house. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inform the Ministry that the Committee considered these boxes should be provided and the cost borne by the Ministry

89

(ii) Fencing----The Bills of Quantities for B.I.S.F. Houses allowed for 19 ½ yds. of chain link fencing, 2ft. high with concrete posts, 23 ½ yds. of chestnut pale fencing 3 ft. 6 ins. high and an oak gate for each house. The Borough Surveyor asked for instructions as to this, since the principle of open fronts with a low kerb and no gates had been decided on for this estate. He was of the opinion that

chestnut fencing was not stout enough for the gardens between the houses and recommended chain link fencing 3 ft. high as was used with the traditional houses, although this would involve extra cost. RESOLVED, (a) That the principle of open fronts with a low kerb and no gate be adhered to for the B.I.S.F. houses.

(b) That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to obtain estimates for the provision of 3 ft. high chain link fencing between the gardens.

530—Building Apprenticeship Schemes—The Borough Surveyor submitted a letter from Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons stating that the five craftsmen instructors employed on the scheme had applied for an increase of 2d. per hour. They were at present receiving 2d. per hour above the standard rate. These extra rates of pay were not laid down but were agreed according to local conditions. It appeared that the average rate was 2d. to 3d. over the district rate.

28 apprentices were engaged on the Chelt Road scheme which equalled five to six per instructor, and did not exceed the number suggested in the National Scheme. It was suggested that an increase of 1d. per hour be granted to bring the rate into line with the average rate throughout the country, although this of course would add to the cost of the scheme. RESOLVED, That an extra 1d. per hour, making a total of 3d. per hour over the standard rate be paid to the craftsmen instructors.

531—Staff—Clerk of Works— Application for an increase in salary was submitted from Mr. E. W. Cooke, Clerk of Works, Lynworth Estate. This officer was appointed in January, 1946, together with Mr. Hughes, at a salary of £7 per week plus war bonus. The Borough Surveyor recommended, in view of his satisfactory service and the fact that in similar appointments salaries of £8 to £10 per week were offered, that an increase of £1 per week should be granted. RESOLVED, That the salaries of Mr. Cook and Mr. Hughes be increased to £8 per week plus cost of living bonus.

532—Licensing—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had received confirmation from the Ministry of Health that the cost of conversion was not included in the ceiling of £1,100 per week allowed for licensed work. Information was received that 15 painters were unemployed and in view of this fact the Borough Surveyor had received authority from the Ministry of Works to grant licences amounting to £1,000 in the next six weeks for painting and decorating to provide work for these men.

533—The Knole, St. Mark's—The Borough Surveyor had approached the Borough Electrical Engineer regarding the provision of separate meters for each of the four single and seven double rooms to be provided at this Home for Old People. Each meter would carry one lighting point, one 15 amp power socket and boiling ring point. All other lighting, power points and electric tubular heaters would be off a general house meter chargeable to the owners. An amended estimate for the electrical work was submitted amounting to £273 17s. 0d., bringing the total estimated cost of the conversion to £709 17s. 0d.

The Electricity Undertaking had offered to hire a G.E.C. double-oven electric cooker suitable for catering for 20-30 persons at a cost of £3 per quarter including free installation and maintenance throughout the hire. They also had eleven boiling rings in stock and wished to know if they should reserve these for use at The Knole.

RESOLVED, (a) That the views of the Old People's Housing Society be obtained as to whether they prefer electric or gas cooking apparatus.

(b) That the Electricity Undertaking be asked to reserve the eleven boiling rings for use at The Knole.

(c) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan for £710, the cost of the works.

(d) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for mortgage for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order and Receipt.

534---Aluminium Permanent Pre-fabricated Houses—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had invited Messrs. Hawksleys to erect a prototype of the two-storey permanent aluminium house on which they were engaged, on a site to be provided by the Council. He was informed that offers had been received from other authorities but was assured that this Council's offer would receive special consideration. RESOLVED, That this proposal be approved.

535—Priors Farm Estate—The Housing Manager drew attention to the three pieces of vacant ground near the main road on this estate in respect of which she had received applications to lease for cultivation. Children played on the ground at present and it was felt that something should be done with regard to fencing. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be asked to submit proposals for these pieces of land.

536--Staff—(a) Telephone Operator—The Housing Manager reported that Miss Bartlett had been appointed Telephone Operator at Glensanda as from 6th January, 1947, at a salary in the General Division in accordance with the establishment.

(b) Students—The Housing Manager reported that when in the past she had two students in the department they had been paid £1 per week after the first three months' probationary period. She now had three students in the department, all of whom had completed their three months' probationary period. and she now asked for instructions of the Committee as to how they should be paid. RESOLVED, That the three students be paid a salary of £1 per week, such payment to be retrospective to the date at which the three months' probationary period had been completed.

537-Temporary Housing Site,—(a) Prestbury Road Site—The Borough Surveyor suggested that a rivet hedge should be planted in front of this site to screen it from Prestbury Road as it was not considered that its present appearance improved this entrance to the town. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be asked to submit proposals with regard to this matter.

(b) Cost of Preparation-The Borough Surveyor submitted statement of the final costs of the preparation of sites at Selkirk Gardens, Prestbury Road, Hales Road, Brighton Road and Dunalley Parade, amounting to £6,209 16s. 9d. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £6,210. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said suns and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

90

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**9th January, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bayliss and Mann ; Mrs. Atherton ; Majors Beale-Brown and Shakspeare ; Messrs. Clegg and Harris.

10th January, 1947. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall & Mann.

538—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or other-wise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town & Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name               | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order                         |
|-------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
| 5981        | Mrs. S. M. Burdett | Garden Shed, Birtle, Sydenham Road South   | Approved   | Approved   |
| 6036        | Miss V. G. Evans   | Conversion of house into 2 flats and 1 maisonette, 2 Spa Buildings, Montpellier Spa Road | Disapproved  | Disapproved  |
| 6037        | F. T. Grant        | Cycle and Garden Shed, 159 Arle Road   | Exempt   | Approved, subject to the erection of a partition indicated on the plan |
| 6038        | V. Percival        | Fruit Shed, The Orchard, The Park  | Approved   | Approved   |
| 6039        | D. G. Moore        | Garage, 10 Wellington Square   | Approved, subject to doors opening inwards   | Approved   |
| 6040        | G. W. Cripps       | Conversion of store rooms into flats, Idminston House, High Street                       | Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and to submission and approval of further details         | Approved   |
| 6041        | Miss E. A. Roberts | Conversion of house into 2 flats and 2 maisonettes, 4 Oxford Parade                      | Approved as in Plan No. 6040 and subject to the basement not being used as a dwelling until re-modelled to the satisfaction of the Public Health Committee | Approved   |
| 6042        | S. Selley & Son    | Greenhouse, Bridge Gardens, Shurdington Road   | Exempt   | Approved   |



|      |                     |   |                              |   |
|------|---------------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| 6043 | Thos. Bugbird & Son | Conversion of ground floor into 2 flats, Ablington, Lansdown Road | Approved as in Plan No. 6040 | Approved, subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building  |
| 6044 | W. T. Minshull      | Conversion of coach-house into cottage, 1 College Lawn            | Approved                     | Approved, subject to sufficient land being attached to conform with the proposed requirements of the Scheme in the event of the premises being sold off separately from the remainder of the property |
| 6045 | G. E. Smith         | Cycle Shed, 157 Arle Road   | Exempt                       | Deferred  |
| 6046 | P. Davis            | Conversion of house into 2 flats, Liddington, Leckhampton Road    | Approved as in Plan No. 6040 | Approved  |
| 6047 | W. J. Moore         | Alterations and extensions, St. Philip's Lodge, 60 Painswick Road | Disapproved                  | Disapproved   |

91

| No. of Plan | Name             | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| 6048        | H. L. Winterson  | Provision of kitchen and renovation of sanitary accommodation, 27 King Street | Disapproved                  | Disapproved                                    |
| 6049        | R. S. Ames       | Nissen hut for use as factory, Leckhampton G.W.R. Goods Yard                  | Disapproved                  | Disapproved                                    |
| 6050        | Sir Roger Hutton | Conversion of out-buildings into cottage, Caynhalti, Lansdown Rd.             | Disapproved                  | Disapproved                                    |

|      |                 |                                   |             |   |
|------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| 6051 | H. R. Hallett   | Garage, Homeside,<br>Pilford Road | Disapproved | Disapproved   |
| 6052 | Lt.-Col. Boutor | Garage, 2 Grafton Road            | Exempt      | Approved  |
| 6053 | A. Gilbert      | Garage, 111 Promenade             | Exempt      | Approved for a period<br>of 2 years from the<br>date of consent |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of<br>Plan | Name                            | Description   | Recommendation under Interim<br>Development Order   |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| T.P.2167       | R. N. H. Williams               | Steel Barn, Staverton Court Farm                              | Approved  |
| T.P.2215       | H. T. Sims                      | Proposed Garage, London Road,<br>Charlton Kings               | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2230       | Messrs. Cleevely<br>and Lippatt | Pair of Semi-detached houses, off<br>Langley Road, Winchcombe | Approved  |
| T.P.2231       | W. A. White                     | Cottage, Moat. Farm, Prestbury                                | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2232       | S. Smith & Sons                 | New Generator Room, Bishops Cleeve<br>(England) Ltd.          | Approved  |
| T.P.2233       | G. E. T. Wiggins                | Proposed Shed,<br>19 Barn Meadow,<br>Winchcombe               | Approved subject to<br>the corrugated iron being<br>painted green or other<br>approved colour |
| T.P.2234       | A. L. McConville                | Proposed Garage, The Willows,<br>Shurdington.                 | Approved  |

539—Development Plans—(a) Pittville Circus Road—Messrs. Rainger and Rogers applied, on behalf of Mr. E. T. Stinchcombe, for the fixing of the building line to land at the junction of Pittville Circus Road and Hewlett Road. RESOLVED, That the building line be fixed at 30 ft. from the boundary of the road and that the siting of any buildings be subject to the Committee's approval.

(b) Manufacture of Concrete Blocks and Slabs, Shurdington—Application was submitted from the Crendon Concrete Co. Ltd. for permission to manufacture concrete blocks and slabs at their existing works on land, formerly owned by the Gloucestershire Tile and Sand Company, for a period of 10 years.

The Gloucestershire Tile and Sand Company in 1936 entered into an agreement to remove certain buildings when the sandpit adjoining the main road was worked out. This sandpit was abandoned some years ago and was now full of water, but the buildings remained. RESOLVED, That representatives of the Crendon Concrete Company be invited to a meeting of the Committee to discuss the matter.

(c) Southam Court, Prestbury Road--Application was submitted from Messrs. Costello and Kemple Ltd. for permission to convert the ground and upper floors of Southam Court into flats, the basement into offices ; and to use the land in the rear as a builders' yard and for the erection of builders' workshops.

The site adjoined an area which it was proposed to schedule for clean, light industry. No new access would be required to the Prestbury Road and the firm proposed to erect a screen for the protection of the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That the conversion of Southam Court into flats and offices be approved in principle, but that final consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of plans. RESOLVED ALSO That the application for the use of the land at the rear of Southam Court as a builders' yard be approved, subject to effective screening from the main road and to the submission and approval of plans of any buildings.

540-Slaughter House-Dunalley Parade--Correspondence between the owners, Messrs. Holliday & Page Ltd., and Messrs. Griffiths Rubber & Plastics Ltd., was submitted in regard to the proposed use of part of the slaughter-house in Dunalley Parade for light engineering purposes. The Planning Officer had inspected the premises and found that a portion of the premises were at present used as a builder's yard by Mr. J. H. Storey, for which no consent had been given. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with Messrs. H. Holliday & Page Ltd on the lines indicated.

92

541--Advertisement Board--Bath and West Show--Letter was submitted from the Charlton Kings Urban District Council forwarding application from the Bath and West Show Publicity Committee for permission to erect a Board near the Holy Apostles Schools, during the months of February, March and April, advertising the Bath and West Show. RESOLVED, That, subject to the siting of the board being approved by the Planning Officer, no objection be raised to the proposal.

542-40 & 42 Brunswick Street (Min. 207)--The Housing Committee have agreed to lease these sites when purchased by the Council, to the Air Training Corps for the erection of huts as temporary headquarters for a period of three years. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, subject to the submission and approval by the Council of detailed plans.

543--Sun Street (Min. 463)----Consideration of the use of these premises for the purpose of a rag and bone dealer was deferred pending consideration by the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE. The premises had now been inspected and the Public Health Committee recommended that the application be granted. RESOLVED, That consent be now given to the change of use for a period of 12 months from date of consent,

544--Temporary Building-34 & 34a North Place (Min. 1442/46)--Consent was given to a temporary building erected by Mr. J. Costello at these premises to remain for a period of 6 months from the 1st July, 1946. The building had not been removed and the Committee's instructions were required. RESOLVED, That, having regard to the application of Messrs. J. Costello & Kemple [Min. 539 (c)] for use of part of Southam Court as a builders' yard, consideration be deferred until the next meeting.

545-7 & 9 Evesham Road (Min. 2156/46)—Reported, that the motor business which had been carried on at the rear of these premises in contravention of the proposed town planning provisions had been discontinued. The premises were, however, still being kept under observation.

546—War-time Erections—The Planning Officer reported that as instructed he had now carried out an inspection of all the buildings which should have been removed under the terms of the agreements within 3 months of the termination of hostilities. The inspection revealed that of 53 buildings approved, 11 had been removed and 6 had reverted to their former use. Of the 35 buildings still remaining, permission had been given to Messrs. Trebel Products to use huts at the rear of Keynsham Bank, High Street, for light industry for a period of 3 years, and six buildings were being used for purposes other than that for which consent was given. RESOLVED, That the owners of the buildings not removed except those in respect of which further consent had been given or which had reverted to their permitted use, be requested to remove the buildings forthwith or alternatively submit application for an extension of the period of consent. ALSO RESOLVED, That as the hutments in Hatherley Lane were now disused and derelict, the owners be requested to remove them forthwith.

547—School Road, Charlton Kings (Min. 183)—Mrs. B. Thorpe, Ewart Villa, Gladstone Road, Charlton Kings, had withdrawn her appeal against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a bungalow on a piece of ground off School Road, Charlton Kings.

548—Development of Agricultural Land (Min. 389)—Letter was submitted from the Cheltenham Rural District Council asking that when the Planning Committee consult the Land Utilisation Officers in connection with interim development applications in areas reserved for rural development in accordance with Circular 28/46, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, the Rural District Councillor for the Parish and Parish Council concerned be also consulted. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be adopted.

549—The Runnings, Swindon—The Town Clerk reported that application had been received from the Meigh High Tensile Alloys Ltd., Alfred St., Gloucester, for a building site of about 2 acres in the Cheltenham area, preferably at The Runnings, Swindon. It had since transpired that the Company were negotiating for a site in the Kingsditch Lane area, which it was also proposed to schedule for industrial purposes. The Company, who carried out work of a highly-specialised nature, were previously in this area. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, and the Public Health Committee be recommended to lease the Company a building site at The Runnings; if required.

550—Alstone Lane—Proposed House—Application was submitted from Mr. G. W. Ward for permission to carry the drainage from two houses on the west side of his development in Alstone Lane into the head of the sewer in Alstone Lane via the gardens of the houses. This constituted a combined drain, and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the sewer in Alstone Lane be extended, and the drainage from the two houses connected separately to the sewer. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved, and that having regard to the probable development on the east side of the road by the Council, the Public Health Committee be recommended that half the cost of the proposed extension be borne by the Council, subject to Mr. Ward contributing the other half of the cost of such extension.

551—Alstone Lane—Garage—A temporary timber garage had been erected at 220 Alstone Lane without consent. The building was within 10ft. of the house and therefore did not comply with the Building Bye-laws. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the building requiring him to

show cause why the building should not be pulled down or removed as being in contravention of the Building Bye-laws.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

93

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**13th January, 1947.** Present—Councillor Green (Chairman); the Mayor ; Alderman Smith, Councillors Addis, y. Bendall, Compton, Midwinter and Waite.

552—Visitors Athletic Ground and Victory Sports Ground. RESOLVED, That Councillor T. Kenneth Waite be appointed visitor of these Grounds.

553—Victory Sports Ground—In October last the Town Clerk had informed the Secretary of the Association Football Club of the difficulties which beset the Committee in carrying out all the work they would like to do at this Ground, but intimated it was the Council's intention to make the ground into a first class one as soon as the labour and supply position rendered this practicable. As instructed by the Committee the Town Clerk had suggested that possibly the Club might themselves be able to get work carried out more easily than the Council, and asked the Club if they had any proposals or suggestions to make which would enable urgent improvements to be carried out to the ground and, if so, to inform the Committee, who would then see if it was possible to authorise the Club to carry out the work. No reply however had been received to this letter and in view of further complaints, at the last meeting of the Committee the Town Clerk was instructed to ask for a reply. He now submitted letters both from the Chairman and Secretary of the Club expressing regret that this letter had been overlooked.

Mr. C. K. Gregory (the Chairman) asked if a large number of loads of clinkers could be supplied and he would endeavour to get sufficient voluntary labour to spread these. Alderman P. T. Smith (Visitor to this ground) reported he had inspected the ground and recommended that loads of clinkers should be provided forthwith. He pointed out that the guard rails had not yet been erected.

RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to have clinkers provided up to a cost of £60 and that he be asked to proceed with the erection of the guard rails without delay. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Club be asked to submit suggestions for any improvements which they consider it possible to carry out during next year without detriment to housing and other high priority work so that consideration may be given to these when the estimates for rate are before the Committee.

554—Athletic Ground—Lavatory Accommodation—Alderman Smith also reported upon the unsatisfactory lavatory accommodation at this ground. The Borough Surveyor stated that some of the difficulties would be overcome when the new lavatories were erected in conjunction with the proposed park for country buses but, in the meantime, he would make an inspection and carry out any necessary work. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

555—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—Schools Canteen (Min. 325)—The Education Officer stated that the Ministry of Education had now approved the provision of a schools canteen including the expenditure involved for the acquisition of the site, but required the District Valuer's report. The Borough Surveyor was undertaking a survey showing the exact area to be acquired by the County Council, RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to approve the area involved and that the Town Clerk obtain the District Valuer's valuation accordingly.

556---Tewkesbury Road Playing Field—Horse Show, 1947—Lieut. Col. Lloyd Harford and Messrs. S. G. Townsend, M. E. Chamberlayne, G. Carpenter and R. C. Castle attended as a deputation from the Horse Show Committee and applied for the use of this ground for this year's Horse Show in August next and for future years. It was pointed out to the deputation that in February, 1946 (Min. 596) the Horse Show Committee were in-formed that the Council would be obtaining full possession of the ground in March, 1947, and that as it was intended to reinstate the cricket pitches and to make full use of the ground for the purpose for which it was acquired, the Committee did not anticipate being able to allow them the use of the field for the 1947 Show in view of the damage which would inevitably be done to the playing pitches. The Gardens Superintendent reported that there was a very big demand from Youth and Sports Clubs for sports facilities, and that if the ground continued to be let for the Horse Show, it would be impossible to prepare and lay out the ground as a Sports Ground.

The deputation were informed that there were other fields around Cheltenham which might be used for the Show, and it was suggested the Horse Show Committee should endeavour to obtain one of the fields being used for the Bath & West Show, and the Committee would endeavour to assist the Horse Show Committee as far as possible. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to recommend the Council to grant the use of the playing field for the Horse Show.

557—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Fun Fairs (Min. 332)—The Entertainments Manager saw no objection to the limitation of fun fairs to not exceeding four weeks in any one year, such period to include time required for erection and dismantling. In normal years there were only two occasions when fun fairs were held, namely Whitsuntide and August Bank Holiday, and the only other events would be in connection with national celebrations or the promotion of festivities in aid of local charities.

(b) August Sports Festival—The application of Messrs. T. B. Phillips Ltd. on behalf of Mr. C. Studt for per-mission to hold a fun fair during August Bank Holiday week had been deferred. The Entertainments Manager had made further enquiries and ascertained that Mr. Studt was willing to offer £50 for the period 1st to 9th August plus two days for erection and two days for dismantling. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to Mr. Studt entering into agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk containing the usual conditions, including payment of a deposit before entry and an undertaking to pay for any damage incurred.

(c) Paddling Pool [Min 333 (a)]—In accordance with this Committee's decision the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had opened the only tender received for the re-construction of this Pool, namely, that of Mr. E. L. Squire amounting to £1,183 9s. 9d. The Borough Surveyor had submitted the same to the War Damage Commission in connection with the Council's claim for compensation.

558—Sandford Park—West of England Ladies' Kennel Society (Min. 328)--The Society asked that in addition to Ow three days of the Show, 20th to 22nd May they be permitted to use the ground on 19th for preparation purposes and 23rd for dismantling. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

94

559—Pittville Gardens and Pump Room—(a) Field Adjoining Marle Hill House--The Military Authorities were pre-pared to release, as from 25th December last, 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres of this field leaving 2  $\frac{1}{4}$  acres still under requisition. The Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent had inspected the site, the major portion of which had been ploughed, and recommended that the surrender be accepted. The Gardens Superintendent proposed to commence work of cleaning the ground so as to

expedite the provision of tennis courts, including a court for tournament play, and other sports facilities as soon as the whole area was released. RESOLVED, (i) That the surrender be accepted.

(ii) That the Military Authorities be asked to indicate their policy in regard to the retention of the remainder of the field and urged to release the same as soon as possible.

(iii) That in view of this Committee's post-war plans for development of this field as a sports area the General Purposes Committee be asked to transfer to this Committee the control thereof.

(b) Badminton (Min. 327)—The application of the Cotswold Badminton Club for the use of the Pump Room on one evening per week (6 to 10 p.m.) for the season had been deferred to enable the Borough Surveyor to consider the suitability of the room, any special lighting required and other matters. The Entertainments Manager saw no objection to the proposal for this season and the Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of adaptations at £15, although no repairs could be undertaken to the floor. With regard to lighting, it was understood that the Club had themselves special lighting equipment formerly used at Alstone Baths and which they had retained. RESOLVED, That the Pump Room be let for badminton for this season at a rental of 7s. 6d. per hour with a minimum charge of £1 per evening, to include the cost of attendance, lighting and heating, the latter by means of an electric radiator, for the players, the Club to provide any special lighting equipment required.

560—King George V Playing Field (Mins. 31 and 292 Housing Committee)—The Housing Committee had acceded to this Committee's application for the allocation of a strip of land to enable the playing field to be squared off at the northern end, and would bear this in mind when the final layout for Rowanfield Road Estate was completed. The Housing Committee had also agreed to this Committee taking surplus soil from the Estate for surface dressing, subject to provision of transport.

561—Promenade--Ornamental Garden—Nos. 99 to 119—The Town Clerk reported that all the owners, with one exception, had agreed to transfer this strip of land to the Council in order that the Council could undertake the lay-out and upkeep thereof. One owner, however, refused to convey his land, but was willing to enter into a Lease, which the Committee did not think would be satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the position be reported to the Street & Highway Committee, and that they be recommended not to proceed with the improvement unless all the owners agree to transfer the strip of land as required.

562—Oxford and Priory Parades (Min. 331)—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan showing the proposed improvement at these Parades, together with his estimate amounting to £265 for the necessary road works. This, with the Gardens Superintendent's estimate of £177 for ornamental lay-out, totalled £442. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve of these estimates with a view to the work being commenced as soon as possible.

563—Winter Garden Site—(a) Parking of Cars—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had considered this Committee's recommendation that parking on the drives, particularly the drive leading from the south side of Imperial Square to the rear of the Town Hall be prohibited to prevent damage to turf. The Entertainments Sub-Committee had, therefore, decided that parking at the rear of the Town Hall be limited to cars belonging to members of the staff or persons connected with Town Hall functions possessing a permit. To prevent parking in the drive it was suggested that barriers might be erected at both ends. Upon consideration, the Committee were of opinion that if the drive was turfed over it would obviate the difficulty. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be instructed accordingly.

(b) Bandstand--The Entertainments Sub-Committee had noted that this Committee had no use for the bandstand in any their parks and recreation grounds and had, therefore, decided that for this season at any rate, the bandstand remain in its present position and that floral decorations be provided. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be instructed accordingly.

564—Preservation of Trees—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during recent months the mutilation or removal of trees growing in privately owned properties had become so prevalent as to cause alarm. Cheltenham and district had a fair collection of specimen trees and whilst the less common species should be preserved, protection should also be afforded to the large forest trees which provide some of the most attractive features of the town. He suggested the Planning Committee should be recommended to exercise their planning powers and make Orders for the preservation of suitable trees and groups of trees. The Parks Department would be willing to provide a schedule of trees which it was desirable to preserve, and were also willing to give advice to owners who were considering the removal or lopping of trees having sylvia cultural and amenity values. RESOLVED, That the Planning Committee be recommended accordingly.

565—Boating—(a) Repairs (Min. 334)—As requested, the Borough Surveyor submitted details of the expenditure incurred on the maintenance and repair of the boats last season.

(b) The Gardens Superintendent submitted report from Mr. J. Sanders of Pershore on time condition of the boats, and as reported by the Borough Surveyor last year, he was of opinion that the great majority of the old boats were in such a condition that the expenditure of further money on repairs was not justified. RESOLVED, That it be left to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to inspect time boats and decide which boats should be scrapped and which repaired, and as to what provision should be made in next year's estimates for the purchase of new boats.

95

566—Transport [Min. 339 (a)]---(a) Lorry- -As instructed, the Gardens Superintendent had obtained quotations for a second-hand lorry. Messrs. Haines and Strange could supply a Bedford vehicle from Government surplus stores, complete with new drop-side body and detachable tilt support with canvas cover for the sum of £372 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That provision therefor being included in next year's estimates. RESOLVED ALSO, That any necessary painting to the coachwork be undertaken by the Borough Surveyor.

(b) Fordson Tractor--The new Fordson tractor ordered many months ago had now been delivered.

567—Purchase of Dumpy Level—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that in connection with landscape constructional works, the purchase of a dumpy level was essential. He submitted estimate from Messrs. Thornton Ltd., for a suitable level at a cost of £34 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the purchase be authorised.

568-Food Production—Sales During the month of December 61 lbs. of tomatoes to the value of £9 6s. 1d. had been supplied to the Town Hall.

W. J. GREEN. Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**17th January, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman); the Mayor; Aldermen Lipson, Smith and Ward; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson; Messrs. Baring and Palmer.



569—Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 7th January (report circulated herewith, together with December monthly return of treatments administered at the Spa Baths).

With regard to Item 2 (b), whilst the Committee fully appreciated the necessity for conserving fuel, they regretted the closing of the Alstone Baths until Easter and were of the opinion that before next winter the possibility of acquiring new and more economical boilers should be explored. RESOLVED, (i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That with regard to Item 2 (b) the Borough Surveyor make enquiries on the lines suggested, and the Sub-Committee report thereon in due course.

(iii) That in view of the closing of the Baths the Borough Treasurer be authorised to make appropriate refunds to season ticket holders.

(iv) That approval be given to the suggestion of the Entertainments Manager that during the Swedish Water Polo Club's English tour from 18th July to 8th August, the Club be invited to Cheltenham for water polo matches and swimming demonstrations, the expenditure, including publicity and other matters, not to exceed £100, such sum being off-set by the receipts anticipated.

570-Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 8th January (report circulated herewith).

With regard to Item 6, the Committee considered the continuance of the morning quartet in view of the numbers attending.

The Entertainments Manager also reported upon his discussions with the Musical Director in regard to the period during which the summer orchestra should perform and the difficulties of arranging concerts during the Music Festival. RESOLVED, (i) That with regard to the period during which the summer orchestra shall perform, the portion of Item 6 relating thereto be referred back to the Sub-Committee for further consideration in the light of the information now submitted.

(ii) That the report, as amended, be approved and adopted.

(iii) That with regard to Item 6, the Entertainments Manager communicate with local hoteliers pointing out the amenities which the Council endeavour to provide at the Town Hall by means of a morning quartet and the possibility of the same being discontinued unless greater patronage is extended thereto.

571-Advertising Sub-Committee—The Advertising Sub-Committee met on 13th January (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That in regard to Item 7, relating to the Sub-Committee's estimated expenditure for 1947, it be suggested that when placing advertisements in the national press and other publications in connection with the Music Festival, an opportunity be taken of including therein additional information relating to the principal attractions and amenities of the town.

572-Town Hall-Staff—The Labour Sub-Committee at their meeting on 9th January had before them representations made by the National Union of General & Municipal Workers relating to the Town Hall staff. The Sub-Committee had recommended that, for the purpose of increasing efficiency and for the welfare of the staff, this Committee should consider the institution of a three-shift system for male workers and attendants. The Entertainments Manager reported that he had discussed the position with the staff, and the Union's Organiser had subsequently had conversations with him when it was suggested that the matter might be deferred to enable further consideration to be given

thereto. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred' accordingly and that the Entertainments Sub-Committee be asked to report thereon.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

96

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**13th January, 1947**, Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman), Alderman Waite, Councillors Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner and Strickland.

573—Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements, 53 Hewlett Road, 10 Montpellier Villas, Heath Lodge, Pittville Circus Road, 5 Albert Place, 12 Oxford Parade, Wellington House, Wellington Street, 9 Montpellier Grove, 10 Sydenham Villas Road--The Committee further considered the question of making closing orders in respect of the above-mentioned basements. The owners, or their representatives, attended in respect of 53 Hewlett Road, 10 Montpellier Villas, Heath Lodge, Pittville Circus Road, 5 Albert Place and 12 Oxford Parade. Correspondence was sub-mitted from the owners of Wellington House, Wellington Street and 10 Sydenham Villas Road. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied, or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than stores, or domestic purposes.

(ii) Basement, 35 Clarence Square—Solicitors to the owner of this property asked that consideration of the making of an order in respect of this basement be deferred, to enable them to discuss the matter with their client. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting and that in the meantime the Standing Sub-Committee re-inspect the basement.

(iii) Basement, 26 Priory Street--The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the basement at these premises had been re-let in contravention of a Closing Order made on 12th April, 1937. A warning letter had been sent to the owner of the property, Mr. R. H. R. Middleton, but the basement was still occupied. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to institute legal proceedings under Section 14 of the Housing Act, 1936, against the owner of the premises for permitting the use of the premises in contravention of such order.

(iv) Basements, 53 Rodney Road, 17 Royal Parade, 14 Portland Terrace, 4 Belle Vue Place—The Standing Sub-Committee reported on their inspection of the above basements and reports of the Chief Sanitary Inspector were submitted. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above-mentioned parts of the said buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said parts of the said buildings, and the mortgagees, if any, that the conditions of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of this Committee on the 10th February, 1947.

574—Public Lavatories—Signs—Circular S.W.D. 46/47, Ministry of Transport, was submitted, stating that consideration had been given to the question of standardising direction signs to public lavatories, and that a ruling had been obtained that such signs were traffic signs as defined in Section 48 (9) of the Road Traffic Act, 1930. Particulars of the sign which should be used were forwarded with the circular.

575--National Smoke Abatement Society—RESOLVED, That the annual subscription of £4 4s. 0d. be renewed for the ensuing year.

576—Central Council for Health Education—Application was submitted for a renewal of the annual subscription and the Council asked to consider in view of the work carried out by the Association contributing upon a basis of 10s per 1,000 population. The present subscription was increased from £5 5s. 0d. to £10 10s. 0d. last year. RESOLVED, That the subscription of £10 10s. 0d. be renewed for the ensuing year.

577—Sewage Works—Overhead Electricity Lines (Min. 822)—A wayleave was granted in March, 1946, for the erection of 7 poles at the Hayden Knoll Farm at 2s 6d per pole, although 8 poles and 3 stays had been erected. RESOLVED, That as the normal payment for a wayleave was 1s per pole or stay per annum, a wayleave be now granted for 8 poles and 3 stays at 1s per pole or stay, and that Min. 822/46 be varied accordingly.

578—Labelling of Food Order, 1946—This Order, which revoked and substantially re-enacted in consolidated form, the Labelling of Food (No. 2) Order, 1944, was submitted. Attention was drawn in particular to an extension of the labelling requirements relating to intoxicating liquors sold in bottles.

579—Dairies---Siting (Min. 162)—The Committee considered a suggestion of the Planning Committee with reference to the future siting of dairies. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that in view of the proposed statutory requirement that all milk should be heat-treated and the cost of installing apparatus necessary for such treatment, it would undoubtedly be to the advantage of all concerned, for the small dealers to amalgamate, as has already been done in certain other districts, to provide such apparatus. RESOLVED, That a joint meeting be held of this Committee and representatives of the Dairymen's Association and the Planning Committee to discuss the matter-

580—Diphtheria Immunisation—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon Diphtheria Immunisation treatment during the month of December :— -

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| No. of new cases (immunisation commenced)                            | 16  |
| “ injections given   | 116 |
| “ cases in which treatment was completed during the month (Total 99) |     |
| (a) Under 5 years of age   | 96  |
| (b) Aged 5-15 years  | 3   |
| Schick Tests   | —   |

Clinics were held as follows :—

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| School Clinic                          | 2   |
| Report on Birthday Letters—            | 228 |
| No. of letters sent during the quarter | 101 |
| “ replies received ...                 | 105 |

Total number of children immunised under the Borough Scheme, since its commencement 9,827

581—Sewer--Kingsditch Lane (Min. 368)—The Borough Surveyor reported that the tender of Messrs. A. C. Billings and Co. for the construction of a 9" sewer in Kingsditch Lane amounted to £1,191 4s. 0d. The contributions due from the developers of the two factory sites were £455 and £71, and the Cheltenham Rural District Council were contributing £185, making a total of £711, leaving a balance of £480 towards which this Council had agreed to contribute £185. He recommended that the reinstatement of the carriageway be undertaken by the Council with a resultant saving of approximately £80, leaving a sum of £400 outstanding. The Borough Surveyor referred to the probable industrial development on land in this road within the Borough area, and he considered developers would be attracted to the area if it could be shown that sewers and other services were available. In these circumstances he recommended that the Committee should consider bearing the outstanding sum of £400, which included the sum of £185 which the Council had previously agreed to bear. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved, and that Mins. No. 84 (ii) and 368 be varied accordingly.

582—Sewage Works—(i) Mr. H. Barnett—The Borough Surveyor recommended that in view of the work carried out by Mr. H. Barnett, he should be designated " Sewage Works Foreman," and that his wages be increased from £3 to £3 6s. 0d. per week, plus £1 14s. 0d. cost of living bonus. In addition, Mr. Barnett was also allowed a house rent free. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(ii) Hayden Sewage Works—Houses—The Borough Surveyor reported that the two houses at the works had no hot water supply and recommended that " Rolyat " tanks, with back boilers, be installed in the houses. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain estimates for the carrying out of this work.

583—Land, The Runnings (Min. 549)—The Committee considered the report of the Planning Committee, in regard to the leasing of a piece of land at The Runnings, to Messrs. Meigh High Tensile Alloys, Ltd. It was reported that the firm were now negotiating for a factory site in Kingsditch Lane. RESOLVED, That in the event of the firm requiring a factory site at The Runnings, the Town Clerk negotiate with the Company.

584—Public Health Art, 1936—(i) Nos. 17 and 19 Royal Parade--Sewer (Min. 1617/46)—The Boroughs Surveyor reported that the work of connecting No. 17 Royal Parade to the sewer at the rear of the premises had now been completed at a cost of £64 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the account be paid.

(ii) Alstone Lane—Sewer ( Min. 550)—The Committee considered Min. (Planning Committee) recommending that in view of the probable development of land on the east side of this road by the Council, half the cost of the proposed extension of the sewer be borne by the Council. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(iii) Cleevemount Estate—Water Course [Min. 365 (c)]—The Boroughs Surveyor reported that the owner of No, 1 Cleevemount Road had now removed the obstructions in the water course at his

premises and the course had been cleaned out. This has alleviated a certain amount of the trouble, and he proposed to carry out the regrading of the course as soon as the weather was more suitable.

(iv) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon certain defects at 10 Upper Bath Street. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the property under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of such notice.

(v) The following statutory notices had not been complied with 42 Townsend Street, " Oulton" Suffolk Street, 4 Burton Street. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised, in the event of the notices not being complied with, to institute legal proceedings:

(vi) Dustbins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 27 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, upon the owners of the following properties requiring them to provide regulation dustbins for such premises :—

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 13a Russell Place | Moreton Cottage, Mitre Street. |
| 14        "       | Linden Cottage, Mitre Street.  |
| 15        "       | 23 Exmouth Street.             |
| 16        "       | 3 Fairfield Parade.            |
| 17        "       | Rissington, Croft Street.      |
| 10 Fairhaven Road | 7 Hermitage Street.            |

(vii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owners of 27 St. James Street and Vine Tree Cottage had not complied with the statutory notices given to provide regulation dustbins for these premises. RESOLVED, That new dustbins be provided by the Council, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to recover the expenses incurred from the owners thereof in pursuance of S. 75, Public Health Act, 1936.

(viii) (a) Verminous Premises-9 Victoria Place, Bath Road—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted certificate that these premises which were used for human habitation were in a verminous condition. RESOLVED, That notice under S. 83, Public Health Act, 1936, be served upon the occupiers of these premises requiring them to take such steps as were necessary for the purpose of destroying or removing the vermin.

(b) Verminous Articles-9 Victoria Place, Bath Road—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted certificate that certain articles at these premises were verminous. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector be authorised to have these articles cleansed, purified, disinfected or destroyed, as required in pursuance of S. 84, Public Health Act, 1936.

(ix) Common Lodging Houses—Inspections—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that night visits had been made to the Rowton and Shamrock Common Lodging Houses, Grove Street. The registers were properly entered and the premises were found to be satisfactory.

98

585—Public Conveniences—Marle Hill Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that tenders had been invited for the supply and delivery of a three persons Slab Urinal Range. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be authorised to open tenders and accept the most favourable tender.

586—Public Abattoir—Sheep Paddock—Reported, that the General Purposes Committee had agreed on the recommendation of the Chief Sanitary Inspector to transfer a strip of land at the Public Abattoir for use as a sheep paddock.

587—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon Samples Nos. 830-843 (butter, rennet, coffee, etc.), all of which were satisfactory.

588—Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938—(a) RESOLVED, That the following licences be granted for the period ending December, 1947, subject to the provisions of the Order.

(i) Mr. G. F. Gratton, Bayshill Dairy and the Gloucestershire Dairy Co., Ltd., for dealers' licence authorising the use of the special designation " Pasteurised in relation to milk retailed by them in the Borough.

(ii) The Gloucestershire Dairy Co., Ltd., for a dealers' licence authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested " in relation to milk sold by them at the Gloucestershire Dairy Co., Ltd.

(iii) Mr. G. F. Gratton and the Gloucestershire Dairy Co., Ltd., for licences to use designation " Pasteurised in relation to milk treated by them at 249 Swindon Road and the Gloucestershire Dairy depot in Imperial Lane respectively.

ALSO RESOLVED, That a supplementary licence be granted to Mr. E. Chamberlayne, Home Farm, to use the designation " Accredited " in relation to milk retailed by him in the Borough.

589—Whitehall Farm (Min. 1866)—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee giving an approximate estimate for the necessary repairs, alterations, etc., to the farm-house and buildings of this farm amounting to £2,273 0s. 0d. The Town Clerk reported that the re-decoration of the house, repairs to barn and roofs of buildings, and fences amounting to £249 would not be eligible for loan sanction, and should be met out of revenue, and he recommended that application be made for a loan sanction for the remainder of the work amounting to £2,024, The Borough Surveyor reported that the work would be carried out by direct labour under the control of the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee, with the exception of the water supply estimated at £388, which would be carried out by contract, towards which they would contribute 50% of the cost, namely £194. The Borough Surveyor reported that the proposed work appeared to be satisfactory and he recommended that the proposals be approved. The works were as follows :

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Re-decoration of House   | £94         |
| Alterations to House, including internal plumbing                  | £280        |
| Drainage   | £180        |
| Repairs to barn and roofs of buildings ...                         | £100        |
| Alterations to cowshed, open shed and Bull's box, dairy and stable | £1,010      |
| Concreting and stoning of yards.                                   | £300        |
| Fencing  | £55         |
| Stoning of forecourt ...   | £60         |
| Water supply to fields, house and buildings                        | £388        |
| Less 50% ...   | <u>£194</u> |
|  | <u>£194</u> |
|  | £2,273      |

The Council had previously agreed to the requisitioning of this property being retained by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee, and to their carrying out the work required at their own expense. If this work was carried out by the Council; the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee were pre-pared to de-requisition the property, and the Council would therefore receive £327 12s. 0d. rent instead of £294 12s. 0d. In addition the Council were entitled to payment of interest on the loan by the tenant for improvements carried out, and consideration of this should be deferred, and based on the actual loan charges, when these are received.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Council carry out the repairs and improvements in accordance with the estimate submitted, and the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee be requested to de-requisition the property, and that Minute No. 1866 be varied accordingly.

(ii) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan for the carrying out of improvements and alterations amounting to £2,024, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for this sum, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(iii) That the fixing of payment of interest on the loan by the tenant be deferred until the amount of the loan charges is known.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

99

#### WATER COMMITTEE.

**14th January, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); the Mayor; Aldermen Trye and Waite, Councillors Addis, Green and Midwinter.

590—Borough Engineer's Report—(a) The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of December was read:—

| DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS | For month ended     | Average for          |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Springs                | 31st December, 1946 | corresponding period |
|                        |                     | during past 3 years  |
| Hewletts Spring        | 352,000             | 230,000              |
| Dowdeswell             | 3,929,000           | 2,262,000            |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 104,000,000 gallons

(b) Statistics—The Borough Engineer submitted the undermentioned statistics relating to supplies and consumption during the past four years. He also reported that the quantity of water drawn from Churchdown for the five weeks ended 6th January amounted to 49,620,000 gallons and for Tewkesbury for the same period 14,813,000 gallons. The total quantity of water purchased from the Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1st January, 1946, totalled 523,070,000 gallons and for Tewkesbury 125,358,000 gallons. The average consumption for December was 3,241,000 gallons per day.

#### AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION 1943-1946

| Source                 | 1943      | 1944      | 1945      | 1946      |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Churchdown             | 1,512,000 | 2,104,000 | 1,856,000 | 1,774,000 |
| Tewkesbury Area        | 330,000   | 541,000   | 550,000   | 456,000   |
| Total from Joint Board | 1,842,000 | 2,645,000 | 2,406,000 | 2,230,000 |
| Northfield             | 187,000   | 67,000    | 128,000   | 155,000   |
| Dowdeswell             | 679,000   | 338,000   | 606,000   | 781,000   |
| Sandford               | 163,000   | 138,000   | 133,000   | 141,000   |
| Total                  | 2,871,000 | 3,188,000 | 3,273,000 | 3,307,000 |

PERCENTAGE SUPPLIED FROM EACH SOURCE

| Source                 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Churchdown             | 53   | 66   | 57   | 53   |
| Tewkesbury Area        | 11   | 17   | 17   | 14   |
| Total from Joint Board | 64   | 83   | 74   | 67   |
| Northfield             | 8    | 2    | 4    | 5    |
| Dowdeswell             | 22   | 11   | 18   | 24   |
| Sandford               | 6    | 4    | 4    | 4    |
| Total                  | 100  | 100  | 100  | 100  |

591—Work Completed During the Month—The Borough Engineer reported that during December 420 inspections had been undertaken when Inspectors had found eight defective flush boxes, 36 leaking taps, two defective stop taps and eight burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 66 draw taps ; 12 notices had been served upon owners ; 39 houses were connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 23 supplies disconnected ; and seven meters fixed or changed. With regard to general maintenance work 570 yards of new main had been laid at the Lynworth Housing Estate and Priors Park Estate, Tewkesbury and also in Badgeworth Road. A number of mains and sluices had been repaired and new sluice valves and hydrants fixed ; mains had also been washed out and hydrants inspected at Staverton, The Barrow, Boddington, Pittville, All Saints', Prestbury, Tivoli and other places.

592—Rural Water Supplies (Min. 342)—The Town Clerk reported that he had recently interviewed officers of the Ministry of Health with a view to seeing if it was possible to expedite approval of the Council's schemes for the extension of water mains in the rural areas, and in particular, in view of the representations made by the Rural District Council, to urge approval of the scheme for supplying Leckhampton Hill. He had also discussed the question of the difficulties which beset the Committee in obtaining the necessary wayleaves in respect of the main laid by the Ministry of Works from the foot of the hill to the Ullenwood Camp and which it was essential should be transferred to the Council.

With regard to the Council's application for grant under the Rural Water Supplies Act, 1944, the Ministry have reached the conclusion that in view of the smallness of the burden which would be imposed on the rates. the cost might reasonably be met from local resources, and in the circumstances they were not prepared to make a grant.

With regard to Schemes Nos. 1 & 2, in respect of the Parishes of Down Hatherley, Norton, Forthampton, Chaceley, Tirley and Hasfield, the Minister was prepared to recommend approval of these schemes subject to information being furnished as to the Council's proposals for carrying out



the work. The Minister would require the schemes to be programmed so as to avoid, as far as possible, any labour difficulties. The Minister noted it was proposed to carry out a portion of the work by direct labour, and with regard to the portion to be carried out by contract, the Minister asked for a list of tenders to be submitted.

With regard to Scheme No. 3 (Leckhampton Hill) the Minister was proposing to approach the War Department direct with a view to completion of the negotiations for the purchase of the site of the Ullenwood water tower and permanent easements for the main. RESOLVED, (a) That the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer be instructed to furnish to the Ministry the information now required. Its then,

100

(b) That the Town Clerk inform the Ministry of the Council's disappointment and dismay that their application for grant under the Rural Water Supplies Act had not been granted.

(c) That application be made to the County Council for a grant under the Public Health Acts towards the cost of carrying out these rural extensions.

(d) That the Borough Engineer be instructed to obtain tenders for such portion of the works as he proposes should be carried out by contract.

593—Supply to Cleeve Station (Min. 1944/46)—The Cheltenham Rural District Council asked for the Council's decision upon their application for the laying of a 6" main from the Borough System near the Racecourse, in order that they might take a bulk supply for the locality of Bishops Cleeve. The proposal to lay a main along Evesham Road as far as the Newlands would form part of the Rural District Council's comprehensive water scheme now before the Ministry of Health and it was therefore desirable that discussions should reach an advanced stage at an early date.

The Town Clerk had since obtained further information upon the proposal and had ascertained that it was intended that the new main should supplement the resources of the Bishops Cleeve area and enable the Rural District Council to supply the L.M.S. Railway Company at Cleeve Station, This supplement the Rural District Council had always considered a necessity and various proposals had, in the past, been considered. They felt that the position could best be met by a bulk supply from the Council through the new main mentioned and provision had therefore been included in their post-war schemes.

With regard to terms it was suggested that these be based upon the charges made to the Rural District Council for the Ashchurch supply, namely, 1s. 3d. per thousand gallons for the first 1,500,000 gallons per quarter and 1s. 0d. per thousand gallons for water consumed beyond that quantity, thus enabling the Rural District Council to charge the Railway Company 1s. 6d. per thousand gallons, reduced to 1s. 3d. upon the same basis.

The Borough Engineer had previously reported that from discussions with representatives of the Railway Company it appeared that their scheme for a supply at Cleeve Station was not likely to materialise for many years and therefore the matter had not been proceeded with. Subject, however, to certain safeguards he saw little reason why the supply should not be afforded subject to agreement as to the terms. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be asked to meet representatives of the Rural District Council to discuss the scheme and terms and report further thereon.

594—Mains Extensions—The Ministry of Health had authorised under Regulation 56a of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, the laying of the following mains, subject to details of controlled materials being furnished :—

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Mill Lane, Prestbury           | £200 |
| Moorend Road, Charlton Kings   | £230 |
| New Court Road, Charlton Kings | £850 |
| Gloucester Road                | £75  |

The Borough Engineer stated that he proposed to undertake the work by direct labour and would furnish the Ministry with the information required.

595—Redwood Spring—The Borough Engineer reported upon circumstances resulting in the Redwood Spring main being opened slightly thus permitting water to reach the Dowdeswell Filter House and possibly the town's supply and the steps taken to prevent a recurrence. He proposed to valve off the Redwood main in the Filter House yard and make a direct connection into the Raw Water Tank in the Filter House. This would bring the spring water to the filters for filtration without being passed through the Reservoir and if the proposal was approved the spring would continue to supply certain properties at Dowdeswell. The Medical Officer of Health would undertake periodical analyses and keep the supply under observation, RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

596—Motor Transport—(a) In August last it was found necessary for the Bedford light van purchased in 1939 to undergo extensive repairs and considerable mechanical replacements had been necessary at a total cost of £148 17s. 6d. The Borough Engineer stated that in normal times this expenditure would not have been justified and he would have recommended the acquisition of a new vehicle. As it was imperative for the Department to have a light van and as a suitable replacement van could not be obtained for possibly two years, there appeared no alternative but to have the present van overhauled and reconditioned. RESOLVED, That the expenditure be approved.

(b) Lorry—The Borough Engineer submitted report on the Morris 2-ton tipping lorry purchased in 1937 which needed extensive and costly repairs and replacements and he recommended that a new long wheel base vehicle be acquired. The vehicle would be put to considerable use in connection with the Council's schemes for main laying. The Street and Highway Committer were about to purchase certain lorries and the question of standardisation and the selection of a suitable type of vehicle would come before them at their next -meeting. RESOLVED, That a new lorry be acquired for the Water Department and with a view to standardisation of transport a similar make be purchased to that selected by the STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

597—Staff—(a) Superintendent—The Superintendent (Mr. H. C. Bosworth) was due to retire on the 23rd December next and the Borough Engineer proposed to promote the Deputy Superintendent (Mr. W. H. Stanley) to the position and he recommended that an Assistant Superintendent then be appointed to fill the vacancy. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved.

(b) Chief Water Inspector—The Chief Water Inspector (Mr. A. E. Stroud) retired on 31st December last, having completed twenty-three years' service and Mr. E. Wood, who had been engaged in April last as Deputy Chief Inspector with a view to succeeding Mr. Stroud, had been promoted accordingly. His salary was at the rate of £4 15s. 0d. per week, rising by two annual increments of 5s per week plus war-wage increase and uniform, and the Borough Engineer recommended that in view of his additional duties he receive, as from 1st January, last, the increment which would

normally become due in April next. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendation be approved.

101

(c) Additional Inspector—The Borough Engineer recommended the appointment of an additional Inspector at a wage similar to that received by the Chief Inspector mentioned in the preceding minute. He proposed to review the position upon the Superintendent's retirement. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to make a further appointment upon the terms mentioned.

598—South Midlands Joint Industrial Council—This Council had forwarded a recommendation in regard to the implementation of the increased National war wage award from 28s. to 32s. per week as from the first full pay week in January, 1947. The recommendation had, in accordance with the Council's instructions, been applied to the employees concerned. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

599—Analyses—The Medical Officer of Health submitted satisfactory analyses upon the Tewkesbury and Dowdeswell supplies.

600—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**15th January, 1947.** Present—Councillors Gardner (Chairman), Bayliss, Bettridge,, Brown, Carter, Compton, Green, Grimwade and Yeend; Mesdames Booy, Grist, Hopkins and Mellersh, and Miss Tinson.

601—Appointment of Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Gardner be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

602—Nurseries Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the following do constitute this Sub-Committee for the ensuing year, namely, the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Carter, Gardner and Green ; Mesdames Booy, Hopkins, Mellersh and Wood ; Misses Oswell and Tinson, and Miss Hurford, H.M.I.

603—Home Helps Sub-Committee---RESOLVED, That the following do constitute this Sub-Committee for the ensuing year, namely, Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Brown and Grimwade ; Mesdames Mellersh and Wood.

604—Fees Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the following do constitute this Sub-Committee for the ensuing year, namely, Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Bayliss and Bettridge, Mrs. Mellersh.

605—Health Visitors—(a) The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors :—

|   | Quarter,<br>30th December | Year 1946 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|
| No. of Children on Register ... ..  | 4,409                     | 5,841     |
| “ Un-notified live births discovered when<br>checked with Registrar's Returns | 16                        | 47        |
| “ Home visits paid by Health Visitors :                                       |                           |           |
| (a) 1 year and under  | 2,094                     | 7,260     |
| (b) Over 1 year . . . . .   | 2,340                     | 8,800     |
| “ First visits paid by Health Visitors ...                                    | 341                       | 1,162     |
| “ Ante-natal cases visited by Health Visitors :                               |                           |           |
| (a) New ... ..  | 118                       | 341       |
| (b) Return ..   | 17                        | 161       |
| “ special visits to mothers ... ..  | 182                       | 818       |
| “ Chicken-pox cases visited by Health Visitors                                | 48                        | 60        |
| “ Measles do.   | 1                         | 8         |
| “ German Measles do.  | 2                         | 2         |
| “ Whooping-cough do   | 54                        | 78        |
| “ Mumps do.   | 2                         | 19        |
| “ Ophthalmia Neonatorum do.   | —                         | —         |
| “ Scarlet Fever do.   | —                         | 1         |
| “ attendances of Health Visitors at Centres                                   | 93                        | 345       |
| “ Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C. ... ..   | 2                         | 4         |
| “ Pemphigus cases visited by Health Visitors                                  | —                         | 1         |

(b) Children's Act.

(7 visits)

|  | Health Visitors | School Nurses |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| No. of Children on Register at end of year     | 76              | 12            |
| “ Children on Register at end of quarter ...   | 76              | 12            |
| “ Foster-mothers on Register at end of quarter | 20              | 11            |
| “ Visits paid under Children's Act ...         | 87              | 11            |

102

606—Cheltenham infant Welfare Association—Quarterly Report. Read, report for the quarter ended 31st December, 1946. Sir Eric Stuart Taylor had resigned from the post of Medical Officer to the Baker Street Infant Welfare Centre, a position he had held for 14 years. His unfailing patience and tact had been a tremendous help to all, and he would be very much missed. The attendance at the Centres had been as follows : —

|                               | Infants | Toddlers |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|
| At Highbury (13 meetings) ... | 549     | 257      |
| At Bethesda (12 meetings) ... | 479     | 238      |
| At St. Mark's (12 meetings)   | 498     | 191      |
| At Baker Street (12 meetings) | 435     | 190      |
| At Whaddon (12 meetings)      | 455     | 205      |

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Sir Eric Stuart Taylor this Committee's appreciation and thanks for the excellent services rendered by him.

607—Gynaecological Clinic—The Medical Officer of Health reported that 7 Clinics had been held, and the total number of attendances was 44, including 29 Borough patients.

608—Midwives Acts—(a) Medical Attendance—The Medical Officer of Health reported the total amount of Doctors' fees claimed for the period 1st April to 31st December, 1946, was £84 4s. 6d., of which £33 19s. 6d. was charge-able to patients.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances regarding the fee of £2 15s. 0d. in the case of an unmarried mother who was over 21 years of age. RESOLVED, That she be asked to pay the amount due by weekly instalments.

(c) A request had been received from Mrs. Walter for permission to take an old friend for her confinement. The friend lived- in a very inconvenient flat, and Mrs. Walter would only receive out of pocket expenses. RESOLVED, That permission be granted.

(d) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances of a case where assistance had been requested in payment of a private midwife's fee. RESOLVED, That no assistance be given.

609—Sunnyside Maternity Home—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances of a special case of an unmarried mother, under 21, whose father was unable to pay the full fee of £10 10s. 0d. The assessment, based on the father's income, was £6 2s. 6d. RESOLVED, That an assessment of £6 2s. 6d. be made, and that the father be asked to pay this amount at the rate of 10s a month.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances regarding two special cases where amounts were still outstanding. RESOLVED, That the amounts due, namely £15 10s. 0d. and £7 2s. 6d. respectively, be written off.

(c) The Medical Officer of Health reported that owing to the increased number of bookings with resultant pressure of work, it was necessary to obtain extra clerical assistance. The former clerk had been shared with the School Medical Department, but the Education Committee had now appointed this clerk full time for that Department, and in view of the increasing amount of work, it was necessary for a whole-time clerk to be appointed for the Maternity and Child Welfare work. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to agree to the appointment of a Junior Clerk (General Division).

610—Children Act--The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers for registration and recommended the maximum number of children allowed should be as follows:-

| Name             | Address                       | Maximum number of children allowed |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mrs. Walker ...  | The Rowans, Shurdington Road  | 20                                 |
| Mrs. M. B. Deeks | Hurst House, Malvern Road ... | 1                                  |
| Mrs. Babbage     | 115 Whaddon Road ...          | 1                                  |
| Mrs. Browning    | 32 Clyde Crescent             | 1                                  |
| Mrs. Finch       | 58 Severn Road                | 1                                  |
| Mrs. Attwell     | ... 46 Mersey Road ...        | 1                                  |

RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

611—Registration of Children's Nursery—Application was submitted from Mr. and Mrs. Walker for registration of The Rowans, Shurdington Road, which they had opened as a Nursery in November, 1946, for approximately 20 children aged 18 months to 15 years. The children under 9 years of age came within the provisions of the Infant Life Protection sections of the Public Health Act, 1936, and their admission had been notified in the usual way. Mrs. Walker was a trained Nurse, and was engaging a satisfactory staff. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

612—Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever Regulations—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted accounts for treatment of two cases by a special nurse provided by the Victoria Home amounting to 13s 6d and £1 7s. 6d. respectively. RESOLVED, That these accounts be passed for payment.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health increased that owing to the increase in fees for general district visits, the District Nursing Association had, without previous notification, increased the fee for attending cases of puerperal pyrexia from 1s 6d to 2s 6d. RESOLVED, That this increase be approved, but that the Town Clerk communicate with the Association asking that future increases in fees be not made without prior consultation with the Committee.

613—Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases—The Medical Officer of Health submitted account for treatment of one case in the General Hospital amounting to 14s 4d. RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

103

614—Dentistry -The Medical Officer of Health submitted a report on the work carried out by the School Dentist during the quarter ended 31st December, 1946.

615—Account for Penicillin----A request was submitted from a Doctor for payment of his account for treatment in a private case and the use of penicillin. The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances, from which it appeared there was no liability on the Council in the matter. RESOLVED, That no payment be made.

616--Home Helps Service—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted report of the work done during the past quarter. 80 cases were assisted, and 488 visits made. There were now nine whole-time and 3 part-time Home Helps. Two new Home Helps had been engaged during the quarter, but one had had to be dismissed for unreliability and the other had resigned. Two other Home Helps had also resigned. Assistance had been given in three cases of tuberculosis, but the only Home Help willing to give such assistance had now left. The amount collected during the quarter was £121 13s. 9d., which included extra payments made by four people in appreciation of the service. RESOLVED, That efforts be made to obtain more Home Helps.

(b) Home Helps Organiser—Miss Langford had met with an accident, and would be away several weeks. Mrs. Pihlens, part-time clerk, was carrying on in her absence and working full-time when necessary. She was using her husband's car to enable her to carry out her duties, and the Medical Officer of Health recommended she be paid a temporary allowance of 4 ½ d. per mile, plus cost of petrol.. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(c)Badges----The Home Helps Organiser had suggested that Home Helps should be provided with badges consisting of the initials " C.H.H.S." embroidered on cloth. It was felt, however, that a brooch badge bearing the words " Home Helps Service " would be more suitable. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to obtain a supply of such badges.

617—Cleft Palate and Hare Lip—The Medical Officer of Health reported on a case admitted to the City General Hospital, for treatment by a Plastic Surgeon. The fees were £4 12s. 9d. per week, but the period of treatment had not been stated. It was felt the fees were somewhat high, and it was RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned for further enquiries to be made as to the fees and length of time involved, but that in the mean-time treatment should continue.

618—Orthopaedic Scheme—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic during the quarter. The number of children on the Register was 270, of which 124 were chargeable to the Education Committee in respect of which 4 Surgeons' consultations had been held ; 150 were chargeable to this Committee, in respect of which 44 Surgeons' consultations had been held.

(b) Hospital charges—The Medical Officer of Health submitted account for treatment of 40 out-patients amounting to £1 including 40 attendances at 6d. In four cases special splints had been supplied. RESOLVED, That this account be paid.

619—Adoptions---The Medical Officer of Health reported the Committee was represented at the Cheltenham Court in connection with 9 cases, of which 7 were Borough cases.

620—Health Visitors--Miss Tatlow (Min. 2145)--(i) The Town Clerk reported as to the difficulty which had arisen in regard to calculating Miss Tatlow's salary. Under the Rushcliffe Scale, Miss Tatlow was entitled to be paid according to years of service, and as she had. held a combined Health Visiting, School Nurse and Maternity appointment with the Hertfordshire County Council in association with the Queen's Institute, and in respect of which she was paid on the Rushcliffe Scale, it appeared this service should be recognised for the purpose of arriving at her salary, and he recommended that she should now accordingly be paid on the second increment. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(ii) The Medical Officer of Health pointed out the car allowance of 4 ½ d. a mile paid to Miss Tatlow did not include the cost of petrol, as did the allowance paid to Miss Martin. RESOLVED, That Miss Tatlow be paid a car allowance of 4 ½ d. per mile, plus cost of petrol.

621—Women Public Health Officers' Association—A post-Certificate Refresher Course- was to be held at Southampton from 10th to 24th July, 1947, and other Courses were being held at Durham and Oxford during the year. Under the terms of the Rushcliffe Report authorities were asked to provide facilities for Health Visitors to attend Refresher Courses over a period of five years, including payment of expenses in connection therewith. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to arrange at his discretion for Health Visitors to attend post-war Refresher Courses, the Council to bear the full cost.

622—Staff—Miss Stroud, Clerical Assistant, had resigned her appointment with effect from 30th April, 1947, and the Medical Officer of Health recommended that Miss Hiron be promoted to fill the vacancy in accordance with the establishment [Higher Clerical (females) £304-£340 per annum] and that applications be invited to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Miss Hiron [Clerical (females) £252-£288.] RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve these proposals.

623—Resources of Beneficiaries from Local Authorities Services—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 971,46, ministry of Health, containing points for the guidance of local authorities as to the effect of payment of fancily allowances and the recent increase in the rate of old age pensions in cases where local authorities were accustomed to make assessments of resources. The Town Clerk reminded the

Committee this matter had already been fully reported on to the Council, who had reaffirmed their previous decision, made before receipt of this Circular, to disregard family allowances when assessing income for the purpose of making various assessments, and he had so informed the Minister. RESOLVED, That this Committee adhere to their previous decision not to take family allowances into account when applying income scales for determining contributions to the various services for which this Committee is responsible.

104

624—Nursing Staff—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 227/46, Ministry of Health, in connection with the Minister's statement in the House of Commons regarding the action of certain local authorities who had required their nursing staff to join a Trade Union or other recognised organisation, and indicated that their employment would be terminated if they failed to do so. The primary duty of local authorities as health authorities was to maintain the efficiency and smooth running of their health services, and in his view all other considerations must therefore be regarded as secondary. Whilst the Minister was anxious that nursing staff should join a Trade Union or appropriate professional Association, he considered this matter should not be determined by the unilateral action of local authorities.

625—Salaries of Midwives—(a) The Town Clerk submitted Circular 187/46 as to further supplementary recommendations of the Midwives' Salaries Committee regarding salaries, emoluments and conditions of service of Midwives, which it appeared probable would affect the Midwives and Matron at the Victoria Home. As in the case of previous recommendations the additional expenditure incurred in adopting them would rank for grant. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Midwives' Salaries Committee be adopted so far as these are applicable.

(b) Read, Circular 235./46, enclosing Supplementary Recommendations No. 14 of the Nurses' Salaries Committee. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be adopted if they are applicable to any of the Midwives at the Victoria Home.

626—National Society of Children's Nurseries—A letter was submitted from the National Society of Children's Nurseries and London Women's Parliament, urging the holding of Children's Weeks throughout the country, and enclosing suggestions as to the lines on which such Children's Weeks might be organised. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

627—Provision of Maternity Accommodation—(i) (Min. 2148)—The Town Clerk reported that representatives of the Council and County Council had attended at the Ministry of Health to urge approval of the scheme for the erection of huts on land adjoining the Hospital for a temporary maternity hospital, with the result the Ministry had now reversed their decision not to approve the scheme, and were prepared to allow the scheme to proceed.

(ii) Unmarried Mothers [Min. 2144 (c)]—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the County Council setting out their observations on this matter. The County Council, as Public Assistance Authority, were obliged to relieve destitution, but they could not agree that a woman needing maternity accommodation was destitute when a local authority, as Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, was able to make adequate provision for her. Throughout the remainder of the County, cases were sent to Maternity Homes controlled by the County Council, and the cost met under Maternity and Child Welfare estimates which were met by special rates. During the war, the Public Assistance Committee had helped the Council by taking cases at the County Infirmary, but the Committee felt there was no justification for the continuance of this practice, since accommodation was available at Sunnyside, and that if the Council were unable themselves to provide sufficient facilities, their cases



should be dealt with in the same manner and at similar cost as cases from other parts of the County. A few cases of extreme urgency are occasionally treated in County Infirmaries and these facilities, in an emergency, would be available to the Council. Such instances were, however, very few, and the cost involved negligible. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken in the matter, and that in appropriate cases the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to arrange for unmarried mothers to be admitted to the Sunnyside Maternity Home.

628---Report of the Care of Children Committee—(a) The Town Clerk and Medical Officer of Health reported on the recommendations -contained in this Report, which dealt mainly with the boarding out of children by Public Assistance Authorities, management of Institutions under their care, and Institutions provided by voluntary Associations, and contained little or no criticism of the work of local authorities, who were only concerned with the hoarding out of children under the Public Health Act. In a Joint Circular accompanying the Report, the Ministers of Health and Education and the Home Secretary stated there would be no avoidable delay in making a statement on those recommendations which involved action by the Government. In addition to these recommendations, the Report contained a number of comments and suggestions likely to be helpful to local authorities in considering what could be done immediately within the existing law and administrative framework to improve the arrangements for the care of children deprived of a normal home life with parents or relatives. The Report was strongly in favour of boarding out as being the best way of providing that home life, and suggested that before registering applications from foster mothers, a Police Report be obtained. It was recommended foster mothers should only be paid out-of-pocket expenses for maintenance of the child, and that the Children's Committee which it was proposed should be established, should guarantee payments to foster mothers under a scheme similar to that already operated by the Birmingham Authority. It was further recommended a probationary period of three months, which was enforced when a child was received from an Adoption Society; should apply to all adoptions, and that the Guardian *ad litem* in who reported on cases where the application was heard by Magistrates, should, if the adoption was arranged through the local authority, be some person not connected with the local authority. Other recommendations contained in the Report were that the age for supervision should be raised from 9 to 16 years of age, and that children not taken for reward should be brought within the regulations of the Infant Life Protection Sections -A the Public Health Act, and that placings by Adoption Societies should be notified to the local authority.

The majority of the recommendations would entail new legislation, and so far as was practicable it appeared the Council were carrying out their duties under the Infant Life Protection Sections of the Public Health Act to the full. RESOLVED, (a) That the Ministry of Health be informed the Council welcome the Report and consider that steps should be taken at an early date to implement time recommendations made therein, by the introduction of the necessary legislation.

(b) That the Medical Officer of Health be instructed to obtain a Police Report on applicants for registration as foster mothers.

(b) Included in the above Report was a recommendation that Courses of training for boarding-exit visitors be arranged with Universities. The Medical Officer of Health reported that a Commit had no, been arranged by the Provincial National Council for Mental Health for the Officers of local authorities and Voluntary Associations dealing with the boarding out of children. The Course, however, was rather a long one, lasting from the 3rd to 29th March, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Health Visitors be not sent to this Course, but that the Medical Officer of Health make enquiries as to whether it was proposed to arrange in the future shorter Courses.

629—Nurseries Sub-Committee--Read, Reports of the Sub-Committee at their meetings on the 24th October, 22nd November and 18th December, 1946.

Now that the Council were responsible for Thirlestaine Court Nursery, it was thought it would be more advantageous if the Matron reported direct to the Nurseries Sub-Committee, thus not only avoiding delay and duplication of work, but would bring the work of the Nursery to the notice of the Council through those members who served on the Nurseries Sub-Committee.

The question of the interim increases in salaries of the staff of the Day Nurseries, which the Sub-Committee considered inadequate, had been taken up with the Minister of Health, who had replied that he was anxious to publish definite scales as soon as possible, but was unable to indicate when an announcement could be made. In the meantime, the Sub-Committee had decided to adopt the new scales, and to increase the pocket-money payable to students at Thirlestaine Court Nursery to 12s 6d a week for first-year students and 17s 6d a week for second-year students.

Two of the four students who attended at Birmingham for the examination of the National Nursery Examination Board were successful in passing the examination. A subsistence grant had been received from the County Education Committee towards the students' expenses.

The Ministry of Health had now stated they did not consider the Supervising Matron of the Day eligible for the increased salary in accordance with the new Health Visitors' Scale, but were prepared to recognise a special scale for grant purposes. This scale, however, did not appear quite so favourable as the Health Visitors' Scale.

The stoves in the Nurseries were becoming worn out, and enquiries were being made as to the possibility of replacing them. The Sub-Committee had expressed concern about the cooking arrangements at Clarence Square and Swindon Road Nurseries owing to the cuts in electricity, as these were all electric, and a tender had been obtained from the Gas Co. for a gas supply and two cookers.

There was a shortage of chairs for the children, and enquiries were being made as to the possibility of replacing these. Efforts were also being made to obtain curtain material and new linoleum for the Nurseries.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Reports of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(ii) That the adoption of the interim scales of salaries for staff in the Day Nurseries, and the increase in the pocket money payable to students at Thirlestaine Court Nursery, be approved.

(iii) That the Committee reaffirm their decision that the salary of the Supervising Matron of the Day Nurseries be increased in accordance with the new Health Visitors' Scale with effect from 1st January, 1946.

(iv) That the tender of the Cheltenham and District Gas Co. for putting in a supply of gas to the Clarence Square and Swindon Road Nurseries amounting to £34 5s. 0d. and for the provision of two Gas Cookers on hire purchase terms be accepted, and that the Town Clerk be authorised to sign the necessary -Agreements. As it was becoming impossible to cook the babies' early morning foods, the Committee authorised the work being put in hand at once.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**17th January, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Carter and Yeend.

631—Superintendent's Report—During the period 1st to 31st December, 1946, there were 72 interments and 61 cremations. Grave Spaces sold : 1st Position 3 ; 2nd Position 1 ; 3rd Position nil ; 4th Position 16 New Memorials erected 9: Additional Inscriptions 9.

632--Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11414 to 11433 inclusive

633—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 4322 to 4325 inclusive, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman, be approved.

634—Statistics—The Superintendent submitted summary of statistics as to the number of interments and cremations since the Cemetery and Crematorium were opened respectively, and the districts from which cremations were received at the Cheltenham Crematorium together with other information showing the progress made over the past few years, particularly in regard to the growing adoption of cremation It was thought these statistics would be of interest to members of the Council, and a copy is accordingly circulated with the Minutes.

635—Federation of British Cremation Authorities —(i) RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be appointed the Council's representatives to the Federation for the ensuing year.

(ii) A letter from the Federation was submitted drawing attention to the importance of the Federation's official journal " Pharos" and suggesting an order be placed for sufficient copies to enable one to be supplied to each member of the Committee, the Superintendent and for use at the Crematorium. RESOLVED, That three copies be ordered for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Superintendent.

106

636—National Association of Cemetery and Crematorium Superintendents--Annual Conference—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Superintendent be authorised to attend the Annual Conference of the Association to be held at Scarborough on the 3rd-5th June, 1947.

637—Recordia Provision—(Min. 354)—(a) Book of Remembrance—The Town Clerk submitted quotation received from Mr. F. G. Marshall for supplying four Books of Remembrance, one for each quarter, costing with sheepskin vellum leaves £140 per volume, or alternatively with handmade paper leaves £120 per volume. The Books would be covered in Natural Calf Vellum and tooled in Gold and nine cabouchons of Golden Crocidolie mounted in brass galleries, and the Coat of Arms would be incorporated on the cover of each Book. The Books would provide for one day to an opening (two pages) each page being titled with the day and month and ruled by hand. The ruling provided for four columns of twenty-five standard two line entries per opening, and the total capacity of the four Books would therefore be 36,500 standard entries, Mr. Marshall's charge for making a standard two-line entry was 5s and while the Books were being produced the charge would be reduced to 3s 6d. He anticipated that by the time the Books were completed, it would be possible for him to visit Cheltenham at regular intervals to write up the entries, but if this was not so, he would provide a waterproof fabric box for the conveyance of the Books to his works, and whilst in transit and in his possession the Books would be fully insured. As to the time it would take to

produce the Books, Mr. Marshall stated he thought the first Book could be produced within six months from the date he received instructions.

Mr Marshall also submitted quotation for the supply of informative leaflets which it was suggested should be sent to relatives of those cremated during past years with an intimation a Book of Remembrance was to be installed, and offering the opportunity of a memorial entry. It had been found in practice that this procedure usually resulted in a far more interesting Book being on display from the commencement. The cost of these informative leaflets was £3 per thousand copies.

With regard to the suggestion that leaflets be sent to relatives, it was thought that these should not be limited to relatives of those cremated during the last three years, but that the relatives of all those cremated since the Crematorium was opened should be given the opportunity of having an entry recorded in the Book of Remembrance.

The Committee confidently anticipate that the cost of the Books and the Display Case will be met from the fees charged for insertion of entries within a period not exceeding two years.

(b) Display Case—As reported at the last meeting, the Committee obtained four tenders from local firms for the construction of the necessary Display Case for the Books of Remembrance, and the Committee had now selected a position for the case in the cloisters leading to the Crematorium Chapel. The Committee considered the most suitable design and tender submitted was that of Messrs. H. H. Martyn & Co. Ltd., amounting to £140.

RESOLVED,—(i) That the Council be recommended to accept Mr Marshall's quotation to supply four Books of Remembrance with sheepskin vellum leaves at a cost of £140 per volume.

(ii) That a charge of £1 1s. 0d. per standard two line entry be made.

(iii) That the quotation of £8 per thousand copies of the Informative leaflet be accepted.

(iv) That such leaflets be sent to relatives of all those cremated since the opening of the Crematorium.

(v) That the tender of Messrs. H. H. Martyn & Co. Ltd., amounting to £140 for the construction and supply of the Display Case in accordance with the design approved by the Committee be accepted,

(vi) That provision be made for the foregoing expenditure in next year's estimates and also provision for the anticipated income

638—Recorded Music—Three estimates were submitted for the installation of sound reproduction equipment for recorded music in the Crematorium Chapel. The Superintendent reported he understood the Federation of British Cremation Authorities had approached the Electrical & Musical Industries Ltd. in regard to the production of a standard type of installation for use in Crematoria throughout the country, and this being so, it was thought desirable to await the result of these negotiations before proceeding further with the matter. RESOLVED, That further consideration be deferred until the next meeting, but that a sum be included in next year's estimates to cover the cost of a suitable installation.

639—Garden of Remembrance-- (Min. 358)—(a) The Borough Surveyor submitted preliminary plans showing proposed extension of the Garden of Remembrance so designed as to enable the other side of the present memorial wall to be used for the fixing of memorial plaques. The Committee inspected the Garden and expressed approval of the proposals. The greater portion of the work

would be carried out by the Cemetery staff, and the Borough Surveyor would under-take the laying of the paths, kerbing, etc. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

(b) Memorial Garden Seats—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from Messrs. Listers in regard to the supply of garden seats. At the present time they had no teak available with which to make such seats, but hoped to receive a consignment shortly, and stated the cost would be approximately £7 each. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to obtain 20 garden seats when they became available, and that provision be made in next year's estimates for the cost thereof RESOLVED, also, That the question of charges for the right to place memorial plaques on the seats be adjourned to a future meeting.

(c) Kerbing—As reported at the last meeting, the Committee proposed to provide kerbing to the walks in the Garden of Remembrance on which relatives of persons cremated at the Crematorium would be able to have bronze memorial plaques fixed. The Borough Surveyor submitted two tenders for the first instalment of 1,000 feet of stone kerbing RESOLVED, That the tender of the Farmington Stone Company, being the lowest, to supply 1,000 feet of kerbing at 5s 4dd. per foot be accepted.

(d) The Borough Surveyor submitted two tenders for the supply of bronze memorial plaques for the kerbing. Allowing for spacing, each plaque would use about seven inches of the kerbing. The lowest tender was that of Messrs. H. H. Martyn & Co. Ltd., amounting to £1 15s. 0d. per plaque which included engraving of 40 letters. RESOLVED, That this tender be accepted, and that the question of the charges to be made for the memorial plaques be considered at a future meeting.

G. READINGS, chairman.

107

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**23rd January, 1947.** Present—Councillors Bettridge (Chairman), S. Bendall, Carter, Grimwade and Readings.

640—Appointment of Deputy Borough Electrical Engineer and Manager—(Min 320)—The Committee interviewed the following seven applicants selected by the Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer from the applications received for this appointment :-

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| J. Billcliff ... | Technical Assistant and Deputy Mains Engineer, Cheltenham |
| K. W. Finch      | Senior Technical Assistant, Norwich.                      |
| H. McCartney     | Technical Assistant. Stoke-on-Trent.                      |
| W. R. Poole      | Mains Superintendent, Cheltenham.                         |
| S. Raybould      | Engineer and Manager, Dudley.                             |
| H. Whitaker      | Assistant Electrical Engineer, Edmundsons Corporation     |
| R. A. Woods      | Distribution Engineer, Birmingham.                        |

RESOLVED, That Mr. K. W. Finch (Senior Technical Assistant, Norwich) be appointed Deputy Borough Electrical Engineer and Manager, at a salary in accordance with Grade 1, Class G, of the Technical Staff Salaries Schedule (£833— £870 per annum) upon the terms and conditions set out in the advertisement.

641—Technical Assistant—The Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer informed the Committee that as authorised they had decided to appoint Mr. J. Billcliff, Technical Assistant in Grade 5, Class G

of the Technical Staffs Salaries Schedule (£573-£604 per annum) as from 1st February, 1947.  
RESOLVED, That this be approved.

642—Deputy Mains Engineer—RESOLVED, That applications be invited for this appointment, which would become vacant on the promotion of Mr. J. Billcliff, at a salary in accordance with Grade 6, Class G of the National Joint Board Schedule (at present £540). RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to make an appointment.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**20th January, 1947**—Present :—Aldermen Trye (Chairman) and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs. Fisher, Green, Grimwade, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

643--Labour Sub-Committee—The Labour Sub-Committee met on 9th January and their recommendations for the High-ways Department were reported. With regard to item 4 (c) the appropriate Electricity J.I.C. had, on 23rd March, 1946, awarded electricians 2s 3d per hour, but although it was intended that the employment of Highways electricians should be on similar terms and conditions thereto, the rate of 2s 3d. had only been granted to them as from 1st November last, The National Union of General and Municipal Workers, therefore, asked for the increase to be retrospective either from 23rd March or date of appointment if later. RESOLVED,—

(i) That the report be received.

(ii) That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to accede to the Union's request.

644—Transport—(a) Tipping Lorries—(Min. 411)—The Council had referred back for further consideration this Committee's recommendation that two Bedford 3s 4d ton long wheel base tipping lorries be purchased at the price of £681 10 0 each. The recommendation had been made for the purpose of transport standardisation although it was realised the price exceeded by £125 that for Fordson lorries After giving the matter careful consideration it was RESOLVED, That in order to standardise as far as possible the Council's transport this Committee's previous recommendation be adhered to and that Bedford vehicles be purchased. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee's approval be sought.

(b) Freighters—The Highways Department required six freighters, two-immediately and four in the next financial year Quotations had been invited from four firms and tests and inspections made by members of the Requisitions, Stores and Plant Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee favoured S. & D. Freighters at a price of £1,195 being of a similar type to the freighters now in use, but the makers could not guarantee delivery for eighteen months Karrier freighters had passed satisfactory tests and the makers could deliver two vehicles in approximately six months' time. RESOLVED, That six Karrier freighters be purchased at the price of £870 each and that the Finance Committee's approval be sought thereto.

645—Traffic Orders—(a) Procedure—(Min. 200)—The Association of Municipal Corporations had considered the Council' suggestions and proposed to make representations to the Minister of Transport requesting amending legislation to secure the delegation of power to local authorities to enable them to make Traffic Regulations of certain kinds in their own areas in relation to all roads, including trunk roads. The Ministry's attention was also being drawn to delays in. approval of draft Traffic Regulations submitted RESOLVED, That the decision of the Association of Municipal Corporations be welcomed.

(b) The Town Clerk had been in communication with the Ministry urging the approval of the various Traffic Orders submitted some months ago and seeking an interview to this end. It was understood, however, that the Divisional Road Engineer had been consulted and his observations were now before the Ministry. RESOLVED, That every effort be made to expedite approval.

108

646—Parking Facilities—Regent Motors, Limited, noted the recent decisions of the Council in an effort to solve traffic problems and they felt the Council might be interested to learn the extent to which the Car Park at the Plough Yard was used by motorists. The park would accommodate 150/200 cars, the charge being 6d. for three hours. During the peak period at Christmas, 19th to 24th December, the maximum number of cars parked in any one day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. was 44 and the minimum number 17, and the total income amounted to £3 8 0, which had not covered the attendant's wages. They had recently undertaken extensive advertising of their parking facilities and the Company considered their park, combined with the Rodney Road car park, provided ample accommodation for present day needs if motorists took the trouble to use the same. The Committee felt that when the Traffic Orders now before the Ministry were operative the Police Authorities would be in a position to prosecute motorists for parking offences and this would lead to greater use of parking facilities. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed accordingly.

647—Class III Roads--The Ministry of Transport forwarded declaration of Class III Roads in the Borough for the purpose of advances from the Road Fund for the period commencing 1st April, 1946, The Borough Surveyor had no comments thereon except to state that one or two minor details did not entirely agree with the original proposals. RESOLVED, That the declaration be accepted.

648---Signs for Public Lavatories—The Ministry of Transport had now standardised directing signs to public lavatories. The Borough Surveyor welcomed the decision as, in the past, difficulties had arisen as to the type of signs to be used and standardisation would simplify future procedure.

649—Road Safety Activities- (a) Grant from County Council—(Min. 221 (b). The County Finance Committee had, at the request of the Borough Council, considered the decision of the County Road Safety Committee not to make a grant from County resources towards the Borough campaign and had now confirmed such decision. The County Council had not made grants to the Road Safety Committee in the County.

(b) Estimate, 1947/48—The Road Safety Committee recommended that provision be made for expenditure of £486 for the year 1947/48. A full-time Organiser had been appointed and a more ambitious programme would, therefore, be embarked upon. RESOLVED, That the estimate be approved and that application be made. to the Ministry of Transport for a grant of 50% thereof.

(c) Supplementary Grant in respect of Road Safety Organiser's Salary—The Ministry of Transport had now approved a grant of 50% towards the supplementary estimate of £150 necessitated by the appointment of a full-time Organiser.

(d) The Road Safety Committee submitted the following recommendations :—

(i) That additional lighting be provided at the junction of Promenade and St. George's Road.

(ii) The erection of a " Slow—Major Road Ahead " sign at the junction of Christ Church and Queens Roads.

(iii) The removal of No. 4 bus stop in Hewlett Road to Leighton Road ; and of the bus stop in Clarence Road to a position between Portland Street and Winchcomb Street.

(iv) The removal of the pedestrian crossing in Promenade to the south side of Imperial Square.

(v) That no parking be permitted in Regent Street between High Street junction and Star Hotel.

(vi) That "Keep Clear " spaces be marked out to prevent parking at the High Street junctions of Rodney Road and Regent Street ; Promenade junction of Ormond Place ; and in the vicinity of the Promenade Fountain, to prevent obstruction at St. George's Road, Promenade Inner Road, Oriel Road and Imperial Lane junctions.

With regard to (i) it was understood that the Electricity Committee were providing additional lighting; and with regard to (iii) the Borough Surveyor supported the recommendations and had discussed the same with the Cheltenham District Traction Company who raised no objection thereto.  
RESOLVED :

(1) That the Road Safety Committee be informed of the proposals for additional lighting at the Promenade and St. George's Road junction.

(2) That a " Slow—Major Road Ahead " sign be erected at the junction of Christ Church and Queens Roads.

(3) That approval be given to the removal of the bus stops as suggested.

(4) That as the position of the Promenade pedestrian crossing has recently been considered, no action be taken.

(5) That consideration of the suggestion for no parking in Regent Street be deferred pending experience in the operation of the Traffic Order now before the Ministry.

(6) That the views of the Police Superintendent be obtained upon the suggested " Keep Clear " spaces mentioned, and should he concur therein the Borough Surveyor be authorised to mark the roads accordingly for a distance of seven yards on either side of each junction.

650—Nos. 149 and 156 High Street—The Agents for these properties enquired if the Council were interested therein, particularly the former now requisitioned, and the flank wall of which already belonged to the Council. The Borough Surveyor recommended the purchase of No 149 for future widening of Bennington Street and the Council might also be interested in No. 156 for future widening of High Street. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk endeavour to negotiate a purchase at a price not exceeding that approved by the District Valuer and that he report thereon.

651—Nos. 5 and 7 Sherborne Street and 1 Hartley Place, Witcombe Place—(Min. 424). As decided the Town Clerk was negotiating for the purchase of Nos 5 and 7 Sherborne Street for road improvement purposes, and the views of the Education Committee had been sought in regard to No. 1 Hartley Place for possible extensions of St. John's School. The Education Officer was discussing the matter with the County Architect but he felt that unless the adjoining properties could also be acquired the area would provide little room for school extensions. The Borough Surveyor stated that adjoining property had been demolished and the Education Committee might therefore obtain a portion or all of the cleared site.

652—Ornamental Garden Nos. 99-119 Promenade—(Min. 1983/46, and 561, Parks Committee). The Town Clerk reported upon difficulties in negotiations with the owners for the transfer of this garden to the Council for layout with ornamental trees and shrubs. One owner refused to convey his portion although he was willing to lease the same, and the Parks Committee had, therefore recommended



that unless the whole area could be acquired the proposal be abandoned. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Parks Committee be adopted.

109

653 —Swindon Passage —Councillor complained of the condition of this Passage and it was understood that the Electricity Committee eel now provided adequate lighting, The footpath was in bad repair and the underground air-raid shelters were a source of nuisance and should be filled in without delay. An air-raid shelter on adjacent waste land had now been demolished and motor vehicles made a practice of entering from the cleared area in Brunswick Street for the purpose of parking. The Borough Surveyor stated that application had been made to the appropriate Government Department for approval to the demolition of the underground shelters, and when this work had been carried': the footpath would be repaired, RESOLVED : (i) That the attention of the Police Superintendent be drawn to the unauthorised parking and the nuisance caused thereby. (ii) That the Town Clerk endeavour to negotiate for the acquisition by the Council of the waste land and cleared site referred to so that the same may either be developed or appropriated as an open space.

654—Cleeve View Road—Mr. S. T. Davis complained of the condition of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor had made an inspection and recommended that notices be served on abutting owners under Section 44 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1852, requiring them to pave, kerb and channel the same. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit plans, specifications and estimates for the work with a view to notices being served accordingly.

655—Whaddon Road—Pittville Circus ----Footpath --(Min. 1471/46) --A complaint had been received of the bad condition of the footpath in the passageway leading from Whaddon Road to Pittville Circus Road. The Borough Surveyor had made an inspection and found that three openings had recently been made for the laying of sewers, gas and water mains to the Selkirk Gardens Estate. As this Estate was now completed he recommended that the footpath be re-surfaced as it formed the main access to the Estate. The Committee had already agreed to take over both the carriage-way between Pittville Circus Road and the Estate and also the road at the rear. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out the necessary works.

656 —Land Albion Street adjacent to Old Swan Hotel—(Mins. 201 and 298 Housing Committee)—The Housing Committee had considered the suggestion that the Cheltenham Original Brewery Company be offered alternative accommodation on the Rowanfield and Hester's Way Estates in order to facilitate the acquisition by the Council of the Old Swan Hotel and Vaults and adjacent land for parking purposes. The Brewery Company already owned a site on the Orchard Way Estate and the Housing Committee felt that, in the first instance, it would be sufficient if the request was considered so far as the Rowanfield Estate was concerned, and they were prepared to reserve a site thereon. The Town Clerk was now negotiating with the Brewery Company accordingly and would report further.

657—Kingsley Gardens—Shrubberies-(Min. 436 Rousing Committee)—The Housing Committee asked that in connection with improvements to this shrubbery, if the existing grass verge might be included therein. The Borough Surveyor stated that he had not yet had an opportunity of considering the suggestion but would report thereon to the neat meeting. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned.

658—Folly Lane Tip—(a) Nos. 1 and 2 Glen Cottages—Min. 1679/46)—In July last this Committee had approved the Borough Surveyor's recommendation that in view of the structural condition of these properties and their proximity to the tip, when circumstances permitted, the same be

demolished No. 1 was requisitioned but the Housing Committee had recently removed the tenant and the property was now empty. No. 2 was still occupied by an elderly lady and it was not wished to displace her at the present time, The Borough Surveyor therefore suggested that, as a temporary measure, the Housing Committee might like to carry out essential repairs to No. 1 and to use the property as temporary accommodation in the same way as Glencairn, Lansdown Road, so that when the tenant of No. 2 vacates the question of demolishing both houses could then be considered. In view of the tip's proximity it was, however, undesirable that the cottage be let to families with children, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's proposals be approved.

(b) Culvert—The Borough Surveyor recommended the extension of the culvert from its present point of termination to the westerly boundary of the land now owned by the Council. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

(c) Additional Land—The Borough Surveyor reported that tipping, was proceeding satisfactorily but operations would be simplified if the Council acquired fields No. 598 and 599 together with two small paddocks adjoining. This would enable tipping to continue to the limit of the Railway Company's boundary and avoid the necessity of constructing embankments ; also no pollution of the stream course where Wymans Brook forms the boundary between the Council's land and the fields mentioned, would occur, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate for the acquisition of such additional land.

(d) Trees—An inspection had shown that certain elm trees were hollow and required removal. RESOLVED, That these trees be felled and that the View Committee be asked to inspect the remaining trees and submit recommendations in regard to their retention or otherwise.

659—Chelt Bridge, College Road—Whilst undertaking cleaning work to the Chelt it was discovered that the northern abutment of this bridge had been washed away by scouring, for a length of about 16 yards > in addition the foundations the wall on the south side of Grove Garage had been undermined for a length of approximately 12 yards. Messrs. S. Broughton & Company, owners of the garage, agreed to the Council undertaking repairs to their premises simultaneously with the bridge repairs, the Company accepting responsibility for the cost of the former but reserving the right to make a claim against the Council for reimbursement. The Borough Surveyor also proposed to clear all seedling trees, from the river banks and would draw the attention of abutting owners to the necessity of undertaking this work to the banks belonging to them. RESOLVED, That repairs to the Chelt bridge be authorised. ALSO RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the Borough Surveyor carrying out the additional work to Grove Garage on the lines indicated but that the Company be informed the Council cannot accept any liability in respect thereof.

660—Trees—(a) College Road—Two trees had been discovered growing immediately over the arch of the Chelt and the Borough Surveyor considered that the roots had probably assisted towards deterioration of the bridge structure. The Chairman had therefore authorised their removal and the work was carried out in conjunction with the bridge repairs. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(b) Lansdown Road—A tree overhanging the roadway was now in a dangerous position and should be removed together with a tree at the junction of one of the aide roads. The latter, in its present position, prevented the placing of a satisfactory kerb and a tree had already been planted adjacent thereto for replacement purposes. RESOLVED, That the trees be removed.

661—Lansdown Road--Surface Water Drain—(Min. 124)—Messrs. Costello & Kemple were compelled to withdraw their tender for this work and the Divisional Road Engineer had now approved the acceptance of the next lowest tender, namely, that of Messrs. Hadsphaltic Construction Company Limited, amounting to £7,332 13 10. RESOLVED, That a contract be entered into with Messrs. Hadsphaltic Construction Company accordingly.

662-3 Albion Street, Youth Centre (Criterion. Hotel)—Tenders had been invited for work at these premises including the provision of a Caretaker's flat. The lowest tender was that of Messrs F. A. Middleton & Son, amounting to £249 13 3. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Middleton's tender be accepted subject to Contract.

663—Institution of Municipal Engineers--The Annual General Meeting and Conference of this Institution would be held at Bournemouth from 10th to 14th June. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Surveyor be appointed delegates.

664—Public Works Roads and Transport Congress and Exhibition, 1947—This Congress would be held in London from 25th July to 2nd August. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Engineer be appointed delegates.

665-A.R.P. Stores—Disposal--The Borough Surveyor reported that when the Highways fireguard post was established at the Depot the Council purchased 48 blankets, 8 single mattresses, 8 pillows and a dozen each of knives, forks, table spoons and teaspoons and he asked for instructions as to disposal. He was also considering the disposal of the remaining A R.P. stores at the Depot as the space was urgently required and he would report thereon in the near future. RESOLVED, That in the first instance, the bedding be offered to other Council Committees needing such equipment and failing their acceptance, the Highways employees be given an opportunity of purchasing the same ALSO RESOLVED, That the cutlery be presented to the Highways Social Club.

666—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which included surfacing, kerbing and channelling, Lansdown Road ; repairs to footpath pavings ; reinstatement work ; new surface water drains ; snow clearance and gritting ; repairs to traffic lights, transport, sewers, etc., planting and pruning of trees ; and other matters. He hoped shortly to complete work in College Road and then to commence re-surfacing North Street. 1,650 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,570 tons for December. A temporary dislocation of refuse collections occurred owing to Christmas holidays and also to repairs necessary to one of the S. & D. freighters but arrears had now been overtaken. The labour position had not improved despite numerous press advertisements.

667—Labour—(Min. 223)—The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that he had been authorised to explore the possibility of recruiting of Polish labour and he had, therefore, been in communication with' the Ministries of Labour and Transport and it was understood that the Council's application was under consideration. RESOLVED, That in the meantime the Borough Surveyor take an opportunity of discussing such recruitment with the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and with the highways employees.

668—Borough Surveyor's Department—Staff- -Temporary Engineering Assistant—Mr. K. F. Lewis had resigned his position, having obtained an appointment with another local authority Mr. Lewis had been placed in the General Division, Class 1 of the Temporary Officers Scales (£190- £220 p.a.) plus temporary salary adjustment and cost-of-living bonus. To attract a suitable applicant for the work required the Borough Surveyor now recommended that the appointment be placed in Class I, Grade A of such scales (£275—£300 p.a.) plus temporary- salary adjustment and cost-of-living

bonus, RESOLVED, That the Establishment Committee be asked to agree thereto with a view to applications being invited for the appointment.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**21st January, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Trye, Ward, Winterbotham, and Waite; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson.

669—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on the 9th January, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

670—Establishment Sub-Committee—The Sub-Committee met on the 7th, 16th, and 21st January, 1947 (reports circulated). RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

671—Labour Sub-Committee—The Labour Sub-Committee met on the 9th January, 1947 (report circulated), RESOLVED, That report of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

672—Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Airport Committee—This Committee met on the 28th November, 1946, and 16th January, 1947 (reports circulated). RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

673—South Western Provincial Council for Staffs of Hospitals and Allied Institutions—[Min. 236]—A letter was submitted from the Somerset Boroughs and Urban District Councils Association, stating that the appointment of two representatives from non-county boroughs to serve on the Provincial Council recently set up for the counties Of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucester and Wiltshire was now being dealt with by the Non-County Boroughs Association, from whom a communication would be received in due course. Seven persons, including Councillor Biggs, were nominated for the two vacancies. RESOLVED, That the recording of the vote be left to the Mayor and Town Clerk,

111

674—Field Adjoining Marle Hill House--Th Committee considered Min. 559 (Parks Committee), recommending that view of that Committee's post-war plan for the development of this field as a sports area, the control of the field previously exercised by this Committee be transferred to the PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE. RESOLVED-, That this be approved.

675—Membership of Committees—The Town Clerk reported that during the year a number of casual vacancies arose um' Committees and other bodies in respect of which it did not appear necessary to call a special meeting of the SELECTION COMMITTEE. It was suggested that this Committee be given power to fill casual vacancies occurring on Council Committees and to appoint representatives on other bodies during the year. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

676—Fire Guard Equipment—A report was submitted to the Committee upon the fire guard equipment at present stored at 413 High Street, in respect of which a rent was still being paid, and recommending that steps be taken for its disposal The Home Office, Civil Defence Section. Bristol, had agreed to the equipment being sold (i) direct to the public, or (ii) by tender to local traders, and it was understood that the Housing Committee did not require to purchase this equipment as they had sufficient stocks. RESOLVED, That tenders be invited from local traders for the purchase of the equipment shown on the list and that the Chairman be authorised to accept a tender.

677—Sunday Opening of Cinemas—(Min. 1326/46)—Defence Regulation 42B—The Committee on the 21st May, 1946, had before them Circular 124/46, Home Office, when consideration was deferred until this meeting. The circular pointed out that the above Regulation would remain in force until the 31st December, 1947, unless previously revoked. It was, however, open to an authority who had submitted an Order under the Regulation, as in the case of Cheltenham, and in whose area public opinion favoured the permanent Sunday opening of cinemas, to obtain approval of Parliament to an Order of a permanent effect, before the Regulation ceased to be in force, thus avoiding a break in continuity of Sunday performances.

The Town Clerk reported that in the event of no action being taken by the Council to obtain an Order for the permanent opening of Sunday cinemas, those cinemas which now opened on Sundays, would be compelled to close. In view of the procedure involved in securing approval to an Order for the permanent Sunday opening of cinemas it was desirable that the Council should decide at their next meeting whether or not they proposed to make application to the Secretary of State for an Order.

The procedure referred to required public notice to be given of the proposed application for the making of an Order, a public meeting to be held, and, if demanded by not less than 100 electors, a poll to be taken. The Council could themselves require a poll should they decide in favour of Sunday opening of cinemas and the proposal was rejected at the public meeting.

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the following resolutions :—

Free Church Council-13th January, 1947--"This representative meeting of the Free Churches of Cheltenham, having very carefully considered for some time past the fact that by law the cinemas may remain open on Sundays until the end of 1947, resolves to ask the Town Council to safeguard the Lord's Day by disallowing such opening after that date."

Gloucestershire Federation of Brotherhoods, Sisterhoods and Kindred Societies—" That this meeting of the Men's District Council of the Brotherhood movement, held January 15th, 1947, unanimously agree to respectfully suggest to the Town Council, that the time is now opportune for the closing of the cinemas on Sunday,"

The Vicar and representatives of St. Mark's Church submitted representations in the same sense.

Careful consideration was given to these views and to the whole matter generally. The Committee however, felt that the public should be given an opportunity of expressing their views.

In the event of an Order being made as above it will be open to the Council, as the licensing authority, to impose conditions on the opening of cinemas on Sundays, and the Committee felt it desirable that the Council should place on record that they would impose conditions that only films which have been approved in advance as suitable for Sunday entertainments should be permitted ; that no person under the age of 16 should be admitted to the cinemas, and that the hour of opening of the cinemas should remain as at present, namely, 4 p.m. These conditions would be in addition to the statutory conditions which required that no person would be employed on any Sunday who had been employed on each of the six previous days and that such sums as might be specified by the licensing authority, within certain limits, should be paid to such charitable objects as might be specified by the authority including a percentage to the Cinematograph Fund. RESOLVED (1) That application be made to Parliament for powers enabling the appropriate licensing authority under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, to allow cinematograph entertainment in the Borough of Cheltenham on Sundays, subject to the conditions required by law and to such other conditions as the licensing

authority might think fit to impose, and for that purpose, that a draft Order he submitted to the Secretary of State in accordance with the schedule to the Sunday Entertainments Act, 1939.

(ii) That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps required by law to give effect to the decision of the Council.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

112

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**4th January, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Strickland and Yeend.

678—Non-Traditional Houses—The Town Clerk submitted further letter from Messrs. George Wimpey & Co. Ltd., that they had now reached a tentative agreement with the Ministry of Health subject to the final approval of the Minister that the reduction in the " National " price for " No Fines" houses allowable in respect of contracts in excess of 200 houses on one site would be £20 per house. In addition designs were nearly completed for a block of 4 houses, each block having a central passageway to obtain access to the rear, and for one 4 bedroomed house. Further plans suitable for north and south aspect were shortly expected. Full particulars were being communicated to the Council immediately agreement had been reached with the Ministry as to price. They suggested that sufficient variation could be obtained from the alternatives already offered to enable the layout for 140 "No Fines " houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate to be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval and that the remainder of the 500 houses could be accommodated on Rowanfield Road site embodying the further designs which would shortly be submitted.

The Town Clerk reported that he had now been informed by a representative of Messrs. Wimpey Ltd., that they contemplated completing the contract at Farnborough in the very near future and it was desired, if possible, to move their shuttering and equipment on that site direct to Cheltenham in order to avoid delay.

The Borough Surveyor pointed out that the layout for Lynworth Farm as approved by the Committee provided for 80 " No Fines" houses, since in view of the difficulty encountered by the unsuitability of design for certain aspects it had been decided to allocate the remainder of the available sites for the erection of houses by small builders. He was of the opinion, however, that if the alternative designs to be submitted were entirely suitable it would be possible for the remaining 420 houses to be accommodated on Rowanfield Road site.

He had again approached the Ministry with regard to approval being given to the layout for the Rowanfield Road site and had now been informed that the Ministry had decided to approve of the site in principle.

A survey of the site had been completed and he was proceeding with the preparation of plans and quantities, etc., for the purpose of obtaining tenders for roads and services.

RESOLVED (1) That the proposal of the Borough Surveyor be approved and that he be instructed to submit revised layout plans for the Rowanfield site when the alternative designs of the houses are received, (ii) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to a contract being

entered into with Messrs Wimpey with a view to their being allowed to commence without delay the erection of the first 80 houses on Lynworth Farm Estate.

679—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—(a) The Town Clerk reported on a conference which the Mayor and members of the Committee had had with local building firms on the 21st January to discuss the scheme for the erection of houses by builders who had sufficient labour to enable them to undertake the work. A full discussion took place and as a result of the meeting the undermentioned firms had agreed to submit tenders for the number of houses mentioned against their names on the Lynworth Farm Estate.

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| E. T. Stinchcombe ..           | 1 pair.                    |
| A. C. Billings & Sons... ..    | 1 four-block.              |
| Western Estates Ltd.... ..     | 1 four-block or six-block. |
| E. H. Bradshaw ...             | 1 pair.                    |
| C. H. Rainger & Son ..         | 1 pair.                    |
| H. J. Trigg ...                | 1 four-block.              |
| E. L. Squire ..                | 1 pair.                    |
| H. G. Bullingham               | 1 pair.                    |
| G. W. Enoch                    | 1 four-block.              |
| A. A. Jackson                  | 1 four-block.              |
| S. W. Jenkins                  | 1 pair.                    |
| Collins & Godfrey              | 1 four-block.              |
| T. C. Safe ...                 | 1 four-block.              |
| Hancock & Saunders ..          | 2 pairs.                   |
| A. E. Hunt                     | 1 pair.                    |
| G. W. Ward                     | 2 pairs                    |
| Marshall (Charlton Kings Ltd.) | 2 pairs .                  |
| W. E. Cook                     | 1 pair                     |
| E. W. & W. J. Moore            | 1 pair.                    |
| J. H. Storey                   | 1 pair.                    |

The Borough Surveyor hoped to issue the bills of quantities, plans and specifications on the 125th January and it was necessary to fix a closing date for the submission of tenders. RESOLVED, That the closing date for the submission of tenders be fixed for the 3rd February and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to open tenders received in order that they may be submitted without delay to the Ministry of Health for approval.

(b) Messrs. Intrade Ltd.—The Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor reported a conversation which the Deputy Town Clerk and Chief Architectural Assistant had with a representative of Messrs. Intrade Ltd., and subsequent telephone conversation which the Deputy Town Clerk had with Captain Shiner. The firm stated that they were not interested in anything less than 50 houses, but would be willing to erect 50 houses on one of the Council's housing sites. They stated that they had three or four contracts within 20 miles of Cheltenham. The question of labour was discussed and Captain Shiner stated that although he did not anticipate being able to import any labour, he thought that he would be able to recruit sufficient labour locally. It was pointed out to him that the Council could not arrange for one firm to build 50 houses without going to public tender in the normal way and that the Ministry of Health had intimated that they could not give approval at the present time to tenders being invited for traditional houses. The only exception to this was the erection of small

numbers of houses by small builders who hail their own small labour force. RESOLVED, That in view of the foregoing and the fact that Messrs. Wimpey would shortly be needing considerable labour for the erection of 500 non-traditional houses and the above mentioned 60 houses to be erected small builders, the Committee do not feel they are justified in making application to the Ministry for approval to obtain tenders for 50 traditional houses.

113

680—Apprenticeship Training Scheme—The Town Clerk reported that approval of the Ministry of Works and the Ministry of Health had now been received to the proposal to extend this scheme for the erection of 2 blocks of 8 flats and 4 houses at Lynworth Farm Estate. The Ministry of Works had given an assurance that they would reimburse the Council any excess in cost of the actual cost incurred over the agreed normal cost and asked for an undertaking that any saving in such costs under normal costs would be paid by the Council to the Ministry. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to give this undertaking RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract with the Apprentice Master (Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons).

681—Rent Rebate Scheme—The Committee considered the report of the Estate Management Sub-Committee. (A copy of the report accompanies the Minutes). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and the recommendations therein adopted.

682—Temporary Allotments—Alstone Lane—The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that this land had been acquired by the Territorial Army and Air Force Association in order that a Drill Hall could be erected thereon to provide accommodation for the Heavy A.A. Regiment to be raised in Cheltenham.

Since it was at present used as allotments, the Allotments Committee had asked the War Department if it was possible to find alternative accommodation, and suggestions were made including the site in New Street. He now submitted letter from the Territorial Army and Air Force Association stating that the New Street site was quite inadequate for their requirements as they required a site not less than 75 yds. square. They had however inspected the N.F.S. station site in Whaddon Road which would suit their requirements, and they asked if the Committee would have any objection to their trying to negotiate a lease of this site, They pointed out however that the War Department may raise some difficulty in renting another site when they already had a site of their own acquired for the purpose. RESOLVED, That the Committee are not prepared to discontinue their negotiations for the N.F.S. site which is urgently required for the temporary community centre for the Whaddon Estate and that the Allotments Committee be asked to consider whether it is possible for them to acquire other land in the vicinity of the drill hall site at Alstone in order that the allotment holders who will be displaced can be offered alternative allotments.

683—St. Mark's Community Association—(a) The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Association asking for approval to proposed small alterations to provide a kitchen and canteen serving hatch and warden's office. The work would be done by voluntary helpers with materials in hand, RESOLVED, That these proposals be approved.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that application had been received from the Association for a licence to carry out work of installing conveniences at a cost of £345 The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that as the Council could not themselves undertake this work in priority to housing work the Council had instead decided to make grants to the Association so that they themselves could apply for licences to carry out the work with as much voluntary labour as possible. In any case the



Council were not the licensing authority for this type of work. RESOLVED, That the Association be advised to forward the application to the Licensing Officer, Ministry of Works.

684—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 20th December and 3rd January were submitted. The following matters (inter alia) were dealt with:-

(i) 11 applicants were interviewed and 23 applications considered.

(ii) Licensed properties----the tenants of condemned properties in respect of which licences had been withdrawn were placed on "A" priority.

(iii) Waiting List—The Sub-Committee considered it was desirable that steps should be taken to ascertain the precise number of "live" applications on the waiting list. Some of the applications had been made several years ago and many during the war and no doubt some of the applicants had now left the district and others may have obtained accommodation without notifying the Housing Manager. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager be instructed to send the application form to all the applicants on the waiting list with a request that this should be completed and returned within 14 days, intimating that on failure to return the form within the period stated the Council would assume that the applicant no longer required a Council house.

(iv) W.B.A. priorities were granted in respect of two conversions and one for the re-erection of the war-destroyed houses Nos. 204 and 206 Old Bath Road.

(v) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversion of various requisitioned and other properties.

|                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lauriston                 | Work in hand.                |
| 3 Crescent Terrace ...    | Completed.                   |
| 36 Lansdown Crescent      | At the Ministry of Health.   |
| 35 All Saints Terrace ... | Completed.                   |
| Oldfield. Court           | Plans forwarded to Ministry. |
| 3 Sydenham Villas Road    | At the Ministry of Health.   |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas    | Tenders due 29th January.    |
| Leckhampton Hall (Flat)   | Work in hand.                |

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

685—Requisition Sub-Committee—Report of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 17th January was submitted.

(i) Six properties were requisitioned of which three were subsequently released.

(ii) Two further properties were de-requisitioned, subject to conditions laid down.

(iii) Three applications for de-requisitioning were refused. RESOLVED, That the report be approved And adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the application from the owner of Overton House to occupy the top flat herself be acceded to.

114

686—Staff—The Housing Manager reminded the Committee that no suitable application had been received for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Wilkinson. It had therefore been decided to re-advertise at the end of March after the Annual Examinations of the Society of Women Housing

Managers. She now reported that one of the students in the department was ill and would not return, while the other two would shortly be taking their examinations leaving the department short staffed until about the middle of April. The Society had now suggested that she should accept at once a student (Miss Marle) who intended to take the examinations in March but required a little further training. This student, however, would be prepared to accept a permanent appointment after the examination and it was suggested that she should be appointed as student-assistant for a short time before being accepted as a qualified assistant. The Housing Manager also asked that she be authorised to engage suitable temporary staff if available for the period during which she would be short-staffed, RESOLVED, (a) That the Housing Manager be authorised to engage suitable temporary staff for the period during which she is short-staffed.

(b) That Miss Marie be appointed student-assistant at a salary in accordance with the temporary scale approximating to that paid in the lower clerical grade of the permanent scale, the matter to be reviewed in three months time.

687—Lynworth Farm Estate—Footpaths—Min. 441 (c)). The Town Clerk submitted a letter from the Ministry of Health intimating that they would require a specification of the work proposed and detailed estimate in connection with the application for loan sanction of £7,477, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor prepare the necessary specification and estimate, but that meanwhile he be authorised to commence the work in view of the fact that some of these houses are now occupied.

688—Montal Watch Fittings Ltd.—The Borough Surveyor submitted application for licences for 4 pairs of houses to be erected on this factory site as agreed by the Committee. It would be necessary to forward the application to the Regional Office with a recommendation in accordance with Circular RH, 7/46, and the Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that the special circumstances of the application would justify submission of the application. RESOLVED, That this application be referred to the Regional Licensing Officer with a recommendation of the Council that, in the special circumstances of this case, the licences should be granted.

689—Control of Civil Building, Regulation 56a—The Town Clerk submitted circular 8/47, from the Ministry of Health (a precis of this circular accompanies the Minutes).

The Borough Surveyor reported that the carrying out of the Ministry's instructions would involve considerably more work for his department, but he would do his best to comply with the terms of the Circular. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out the requirements of the Ministry as outlined in the circular.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**22nd January, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Alderman Taylor, Councillors Gardner, and Morris

6 90—Proposals- -The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee including amended proposals with regard to the assessment of the first two houses on Lynworth Farm Estate to meet the views of the Assessment Committee.

691—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

692—Staff—Valuation Assistant—The Borough Treasurer reported that he had considered the applications received for this appointment and he submitted list of six names- with two reserves

which he proposed to recommend to the Finance Committee should be invited for interview  
RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to authorise the Chairman of the Rating  
and Finance Committees to interview the selected applicants and make an appointment

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**January, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors  
Bettridge, Biggs, Mann, and Morris.

693—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the second  
instalment of this rate Amount collected £127,304; amount outstanding £63,787.

694—Water Rate and Charges—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the  
water rate and charges for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £23,725,  
amount outstanding £6,431.

695—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to  
£1,172 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £590 for re-chargeable  
works carried out and £289 for electricity supplied.

696—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that a loan of £665 at 6 per cent had been repaid  
since the gat fleeing

115

697---Cheltenham Corporation 3 per cent Stock—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to  
Stock certificates 150 (United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution) and 151  
(Community of the Resurrection, Muirfield) in respect of the transfer of stock amounting to £5,300  
and £2,183, 9s. 1d. respectively.

698—Superannuation (a) Refund of Contributions—The following refunds of contributions had been  
made:—

|   | £ s. d.    |
|---|------------|
| Mr J. E. Thorndell (Borough Surveyor's Department) ...  | 47 7 11    |
| Miss B. E. Butler (Public Health Department) ...  | 2 9 10     |
| Mr. N. R. Allsworth (Borough Treasurer's Department) ...  | 11 3 8     |
| Miss J. L. M. Dobbins (Borough Surveyor's Department)   | 7 9 3      |
| Miss M. R. Gardner (Public Library) ... ..  | 47 15 9    |
| Mrs. M. M. 13oite (Borough Treasurer's Department) ...  | 61 51 6    |
| (b) Transfer values had been received as follows:—  |            |
| Reigate Corporation—Mr. J. H. Wilson (Borough Treasurer's Department)   | 741 18 9   |
| Wigan Corporation—Mr. H. Tudge (Assistant Rating and Valuation Officer)   | 1,224 7 10 |
| (c) Transfer value had been paid to the Gloucestershire County Council in respect of Mrs.<br>Laffineur, (Public Health Department) amounting to | £117 11 0  |

699—Police Act, 1946 (Min. 733/46 and 1119/46)---The Town Clerk reported that he had made  
application to the Secretary of State for an Order under Section 2 of the Police Act, 1946, the making  
of which it was hoped would afford financial relief in respect of the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and

1949-50, amounting to 2.21d. 1.47d and .74d respectively, or a total sum of approximately £8,800. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved.

700—Sanctions to Loan—Loan Sanctions had been received from the Ministry of Health as follows :—

| Date                | Proposal   | Amount  | Term      |
|---------------------|--|---------|-----------|
| 13th January, 1947  | Erection of 50 B.I.S.F, Houses,<br>Lynworth Farm Estate                            | £54,901 | 60 years. |
| 19th December, 1946 | Street Lighting maintenance<br>(purchase of electrically<br>propelled tower wagon) | £1,505  | 7 years,  |

701—Members' Interests in Contracts and other Matters—Co-operative Wholesale Society—The Committee will have under consideration, and will be reporting thereon in due course, questions relating to banking facilities offered by the Co-operative Wholesale Society Bankers Ltd.

In this connection, the Town Clerk reported on the provisions of Section 76 of the Local Government Act, 1933, which provided that if a member of a local authority had any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or proposed contract, or other matter, and was present at a meeting at which the contract or other matter was the subject of consideration, he should at the meeting, as soon as practicable after its commencement, disclose the fact and should not take part in consideration or discussion of the contract or matter, or vote on any question with respect thereto. This provision did not apply to an interest in a contract, or other matter, which a member might have as a ratepayer or inhabitant of the area, such as an ordinary consumer of gas, electricity or water, or to an interest in any matter relating to the terms on which the right to participate in any service including the supply of goods, was offered to the public. For the purpose of Section 76, the interest of a husband or wife was deemed to be the interest of the other also.

A general notice given in writing to the Town Clerk that a member (or husband/wife) was a member or in the employment of a specified company or other body, or was a partner or in the employment of a specified person, shall be deemed to be a sufficient disclosure of his interest in any contract, proposed contract or other matter, relating to that company, body or person.

The Act provided that the Town Clerk shall record in a book kept for the purpose particulars of any disclosure or notice made as above, and the book shall be kept open at all reasonable hours for inspection by any member of the local authority. Any person failing to comply with the provisions of the Section was liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50. The Act further provided that the Minister of Health might subject to any conditions he thought fit to impose, remove any disability imposed by the Section in any case in which the number of members so disabled at any one time would be so great a proportion of the whole as to impede the transaction of business, or in any other case in which it appeared that in the interests of the inhabitants of the area, the disability should be removed.

Before application could be made to the Minister in accordance with the Section, it was obviously necessary for some information to be supplied as to whether, and to what extent, the work of the Council would be impeded, to justify the removal of the disability. In these circumstances, the Committee felt it right that members of the Council should be given an opportunity of taking, where necessary, proper steps in respect of any interest they may have in the Co-operative Wholesale Society or in Joint Stock Banks.

The Committee wish to emphasise that the onus of disclosure rests with the member of the Council concerned. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk draw the attention of the members of the Council to the provisions of Sec. 70. and that the question as to whether it was necessary to apply to the Minister of Health for the removal of the disability be deferred to the next meeting.

702—Interim Payments—(Min. 2219/46)--The Borough Treasurer recommended that in view of the heavy financial commitments for housing, that the interim payment figure of £50,000 per month should be increased to £75,000 and that in the event of it being necessary to go beyond this figure, the Chairman and Town Clerk be authorised to give the necessary authority. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

703—Fire Insurance—(i) Council Houses—The Borough Treasurer reported that all houses on the Council estates were covered against fires at varying values, and asked for the Committee's instructions in regard to insuring the steel houses, some of which would shortly be completed, and the traditional type of houses which were being erected, under the second contract at Lynworth Farm. In view of rising values the present houses were insufficiently covered and to put the values on a correct basis would increase the present annual premium from £485 to approximately £620 which would possibly reach £1,000 in the next few years in view of the Council's housing programme. During the 20 years, claims in respect of fire had not exceeded £1,000 and he suggested that consideration should be given to the

116

Council bearing their own risk and ceasing to insure the properties on the termination of the present insurance contra. RESOLVED (i) That, whilst not approving of the proposal to bear the risk, the cover in respect of each house be limited to a sum of £500 when the present insurance contracts expire, the Council bearing any risk in excess of this amount. (ii) That the insurance of the houses comprising the second contract on the Lynworth Farm estate be effected with the Fine Art and General Insurance Company, but that tenders be invited for the B.I.S.F. houses.

(ii) Town Hall—The Committee have considered insurance against loss of profits resulting from a fire at the Town Hall, and obtained a quotation from the County Fire Office, Ltd., with whom the Corporation have insured against fire risks. RESOLVED, That cover against loss of profits be effected for an annual indemnity of £20,000 for a period of seven years, at a premium of £47 15s. 4d. per annum.

704—Office Machinery—The Borough Treasurer reported that the present value of machinery in his department was £9,024 much of it requiring renewal in the next few years. No fund existed for defraying replacements of machinery and a local authority could not legally set up depreciation funds or defer over a period the cost of items purchased out of revenue. Purchase of single machines out of the rates prevented a change of system if this was necessary and to the advantage of the Corporation, as this could only be done by an alteration as a whole. To meet this difficulty, which would arise within the next few years, he suggested that a sum of £1,500 be included in the estimates annually until the sum desired for replacement was available, RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer's recommendation be approved in principle, but that the annual sum be limited to £1,000.

705—Cheque Writing Machine—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to purchase a rebuilt cheque writing machine from the Protectograph Company at a cost of £21.

706--Conference I.M.T.A.-----RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Treasurer be authorised to attend the annual conference of the Association to be held at Torquay on June 18th, 19th and 20th, 1947.

707—Staff—Valuation Assistant-(Min. 692). RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the recommendation of the Rating Committee that the Chairmen of that Committee and this Committee interview applicants and make this appointment.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

#### BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

**27th January, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (in the Chair) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Compton and Thompson ; and Mrs. Lipson.

708—Capital Expenditure—The Borough Treasurer reported that the outstanding capital expenditure amounted to £2,994.

RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer press the Ministry for re-imburement of this sum.

709--Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted provisional financial statement for the 9 months ended 31st

December, 1946. showing an operating surplus (prior to charging amortisation) of £458. The amortisation charges for St. Margaret's British Restaurant were £401, leaving a net profit for the 9 months of £57. The total number of meals supplied during the period was 63,931 including 2,506 "cash and carry " meals. The cost per meal before charging amortisation was 12.53d. and after charging amortisation 14.04d.

710—Supervisor-Cook's Report—Meals Served—The total number of meals (excluding School Meals) supplied at St. Margaret's British Restaurant during October, November and December was as follows :—

|          | Meals | Takings<br>£ s. d. |
|----------|-------|--------------------|
| October  | 5,537 | 339 2 2            |
| November | 5,232 | 318 5 11           |
| December | 5,748 | 349 13 2           |

The comparison between figures for October, 1945 and October, 1946 showed an increase of 1,170 in number of meals and £75 5s. 9d. in takings, for November, 1946 and November, 1945, an increase of 649 and £40 7s. 11d., and December, 1946 and December, 1945, an increase of 299 and £21 7s. 7d. The total number of school meals served during the three months was 8,193 and the takings amounted to £364 5s. 2d.

711—Future of the British Restaurant—The Town Clerk reported that the Civic Restaurants Bill authorised the Council to set up Civic Restaurants. Clause 2 of the Bill authorised the making of an Order for the compulsory acquisition of land under the provisions of the Requisitioned Land and War Works Act, 1945. If the land, on which St. Margaret's British Restaurant was situate, was not acquired compulsorily, it would be necessary to negotiate for a lease if it was decided to continue the British Restaurant service under the provisions of the Bill. The Bill also provided that every Civic

Restaurant Authority should use their best endeavours to ensure that their income under the Act was sufficient to defray their expenditure thereunder and it would be necessary to keep account of their income and expenditure in a form prescribed by the Ministry of Food. Further, if the accounts showed a deficit in respect of a period of three consecutive financial years, not including the first or second financial year, the powers would cease to be exercisable by the authority at the expiration of six months from the end of the period. The Borough Treasurer reported on Circular W.M. 6/7 dated 1st June, 1946, from the Ministry of Food. The two methods of acquisition of the British Restaurant undertaking, applicable to Cheltenham, were –

(1) The price at the date of transfer would be the sum made up of :-

- (a) Total amortisation to date less trading losses.
- (b) Capital Cost less depreciation at 1 per cent per month.
- (c) Profits on whole undertaking less income tax.

117

(2) The price would be arrived at as in (1) above with the exception that the assets would be paid for at the District Valuer's valuation instead of cost less 1 per cent per month.

If method (1) above was adopted, the Council would be wholly responsible for the reinstatement of site and compensation if the Restaurant remained open after the 1st April, 1951, whereas under method (2) above, the Council would become liable for the estimated cost of reinstatement immediately upon purchase as the District Valuer's figure would include this factor and the Minister of Food would require an indemnity therefor. The Borough Treasurer was of the opinion that, having regard to present day values, it was not likely that the District Valuer's figure would be more advantageous than a figure of cost less depreciation at 12 per cent per annum, and he recommended that if the Council decided to take over the Restaurant, method (1) should be used, and the approximate sum payable would be:-

|   |              |        |
|---|--------------|--------|
|   | £            | £      |
| Total amortisation at 31st March, 1947  | 8,414        |        |
| Less trading losses at 31st March, 1947   | <u>5,097</u> | 3,317  |
| Capital Cost of Restaurant ...  | £3,182       |        |
| Add estimated value of equipment transferred from:-                               |              |        |
| Pates   | £379         |        |
| Montpellier   | £400         |        |
| Others  | <u>£400</u>  |        |
|   | <u>1,179</u> |        |
|   | 4,361        |        |
| Less depreciation at 1 per cent per month   | <u>2,000</u> | £2,361 |
| Sum Payable (including amortisation but excluding Compensation and Reinstatement) |              | £5,678 |

The Undertaking had in hand the sum of £3,317 in respect of amortisation but capital expenditure amounting to £2,994 remained outstanding to be reimbursed by the Ministry of Food.

The Borough Engineer reported that the building was structurally sound and in a reasonably good condition. He estimated that the repairs necessary to put the building in good order (which included distemping walls throughout, painting windows, doors and internal service pipes, providing new flues to heating stoves, and providing one coat of bitumastic to roof of covered way), would total approximately £75. The Borough Engineer was of the opinion that the building, being constructed of precast concrete units with a corrugated asbestos roof, would not deteriorate so quickly as some of the other types of buildings used for British Restaurants, and would last, with a minimum amount of maintenance, for at least seven years, subject to it not being exposed to any severe injury.

The Committee gave careful consideration to the reports which had been submitted and in view of the present difficult food situation they were of the opinion that considerable hardship would be caused if the Restaurant was closed on the 31st March next. As previously reported to the Council, the Ministry of Food had decided that the present arrangements would terminate on the 31st March, 1947, and the Council must decide whether they would continue the Restaurant under the powers that would be made available to them or close down on that date. On the other hand, if the Restaurant was continued, the Committee felt that the service should and could be operated so that there would be no charge on the rates.

RESOLVED, (1) That the Council be recommended to take over St. Margaret's British Restaurant on the termination of the present arrangements with the Ministry of Food and that the Council operate it as a Civic Restaurant.

(2) That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the District Valuer, commence negotiations with the owners of the land on which the Restaurant is situate on the basis that it is the Council's intention to make a Compulsory Purchase Order if this course becomes necessary.

(3) That the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer submit a further report in due course.

CLARA F. WINTER BOTHAM, Chairman.

#### **SELECTION COMMITTEE.**

**27th January, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) : Aldermen Smith, Taylor, Ward, and Winterbotham-Councillors Addis, Bettridge, J. Bendall, Compton, Fisher and Green

712—Vacancies on Committees and Other Bodies—The Committee considered the filling of certain casual vacancies Council Committees and other bodies and RESOLVED, that appointments be made as follows:—

Cleeve Common Conservators—Mr. Councillor Fisher in place of Alderman J. P. Pates, deceased.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee—Mr. Alderman Smith in place of Mr. Alderman Waite, resigned.

Cheltenham Youth Committee—Mr. Councillor Gardner in place of Mr. Councillor Bettridge, resigned

Public Library Committee—The Rev E. C. Hanson, a co-opted member out recommendation of the **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.



## 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 February, 1947. Present :**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Leigh James and Taylor ; Councillors Biggs, Fildes, and Grimwade.

713—Minutes of Previous Meeting— RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6th January, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

714—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   | January 10      |
| Public Library           | January 10      |
| Allotments ...           | January 13      |
| Electricity and Lighting | January 14 & 23 |
| Housing ...              | January 14 & 24 |

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Green, "That, in connection with Min. 681 in calculating the rent under the rebate scheme, the whole of any disability pension be ignored, instead of one half as proposed in the scheme, and that the income scale set out in the scheme be amended accordingly").

(A further amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. 681 (Rent Rebate Scheme) be referred back for further consideration" was not seconded).

An amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That Min. 679 (b) (Erection of Houses—Messrs. Intrade Ltd ) be referred back for further consideration with a view to the Housing Committee deciding to place the matter before the Minister of Health and leaving him to decide whether sufficient labour was available to carry out the proposals of Messrs. Intrade Ltd.," was lost).

|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| Planning | January 9 & 10 |
|----------|----------------|

ALSO RESOLVED, that Plan No: 6050 be now approved, the plan having been amended to comply with the building byelaws and the proposed provisions of the town planning scheme, subject to the work in connection with the ceiling and floor of the bedroom above the garage being carried out to the Borough Surveyor's satisfaction and in accordance with the building bye-laws

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Parks and Recreation Grounds | January 13 |
|------------------------------|------------|

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Town Improvement and Spa ...    | January 17 |
| Public Health                   | January 13 |
| Water                           | January 14 |
| Maternity and Child Welfare ... | January 15 |
| Cemetery and Crematorium        | January 17 |
| Street and Highway              | January 20 |

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Compton, "That Min. 649 (b) (Road Safety Activities—Estimate 1947-48) be amended by the addition of the words 'subject to the approval of the Finance Committee' at the conclusion of the resolution.")

119

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| General Purposes and Watch | January 21 |
|----------------------------|------------|

(Subject to an amendment moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, "That paragraph 4 (Shorthand typists-merit increases) referred to in Min. 670 be referred to the Staff Joint Advisor,. Committee for their views.")

(Subject also to an amendment moved by Councillor Gardner, seconded by Councillor Yeend, "That Min 677 (Sunday Opening of Cinemas) be amended by the insertion of the following condition among those which the Council place on record as being their intention to impose in the event of an Order being made for the Sunday opening of cinemas:---'That no employee shall be compelled to work on Sundays, or penalised for his, or her, conscientious refusal to do so. ")

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| Rating | January 22 |
|--------|------------|

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| Finance | January 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.

(An amendment moved by- Councillor Readings, seconded by Alderman Smith, "That Min. 703 (Fire Insurance—Council houses) be referred back for further consideration" was lost).

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| British Restaurants | January 27 |
|---------------------|------------|

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Selection | January 27 |
|-----------|------------|

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Gardner, seconded by Councillor Yeend, That the name of Mr. Councillor S. Bendall be substituted for that of Mr Councillor Gardner in respect of the representation on the Cheltenham Youth Committee.")

H. T. BUSH. Mayor.

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**7th February, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Clara F. Winterbotham (Chairman) and Capt. J. H. Trye; Councillors Fisher, Waite and Yeend Messrs. J. S. Bond and C. R. Mapp.

715—Curator's Report for January, 1947—Visitors—During; January 2,722 (January last year 4,945). Daily average 101 (last year 183).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, etc.. £4 0s. 3d. ; "Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account" £6 11s. 4d.

Exhibitions—(a) A Selection of Pictures from the 94th Annual Exhibition of the Royal West of England Academy was on view from the 4th-31st January, 1947. During this period of 24 days it was visited by 2,405 persons, an average of 100 daily.

(b) The Bible Exhibition, previously authorised (see Minute 56 (e)) was held in the week commencing 3rd Feb It was visited by 26 classes numbering 1,154 students from Cheltenham College, Cheltenham Ladies' College, North Gloucestershire Technical College, the Grammar Schools, and certain private and Elementary schools. 25 lantern talks were given during the week by Mr. Wm. Harris. The total number of visitors to this Exhibition was 2,427.

Dancing Girl—The Curator reported that a bronze statuette by the late Mrs. Lodowick Rees, given to the Museum in 1938 was stolen from the Art Gallery on Friday, 31st Jan, 1947. The theft was reported to the police who had since recovered same.

Bath and West Agricultural Show—The Curator reported a visit from Mr E. J. Rudsdale, Curator of the Wisbech Museum, who had been engaged by the Bath and West to set up a display of agricultural by-gones. The Curator recommended that the Art Gallery Attendant (C. I. Jackson, be freed from his normal duties during the period of setting-up this particular exhibit, which would be mainly made up of specimens from the Museum, and until its return to the Museum. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to. RESOLVED, Further, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to arrange transport facilities for objects from the Museum to the showground and the return thereof, after the Exhibition.

Charles M. Gere One-man Exhibition—The Curator reported a request from Mr. Gere that this Exhibition should be postponed to the autumn, 1947. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

Exhibition of Self-Portraits, Bournemouth—RESOLVED, That the self-portrait of Mr. Charles M. Gere, R.A. for which application had been received from Bournemouth, should be granted to the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery for an exhibition from 27th March-31st May, 1947.

716—Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors: Mr Wallace Beck (sepia-wash drawing by Alfred Thornton) ; Mr Toni Hayter (Photograph of the late Capt. R. P. Wild), and other items from Mrs. Audrey Bull, Mrs. W. L. Mellersh and Mrs D Chambers. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

120

717—Specimens Purchased —RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved :—General Account . Swansea teacup, saucer, coffee cup (£8 15s. 0d.) ; Staffordshire teapot, bowl, saucer (17s). H. A. Thomas Bequest " : 2 Nantgarw plates (£49 10s. 0d.).

718 —Exhibitions—Rutherford Collection—RESOLVED, That this Collection, which includes works by John, Sickert, Gertler, Conder and others; offered by the Arts Council of Great Britain, be accepted for the period 1st-10th September, 1947, on the terms set out and that the services of Miss Marjorie Lilly as guide-lecturer for part of the period be arranged for.

719—Photogravure Postcard Reproductions of important pictures in the Permanent Collection—As the stock of these had been exhausted, it was RESOLVED, to publish six more important pictures (2,000 cards of each), costing approximately 2d each, at a total approximate cost of £100, and that a sum for this amount be included in the Estimates. The cards would be sold at 3d each.

720—Museums Association Conference---RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to attend this Conference at Manchester, July 7-11, 1947.

721—Captain Charles Sturt's Water Bottle—The Curator read a letter from Mr. L. Key, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia, referring to the water bottle, now in Cheltenham Museum, which belonged to Captain Charles Sturt, the famous Australian explorer, The letter enquired whether consideration could be given to handing this relic over to the Commonwealth. RESOLVED, That this bottle be transferred to the Australian Commonwealth for exhibition in the National Library at Canberra.

722—Easter Closing---RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be Closed on Good Friday, 4th April, and Easter Monday, 7th April, 1947.

723—South Western Group of Museums and Art Galleries —RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to attend the Sixteenth Annual Meeting at Plymouth on the 18th April, 1947.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**7th February, 1947.** Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman) ; Councillors S. Bendall, Tucker Brown, Compton, Mann; Rev. E. C. Hanson and Rev. Barbara Thomas.

724—Librarian's Report for January 1947—Issues —Reference Department 7,583 ; Lending Department 35,315 ; Junior Department 4,023; Branch Libraries 1,641; School Libraries (Oct.,-Dec.) 8,178; Loan Collections 400. Total 57,140 (Jan. last year 58,128. [A record issue of 3,922 volumes was made from all departments on Saturday, 1st February, 1947. The previous highest figure was 3,814 on 21st October, 1944]. RESOLVED, That the Committee place on record their appreciation of the way which the Library staff was carrying on the services of the Library under difficulties of overcrowding, and that the Librarian be asked to convey to the staff this expression of the Committee's thanks.

Receipts amounted to £99 15s. 6d.

Replacements and Binding-184 volumes had been replaced and 538 returned from the binder.

Lectures—Three lectures had been given in the Art Gallery, during January, the average attendance being 99.

Loans—A further 75 volumes had been placed on deposit in All Saints' School Library. Letters had been received from Sgt. Parker, B.A.O.R., and Miss D. Walker, Berlin, B.A.O.R., appealing for books. The Librarian reported that he had sent seven parcels of surplus material which could be spared.

725—Books —RESOLVED, That 284 volumes, published at £144 14s. 6d., be purchased for £123 15s. 9d.

726—Donations-4 volumes had been received from 4 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

727—Library Association Annual Conference. RESOLVED, That the Librarian be authorised to attend this Conference at Brighton 9-13th June 1947.

728—British Record Society—The Librarian reported letter from the British Record Society, the President of which is the Master of the Rolls, outlining the work which had been carried out by this society over the past half-century, and stating that owing to change in social conditions the prospect of increasing the number of private subscribers was not great. The burden of supporting publications of national value would have to be borne in increasing extent by libraries and institutions. The Society appealed therefore for the support of the Cheltenham Public Library. RESOLVED, That the Council make an Annual Subscription of 11 guineas, for which the Annual Publications would be received.

729—Easter Closing---RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library be kept open on Saturday, 5th April, and closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman .

121

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**10th February, 1947.** Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman), Alderman Smith, Councillors Compton, Green, Waite, and Yeend. Mr. H. Roe.

730—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 6th February (Report circulated herewith), RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

731—Temporary Allotments, Alstone Lane--(Min. .191)—The Town Clerk had communicated with the Gloucestershire Territorial Army and Air Force Association and the Ministry of Apiculture upon the proposal to erect temporary buildings on a portion of the site of these allotments for accommodating the Heavy Anti-aircraft Regiment to be raised in Cheltenham.

The Territorial Association had inspected the New Street site, which was suggested as an alternative.

The site was, however, insufficient for their requirements. The Association had also considered the N.F.S. Station in Whaddon Road which seemed suitable, but the Housing Committee felt unable to discontinue their negotiations for its use as a temporary Community Centre for the Whaddon Estate and had, therefore, suggested that this Committee explore the possibility of acquiring other land, in the vicinity of Alstone for the displaced allotment tenants.

The Ministry of Agriculture had made representations to the War Office upon the matter and would forward a further communication to the Council in due course.

Subject to the Gardens Superintendent being satisfied as to the suitability of the soil, it was suggested the Council might acquire The Vineyards, off Gloucester Road, containing approximately 3 acres subject to the Planning Committee being willing to alter the scheduling of the site to allotments instead of for industrial purposes. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Gardens Superintendent inspect the land, and, if satisfactory, the Town Clerk endeavour to negotiate terms of purchase and the Planning Committee be approached on the lines indicated.

732—Rebates in Rent----RESOLVED: That the tenant of No. 62 North Ward be granted three months' rent free period and the tenants of Nos. 5 (half only), 30 Elmfield Road and 27 (a) Creamery Piece 6 months' rent free period in view of the bad condition of these plots.

733—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting 17 allotments had been let and the tenancies of 20 terminated. He was, as instructed by the Horticulture Committee, undertaking propaganda urging the public to continue food production and indicating the allotments now vacant. He was also co-operating with the Allotments Society in their press advertising for their film display on 27th February.

734—National Allotments Society—(Min. 284)—The Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society had decided to send a delegate to the National Society's Conference at Blackpool from 8th to 10th May, Their delegate would act as the Council's proxy as requested, RESOLVED, That the Society's delegate be appointed accordingly.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**11th February, 1947**, Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Deputy Mayor, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Comp-ton, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Morris and Strickland.

735—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—(i) Tenders—The Borough Surveyor reported that tenders had been received from 19 small builders for a total of 56 houses to be erected on Lynworth Farm Estate. The tenders were opened by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and an analysis of the costs of the lowest tender for each of the 5 types revealed prices per sq. ft. of floor area as follows:-

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Pair of Houses type N     | 25s 2 ¾d |
| Pair of Houses type A     | 24s 10d  |
| Pair of Houses type S     | 25s 9d   |
| Block of 4 Houses type A4 | 23s 8 ¾d |
| Block of 4 Houses type S4 | 23s 8d   |

Particulars had been forwarded to the Ministry and application had been made for approval to the acceptance of the tenders. It had been suggested that if a discussion with the appropriate official of the Ministry in Bristol would be effective in speeding up agreement the Borough Surveyor would be prepared to attend. RESOLVED, That the action taken be approved.

(ii) The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that it was unlikely that an decision on the proposals would be made until after the Zonal Conference on the 5th March referred to below.

122

736—Control of Civil Building—(i) Circular 16/47 from the Ministry of Health was submitted with regard to the housing programme for 1947, together with a White Paper which had been presented to Parliament. After expressing high appreciation of the efforts which local authorities had made during the past year in the matter of housing, the Minister set out the difficulties which were likely to be encountered during the coming year. On the whole, more houses had been placed under contract than it had been possible to complete with the labour and materials available, so that it was now important to establish a proper balance between proposals and resources. To begin with, outstanding contracts should be completed as far as possible and an estimate made of the additional tenders to be invited and contracts placed accordingly. Since building labour employed was not local

in most districts it was not possible to consider districts individually, and for this purpose a Zonal Conference had been arranged.

A Conference would be held shortly for each Zone and before or at each Conference information as to building commitments and resources would be available for local authorities. Estimates would be made as to the number of houses which could be completed during the year and the timed schedule drawn up of the total number of houses for which tenders should be invited in each Zone by the end of the year, and the district distribution. In considering new proposals their effect upon standing contracts must be considered and care taken to distribute the number of houses equitably between districts. It was hoped by these means to secure a balanced building programme and the Government would use their utmost endeavours to ensure that the necessary materials were made available.

(ii) The Town Clerk reported that notice had been received of the Zonal Conference to be held in Cheltenham on the 5th March. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor represent the Council at this conference.

(iii) Licences-----The Town Clerk submitted circular 19/47 from the Ministry of Health asking that care should be taken on the restriction of licensing not to create unemployment amongst small building firms. Local contractors, large and small, should be fully utilised on new housing and labour diverted thereto from repair and maintenance work. It was thought that difficulties might be encountered where small firms engaged solely upon repair and maintenance work would not come strictly within the scope of Circular 92/46 since they had never built houses. Nevertheless the possibility of several such firms combining to erect new houses should be explored. The practice of sub-contracting to certain specialist firms would also assist in providing employment and this practice should be extended as far as possible. Inevitably a residue of small but qualified general jobbing builders who could not be employed on the construction of new houses nor fully employed on sub-contracts would be left and this factor should be taken into consideration when licences were issued. Licensing Authorities should also consult local Labour Exchange Managers. In general, small contractors would obtain employment beneath the £10 limit, but in certain exceptional cases the issue of licences to avoid unemployment might be necessary.

The categories in which it might be necessary to take special action in the issue of licences outside the allocated quotas of labour were set out as follows : -

- (a) Painting and decorating work, where only painters are used and are not needed for priority work.
- (b) French polishing.
- (c) Specialist work in the supply or laying of rubber or cork flooring. (d) Specialist cleaning of paint or stone where tubular steel scaffolding not already owned by the firm would not be involved.
- (e) Specialist work on the repair of lifts.
- (f) Insertion of plate-glass windows and certain shop-fitting needs.
- (g) Repair, and adaptation of agricultural buildings and certain other specialist work such as thatching. The Ministry of Works copy of each licence issued to specialist firms under the circular should carry the symbol " U " and value of such licences need not be counted against the ceiling fixed at zonal conferences. They should be shown separately in periodical returns.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he had noted the instructions contained in the circular and was of the opinion that the proposals with regard to sub-contracting might be put into effect to advantage in connection with the small builders' scheme. RESOLVED) That this be approved.

(iv) Montal Watch Fittings Ltd.—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health intimating that a decision on the application of Mr. J. Gantner for a licence to erect eight houses for employees to be transferred to his factory in Priors Road should be deferred until after the Zonal Conference.

737—Whaddon Community Association—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the acting Chairman of this Association asking that the Council should take necessary steps to acquire the N.F.S. Huts at Whaddon to be used as the Centre. At present a membership of just over 300 was anticipated. The Town Clerk reported that negotiations were now proceeding with Cheltenham Estates Ltd. with a view to acquiring this site.

738—Housing of Workers of Industrial Concerns—Information had been received from the Ministry of Health that they would be prepared to allocate 50 additional temporary aluminium houses to the Council, provided that a site for the erection of the bungalows could be available for slabbing by the 30th April next. It was understood that 30 of these would be allocated to the employees of Roy Fedden Ltd., and the remainder would be at the disposal of the Council.

The Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed by the Estate Management Sub-Committee, he had endeavoured to find a suitable site, and submitted 3 layouts for the 50 bungalows to be erected on the site at The Knole. One of the layouts submitted provided for the preservation of existing trees and other features and for the bungalows to face south, east and west. These layouts had been submitted to the Ministry for approval with a request that such approval should be given as quickly as possible, but it had not yet been received. The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that the most effective and quickest method for laying out the site would be by direct labour in view of the fact that he now had the necessary mechanical equipment. He understood that Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. might possibly be in a position to assist with sonic labour.

123

With regard to the proposition to carry out this work by direct labour, the Borough Treasurer reminded the Committee that loan sanctions were always issued on condition that no salaries or wages of permanent employees were charged to the loan. RESOLVED, (a) That the layout as now settled by the Committee be approved. (b) That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to prepare an estimate of the cost of the preparation of a site and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan therefor. (c) That the Committee approve of the work being carried out by direct labour and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to give any decisions as may be necessary to ensure the site being ready by the 30th April as stipulated by the Ministry.

739—Direct Works Department—The Borough Surveyor submitted report on the suggestion to set up a Direct Works Department for site development works. RESOLVED, That in view of the acute labour difficulties the proposal be adjourned for the time being.

740—Lynworth Estate—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported that progress of both schemes 1 and 2 had been seriously delayed due to inclement weather, but work had been found for carpenters, plumbers and painters. Other trades had been unable to work. Since the application of the Essential Works Order the cost of wet time had increased as the guaranteed week allowed for a maximum of 44 hours as against the normal 32. On Scheme 1, the cost for wet time amounted to



£457 from commencement of the contract in December, 1945, to 20th January, 1947, but by February 3rd this amount had risen to £871.

On Scheme 2, the cost for wet time on February 3rd stood at £200, the whole of which was chargeable against the Essential Works Order as the Contractor was responsible for wet time under the normal guaranteed week. As from 31st March, when the Essential Works Order would cease, the Contractor would resume the responsibility for all costs under the minimum guaranteed week.

The Town Clerk pointed out that the Council were not bound, under the Essential Works Order, to pay men engaged on this contract after they had been off for a complete week owing to bad weather conditions, but that they could, with the consent of the Ministry of Labour, discharge the men until weather conditions made work possible again. RESOLVED, That the Committee feel it advisable to pay and retain the men on these contracts irrespective of weather conditions, but that the position be watched with a view to a report being made at the Council Meeting.

(b) Tree Planting-----The Borough Surveyor reported that it was now desirable to reach a decision with regard to what sort of trees should be planted along the verges of the road on this estate. He had discussed the matter with the Highways Treeman and now advised the Committee that it would be better to plant more sizeable trees in place of the usual small type. He favoured such trees as London Plane, Silver Birch, White Beam, and, in certain cases, Cedars. RESOLVED, That this matter be left to the discretion of the Borough Surveyor but that generally the Committee feel that larger trees than hitherto should be planted.

(c) B.I.S.F. Houses—The Borough Surveyor submitted application from the Plastering Sub-Contractor through the main Contractor for permission to import two Plasterers and two Plasterers' Labourers for work on these houses. It was understood that they intended to bring these men from any district within daily travelling distance and the extra costs involved in fares and travelling time would be chargeable to the Corporation. The Local Employment Exchange had informed the Borough Surveyor that there was every possibility of such plasterers as were required being found locally, although the Sub-Contractors had informed him that they were already employing labour imported from Lydney.

They intimated that if their claim for extra costs was not allowed they would have to consider withdrawing such imported labour from the site. Bad weather was holding up plastering work and two plasterers, therefore, who had been sent to the site by the Employment Exchange, were not engaged, although one was employed on the site as a labourer by the main Contractor and would be available when plastering work was restarted. In view, therefore, of the possibility of local labour being available, the Borough Surveyor recommended that approval to the proposals to import labour should be withheld until the Local Employment Exchange had had an opportunity of supplying such labour as is required.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that under the terms of the contract the Contractor was entitled to employ such labour where he had obtained the written consent of the Architect, and it was further stipulated that such consent could not be unreasonably withheld. Labour was to be imported if local labour was not available. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved and adopted.

(d) B.I.S.F. Houses—Basic Prices for Materials—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had received a list of basic prices for paint and pitch mastic flooring from the Ministry and a copy of schedule of Prices No. 1 for alternative materials which could be used in the hot and cold water installations of these houses. They had been agreed between the Ministry and the British Steel Houses Ltd., but it

was emphasised that the prices in the schedule were suggestions only and that the actual prices to be paid would have to be agreed between the local authority and the contractor.

The Borough Surveyor was adhering to the specification as long as the materials specified were obtainable as this would be more advantageous and would assist in keeping down costs.

He felt that basic prices for paint and pitch mastic flooring were inclined to be low and did not anticipate that it would be easy to obtain quotations.

With regard to an amendment in the hot water installation proposed some time ago by the Borough Surveyor although no observations on the suggestion had been received by the Contractors' agent on the site, the Borough Surveyor understood that this amendment had now been adopted and was to be incorporated in all houses.

124

741—Whaddon Estate—The Borough Surveyor reported that the close-boarded fence at the rear of the houses in Dart Road and at the side of No. 31 had collapsed, exposing the gardens and backs of houses to Priors Road. As this looked unsightly he proposed to refix the fence, but as No. 31 Dart Road adjoined the proposed site for the " No Fines " concrete houses it would be necessary to alter the line of fencing at the side of No. 31, thereby curtailing the garden. To form proper entrance paths to the new maisonettes in Severn Road an alteration in the line of the roadway to the adjoining allotments would be necessary and the existing fences at No. 62 Severn Road would have to be straightened, thereby curtailing the front garden of this house. Negotiations for this change would have to take place with the tenant of this house also. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager be instructed to arrange with the tenants in question for the necessary rearrangement of their fences.

742—No Fines " Houses—A survey of the Rowanfield Road site had now been completed. Consequent upon the Committee's decision to endeavour to erect the remainder of the " No Fines " houses left over from Lynworth Farm on this estate, the Borough Surveyor had been Dressing for details of the further designs for different aspects. Advanced copies of plans of a block of 4 houses and 2 further pairs for north and south aspects had now been received. Although the plans had yet to be approved by the Ministry and prices agreed, the Borough Surveyor was assured that it was extremely unlikely that any alteration would be made to the frontages. These new plans would enable the layout to proceed from which the final plans for roads and services and documents for site preparation would be compiled. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

743—Sub-Station Site—The Knole--Application was submitted from the Electricity Committee for the sale of a piece of land at The Knole for a sub-station site. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor agree with the Borough Electrical Engineer on a suitable site, and that such site be sold at the valuation of the District Valuer.

H. T. BUSH. Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**10th February, 1947**, Present—Councillor Green (Chairman) ; Alderman Smith; Councillors Addis, Compton and Waite.

**Adjourned Meeting, 12th February, 1947**. Present—Councillor Green (Chairman); the Mayor; Alderman Smith Councillors Addis, J. Bendall and Compton.

744—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—(a) Report of Visitors—RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Visitors that the three large trees which obstruct light to the rear of houses in Asquith Road be removed and replaced, in due course, with silver birches.

(b) Schools Canteen (Min. 555)—The Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor had discussed with the County Architect and agreed the area of 2,742 square yards now required for the schools canteen and other premises. By adjusting the position of the buildings to a point further south, interference with the Rugby Football pitch would be avoided. It would, however, be necessary to increase the length of the approach road and the Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of construction at £127 as compared with his previous estimate of £109. The Council had originally agreed to bear £60 of the latter expenditure but the Committee felt that in view of the amended proposals the County Council should bear the additional cost.

There was also the question of the conveniences provided for the recreation ground and which were sited at the boundary of the school premises, access being obtained from the recreation ground only. The new buildings would be placed in front of these conveniences and it was essential that provision should be made for access thereto from the recreation ground, or alternatively, for the County Council to provide new conveniences on another approved site.

RESOLVED, (i) That the area of land containing 2,742 square yards be conveyed to the County Council at a price agreed by the District Valuer and that the Common Seal be affixed to the conveyance.

(ii) That the County Council be informed that this Committee are prepared to pay £60 towards the cost of the access road.

(iii) That with regard to the conveniences, the County Council be required to provide in their scheme for access thereto from the recreation ground or, alternatively, to erect new conveniences on another approved site.

(iv) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the transfer of the land.

745—Victory Sports Ground (Min. 553)—The Cheltenham Town Association Football Club noted that the Council had now decided to provide clinker for uncovered accommodation for spectators at a cost of £60. They had been asked to submit suggestions which they considered might be possible to carry out during the next year for improving the ground, but which would not interfere with housing or other high priority works. They there-fore, asked for concrete posts and guard rails which they understood were about to be erected; covered accommodation to extend the whole length of the pitch opposite the grandstand; clinker or rubble extending six feet in width on three sides of the pitch; and five gallons each of red and white paint which the Club thought they could themselves obtain and could use with voluntary labour. They would make every effort to assist the Council in purchasing the materials for the covered stand and would provide voluntary labour so far as lay within their power.

125

The Borough Surveyor had already made provision in the annual estimates for many of the improvements indicated, which, if approved and the materials were procurable, would enable the work to be carried out before next season. With regard to covered accommodation, however, he foresaw some difficulty in obtaining the materials required but provision would be made for this in the estimates. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly.

746—St. George's Square Bowling Green—The Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club asked for the renewal of their tenancy of this green which expired on 1st March. The Chairman, Secretary and Captain of the Club attended and suggested that possibly a little more attention might be given to the Green, particularly before matches. Also that verges be tidied and seeding weeds removed ; fencing and wire netting repaired and shrubs which had now overgrown the paths be cut back. They also enquired that, should the weather be favourable, if their playing season might extend until the middle of October.

The Gardens Superintendent pointed out the considerable work he had carried out to restore the Green to its present condition. He considered it essential for maintenance to be undertaken by an experienced groundsman, and for this reason he preferred that his Department should carry out the work. He would, however, endeavour to arrange for attention to be given to the Green, particularly prior to matches. The Borough Surveyor also proposed to undertake fencing repairs in conjunction with the demolition of air-raid shelters. RESOLVED, (i) That the Green be let to the Club for the year commencing 1st March, 1947, at the same inclusive rent (£50) subject to their entering into an agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk containing the usual conditions.

(ii) That, subject to the Gardens Superintendent being satisfied that the green is fit for play, the season commence on the first Saturday in April and terminate on the first Saturday in October, with provision for extension to the middle of October having regard to weather conditions.

(iii) That the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent carry out necessary repairs and improvements.

(iv) That the Club be asked to submit a copy of their balance sheet at the end of the season.

747—Athletic Ground—Cottage—The Borough Surveyor had completed the repairs and decorations to this cottage, with the exception of the bathroom. Mr. H. G. Attwood, the Groundsman, had entered into occupation on the 10th February on a service tenancy at an inclusive weekly rental of 10s which would be deducted from his wages. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

748—Maintenance of Recreation Grounds and Playing Fields-- -The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the cost and work involved in maintaining playing areas and marking out pitches, and indicated the proportion of such work carried out for the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That he submit a report and estimate to the next meeting to enable consideration to be given to an application to the Education Committee for a contribution towards the cost thereof.

749—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—Extensions--- The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee were considering extensions to the Pool and had suggested that this Committee should agree to relinquish land behind Cheltondale Villas, now used as a nursery garden. This land was acquired in 1935 for the Parks Department and contained approximately 1,500 square yards. The Gardens Superintendent stated that 50% of spring flowering plants were produced thereon and the soil had been specially prepared for the purpose. In order to continue to raise the large quantity of bedding required, alternative land would be necessary and at least a year would be required to prepare another site. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to transfer the land at the present time but will be prepared to consider the matter when it is possible to acquire additional nursery land at Pittville.

750-Sandford Park----(a) Fencing at rear of houses in Bath Parade—The Gardens Superintendent drew attention to the fencing at the south-western corner (junction of College Road and Bath Parade). In its present condition the public could easily obtain access to the Park and this was

undesirable, particularly during hours of darkness and added to the already existing nuisance. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk approach the owners of Nos. 42, 44 and 46 Bath Parade asking them to repair their rear fencing.

(b) Ornamental Pool--The Gardens Superintendent reported upon nuisance caused in this area of the park and recommended the erection of a suitable gate at Chelt Bridge. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

751—King George V Playing Field—(a) Entrances---The Borough Surveyor reported upon the Rowanfield Road Estate layout and indicated the area to be allocated to `square off this playing field. It was proposed to provide an additional entrance to the field from a new road on the estate.

(b) Brooklyn Road Entrance—The Gardens Superintendent proposed to improve the entrance from Brooklyn Road and suggested that both the south-west and north-east sides of the entrance road be flanked with a six-foot high Cupressus hedge. For this purpose it would be necessary to negotiate with the owner of No. 53 Brooklyn Road for the removal of the high and untidy thorn hedge now forming the boundary of his property. It was anticipated that he would be agreeable thereto as the new hedge would effect a considerable improvement. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent's recommendations be adopted and that he approach the owner of No. 53 Brooklyn Road accordingly.

(c) Grass Seed—The Gardens Superintendent reported that included in the estimate for work at this ground for which application had been made for loan sanction, he had provided for the purchase of one ton of grass seed at a cost of approximately £200. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to obtain quotations therefor as soon as sanction to loan has been obtained.

752—Priors Farm—The Town Clerk reported that it was now desired to make application to the Ministry of Health for loan sanction for the cost of this farm which was purchased some two years ago and, for this purpose, it was necessary to allocate the farm to the various purposes for which it was required. He submitted plan showing the allocation of land which included the field adjoining the temporary housing site, containing approximately 20 acres, as a playing field. RESOLVED, That the plan be approved and that in due course the Gardens Superintendent submit his proposals for layout.

126

753—Marle Hill Annexe—Boating--The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the boating season in 1946 and made recommendations for increasing the hire charges in 1947. RESOLVED, That for next season the hire charge to adults be increased from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 0d. per hour for the first passenger, but that the present rate of per hour for each additional passenger remain. ALSO RESOLVED, That no increase be made in the hire charge for children's craft, namely, 3d. per child per half-hour.

754—Pittville Gardens—Pets Corner [Min. 1834(b)/46]—The Gardens Superintendent had been authorised to acquire such animals and birds as he considered suitable for the establishment of a pets corner for children. He had, therefore, accepted the gift of an eight-year old monkey but subsequently complaints had been received by the Chairman upon its living conditions. The R.S.P.C.A. Inspector had, therefore, been consulted and he had inspected the accommodation and informed both the Town Clerk and Gardens Superintendent that he was quite satisfied therewith. However, to meet the complaints, the monkey had been offered to Bristol Zoo but the authorities already had a similar specimen and were not willing to accept the animal. It had now been offered to

Dudley Zoo and it was understood that a decision would be arrived at within the next few days. Should Dudley be unwilling to accept the animal, further efforts would be made for its disposal but in the meantime, unless it was destroyed, it must be retained in its present quarters and having regard to the R.S.P.C.A. Inspector's report, the Committee saw no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent's action be approved.

755—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground--(a) Fun Fair, Whitsuntide—Messrs. R. Edwards & Son, of Swindon, offered £130 for the amusement rights at Whitsuntide, 22nd to 31st May, with three days for erection and a similar period for dismantling. The Entertainments Manager recommended acceptance. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted subject to Messrs. Edwards entering into an agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk containing the usual conditions including payment of a deposit before entry, and an undertaking to pay for any damage incurred. ALSO RESOLVED, That as this letting, with the letting already accepted for August Bank Holiday, completes the period of four weeks for fun fairs, limited by Min. 557 (a), no further applications be entertained for 1947.

(b) Playground Equipment—The Borough Surveyor submitted tender from Mr. R. Towell amounting to £74 16s. 6d. for patching, etc., to tar macadam on the sites occupied by playground equipment. He recommended that the work be put in hand as soon as possible with the exception of the area occupied by swings adjoining Hudson Street, the cost of which amounted to £21 and which might be deferred until the next financial year. Provision had already been made in the estimates for expenditure sufficient to cover the remain-ing items. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved.

756--Sports Facilities—Cricket, Hockey and Football- The Gardens Superintendent proposed in future to give additional attention to sports areas at recreation grounds and playing fields. It would not be possible this year to provide new cricket tables but he hoped to do so before 1948 and would, in the meantime, carry out increased maintenance.

With regard to the next football and hockey season, he recommended that the Council's groundsmen prepare and mark pitches and that goal posts be provided as soon as materials can be purchased. Having regard to this additional work he suggested that the rental for football and hockey pitches on playing fields be increased from 5s to 7s 6d for each occasion. RESOLVED, That this be approved, the charge for cricket pitches to be reviewed when cricket tables are provided.

757—Turf Nursery—The Gardens Superintendent recommended the purchase of a turf piercing machine at a cost of approximately £70. This machine was essential in connection with the new turfing required for the restoration of playing fields, recreation grounds, etc., and provision had been made in the estimates therefor. RESOLVED, That the purchase be authorised.

758—Transport—Trailer—The Gardens Superintendent reported that after many enquiries he had been unable to obtain the type of trailer necessary for the transfer of gang mower units from site to site. He had, therefore, obtained expert advice as to the possibility of converting the chassis and body of the old Pattisson vehicle into a four-wheeled trailer with tipping body, which would facilitate loading and unloading, and found that this could be done at an estimated cost of £30. The engine of the old Pattisson vehicle might be offered to the makers as it was understood spare parts were in demand. RESOLVED, That the conversion be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That as it is understood the Education Committee are endeavouring to acquire old engines for demonstration purposes at

schools, the Gardens Superintendent discuss with the Education Officer the dis-posal of the old Patisson engine.

759—Institute of Public Administration—Annual Conference—This Institute would hold its annual conference at Brighton from 20th to 22nd May. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Gardens Superintendent be authorised to attend.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

127

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**10th February, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Waite ; Councillors Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner, Strickland and T. Kenneth Waite.

760—Housing Act. 1936—(i) Rear, 199 High Street—The Committee further considered the making of a demolition order in respect of the above property. The owner attended and explained his proposals to use the premises for storage only. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the owner that the premises shall be used for storage only and not for human habitation be accepted, subject to an undertaking to that effect.

(ii) Basements—North Lodge, North Place : Royal Well Villa, Chapel Walk ; 54 Bath Road ; 17 Royal Parade; 21 Great Norwood Street—Further consideration was given to making closing orders in respect of the above basements. The owners, or their representatives, attended in respect of North Lodge, North Place ; Royal Well Villa, Chapel Walk. A letter was submitted from the owner of 21 Great Norwood Street enclosing form of undertaking not to use the basement for human habitation and asking the Council not to proceed with the proposed order. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal of the Council in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than storage purposes in respect of Royal Well Villa, 54 Bath Road, 21 Great Norwood Street and storage and domestic purposes in respect of the remaining basements.

(iii) Basements-14 Suffolk Parade, 19 Rotunda Terrace, 436 High Street, 7 Albert Place, 3 Evesham Road—The Sub-Committee reported on their inspection of the above basements. The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector thereon was also submitted. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above-mentioned parts of the said buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said parts of the said buildings and the mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of the Committee to be held on the 17th March, 1947.

(iv) 9, 10, 11 and 12 Kew Place—The Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of these premises and the Medical Officer of Health submitted his representations thereon with a view to demolition orders being made. RESOLVED, That having regard to the housing shortage, the Housing

Committee consider acquiring these properties and carrying out such works as might be necessary to render them fit for human habitation until the housing shortage is relieved.

(v) Closing of Basements—The Cheltenham Branch of the British Legion forwarded a resolution protesting against condemnation of basements as unfit for human habitation during the present housing shortage. RESOLVED, That the British Legion be informed that the Council were only taking this action in respect of basements which it was essential should be closed immediately in the interest of the inhabitants and to prevent the re-letting of such basements on their being vacated, that each case was considered on its merits and that Closure Orders were not made without the most careful consideration.

(vi) Unfit Houses—(a) RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of 307 Gloucester Road be renewed for a further period of six months from the 25th March, 1947.

761—Foods and Drugs Act 1938—(i) 43 Queen Street [Min. 361 (ii)]—Notice was served in pursuance of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, upon the occupier of these premises, requesting him to show cause why the registration of these premises for the manufacture of ice-cream should not be cancelled. The occupier did not appear before the Committee or submit any representation. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that these premises, which were used for the manufacture of ice-cream, do not satisfy the requirements of the Act, and were otherwise unsuitable for the purpose for which they were used, hereby cancel the registration in this respect, but, subject to arrangements being made to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, no objection be raised to registration of the premises for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

(ii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon Samples Nos. 844, 845, 847 (brandy, sherry and similar commodities), all of which were satisfactory. Samples Nos. 851-856 (milk) showed that Nos. 854-856 were slightly deficient in fats, and the remainder genuine.

762—Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-1938—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms, both of which were satisfactory.

(b) RESOLVED, That the following licences be granted for the period ending December, 1947, subject to the provisions of the orders.

(i) Gloucester Co-operative and Industrial Society. Ltd., for a supplementary licence to use the designation " Pasteurised in relation to milk retailed by them in the Borough.

(ii) Haidon's Dairy, Badgeworth, for a supplementary licence to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested " in relation to milk retailed by them in the Borough.

763—Sanitary Inspectors' Association—Annual Conference—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and the Sanitary inspector be authorised to attend the annual conference of this Association at Bournemouth from the 19th to the 23rd May, 1947.

128

764—Public Conveniences—(i) 6 Clarence Parade—Proposed Extension [Min. 2076 (i)]—The Town Clerk reported that negotiations had now been completed for the purchase<sup>1</sup> of this property, for the sum of £1,500, which the District Valuer was prepared to recommend. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan of £1,515 for the cost of the property including stamp duty, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for this sum, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.



(ii) Marle Hill Road Convenience (Min. 585)—The Chairman had accepted the tender of Messrs. T. W. Harvey and Sons amounting to £44 9s. 0d. (less 2 ½ %), being the most favourable tender of three submitted. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

765—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon certain defects at the following properties :-43 Naunton Lane ; 9 Pittville Street (Top flat) ; 14 Princes Terrace ; 28 Sun Street ; 43 Bath Road (Top flat). RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of 43 Naunton Lane, 14 Princes Street and 28 Sun Street under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936 ; upon the owners of 9 Pittville Street (Top flat) under Section 39 and 93 of the Act, and upon the owner of 43 Bath Road (Top flat) under Section 45 of the Act requiring them to execute the necessary works at their properties within a period of 21 days of such notice and that failing compliance the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dustbins—(a) RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 27 of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, upon the owners of 62 Gratton Road, 43 Bath Road requiring them to provide regulation dustbins for such premises.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owner of 2 Prospect Terrace, Fairview Street, had not complied with the statutory notice to provide a regulation dustbin for these premises. RESOLVED, That a new dustbin be provided by the Council, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to recover the expenses incurred from the owners thereof in pursuance of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(iii) Caravan—Montpellier Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the proprietor of Elmwood Garage, Montpellier Street, was occupying a caravan at these premises. The occupants were the proprietor, his wife and three children, 5 years, 1 ½ years and 9 weeks. There was inadequate ventilation, overcrowding and lack of height, so as to constitute a nuisance in accordance with the provisions of Sections 93 and 168 of the Public Health Act, 1936. There were no facilities for washing and the sanitary accommodation was in an adjoining yard. RESOLVED, That notice be served on the owner under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. requiring him to abate the nuisance forthwith.

766—Sewage Works—Proposed Extension—The Committee further considered the Borough Surveyor's report in connection with the proposed extension to the Hayden Sewage Works. RESOLVED, That the appointment of a Specialist Engineering Assistant as provided in the establishment for the Department, be considered with the view to the preparation of a detailed scheme as soon as possible. ALSO RESOLVED, That further consideration of the report be deferred pending the inspection of the works by the Committee.

767—Sewer, Kingsditch Lane (Min. 581)—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Cheltenham Rural District Council had now agreed to hear one half of the cost, provided that sanction was obtained by them to the necessary loan, and the amount payable by the Rural District Council did not exceed £300, this would reduce the Council's payment from £400 to £292 12s. 0d.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**11th February, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye; Councillors Addis, Green, Morris and Strickland.

468—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of January was read : --

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Springs         | For month ended<br>31st January, 1947 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during past 3 years |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Hewletts Spring | 352,000                               | 251,000  |
| Dowdeswell      | 2,277,000                             | 1,403,000  |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated useable quantity approximately 104,000,000 gallons.

129

769—Work completed during the month—The Borough Engineer reported that during January 664 inspections had been undertaken when Inspectors had found 13 defective flush boxes, 31. leaking taps, 7 defective stop taps and 6 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 63 draw taps ; 24 notices had been served upon owners; 61 houses were connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 24 supplies disconnected, and 37 meters fixed or changed. With regard to general maintenance work 776 yards of new main had been laid at the Lynworth Housing Estate, Priors Park, Tewkesbury, Kingsditch Lane, and in Gloucester- Road. A number of mains and sluices had been repaired and [??]w sluice valves and hydrants fixed ; mains had also been washed out at Swindon, Leckhampton, Badgeworth, High Street, Tewkesbury Road, etc. General work had included meter cleaning and repairing, pumping and overhauling of chlorinating plant at Sandford, inspection of stop tap and sluice valve boxes and other works of cleaning out mains.

770—Rural Water Supplies (Min. 592)—(a) Leckhampton Hill—The Ministry of Health had contacted the War Department in regard to the Ullenwood plant and mains and understood that the latter were quite prepared to carry out the acquisition of the land and ancillary easements but were unable yet to proceed as the mater still awaited clearance from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, As soon as this clearance was received it would be possible for the War Department to proceed and, if necessary, employ compulsory powers. In the meantime the War Department were once more taking up with the local military authorities concerned the question of the temporary alternative of allowing the Council to take over and run the works and a further communication would be forwarded as soon as definite progress had been made.

(b) Parishes of Tirley and Hasfield---The Borough Engineer submitted letter from Mrs. Meath-Baker drawing attention to the deficiency in quality and quantity of the existing water supplies to these Parishes. In view of their proximity to the Gloucester Corporation's mains at Ashleworth, Mrs. Meath-Baker suggested that consideration be given to the transfer of the Parishes of Tirley and Hasfield to the area of supply of the Gloucester Corporation. The Borough Engineer pointed out the work already undertaken in preparing a scheme for this area, which scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Health some time ago and now awaited approval. In view thereof he recommended that the suggestion be not entertained. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be adopted, and Mrs. Meath-Baker informed accordingly.

771—Supply to Cleeve Station (Min. 593)—The Town Clerk reported that he had discussed the Rural District Council's application for this supply with their Clerk had informed him that this Committee felt settlement both of the scheme and terms would be expedited if the Chairman and Vice-

Chairman of this Committee met representatives of the Rural District Council for informal discussions. It was understood, however, that owing to other demands in the area the Rural District Council were considering an amendment of their proposals and, in due course, a new scheme would be forwarded to the Borough Engineer for his consideration. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred.

772—Housing Sites—St. Marks and Rowanfield Road—The Borough Engineer reported that 50 Aluminium Pre-fabricated Houses had been allocated to Cheltenham and the Housing Committee proposed to erect the same on a site near the Knole, St. Marks and three alternative layouts were now before the Ministry of Health for approval. In the circumstances, he was unable to submit a layout and estimate for the provision of water mains but, as the site had to be ready by the 30th April, work of main laying might be necessary before this Committee met again. He therefore asked for authority to proceed. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That he submit to the next meeting layout and estimate of the work involved together with similar information relating to the Rowanfield Road Estate.

773—Fire Hydrants—The Rural District Council required to fix to the 9" main in Tewkesbury Road, seven fire hydrants and the National Fire Service had been consulted upon the position thereof. It was proposed to fix the hydrants at the following points :—Near Hoo Garage ; near Highfield and Cursey Farm ; near The Stores, Coombe Hill ; near the group of houses on the east side of Sheldon Nurseries ; near Uckington crossroads ; near group of houses between Uckington crossroads and the Cross Hands ; and near the Cross Hands, Swindon. The Rural District Council had given an undertaking to pay the cost of the hydrants estimated at £150. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be instructed to provide the seven hydrants required subject to the cost thereof being borne by the Rural District Council and to their also undertaking to pay the cost of inspection and maintenance.

774—Waterworks Centenary Meeting—The British Waterworks Association would celebrate the centenary of the passing of the Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847, by holding a one-day conference in London, on 23rd April, to be followed by a dinner at the Guildhall at which the principal guest would be the Prime Minister. The conference would comprise papers and films on the development of water supplies during the past hundred years. Tickets for the Dinner were limited to one per member undertaking but if after the 1st March there was a surplus, an additional ticket would be offered to undertakings in order of application. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to attend and that he endeavour to obtain an additional ticket for the Chairman.

775—South Midlands Joint Industrial Council—The Borough Engineer reported upon a meeting of the Employers' side of this J.I.C. on 31st January. Approval had been given to the recommendations of the Standing Committee with regard to the National Council's sick pay scheme. In brief these recommendations were to make up employees' National Health Insurance payments to the full weekly wage for an aggregate period of six weeks followed by an aggregate period of seven weeks at half the normal weekly wage. The scheme was very similar to the sick pay scheme now operated by the Council.

776—Appeals--The appeals entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

## ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

**11th February, 1947.** Present--Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Aldermen Smith and Taylor ; Councillors S. Bendall, y. Bendall, Carter, Grimwade, Mann, Readings and Thompson.

777—Use of Net Surplus for Capital Expenditure--The Town Clerk submitted circular from the Electricity Commissioners dated 3rd February, 1947, that under Section 7 of the Schedule to the Electric Lighting (Clauses) .. Act, 1899, as amended by the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1926, the Commissioners consented to the application by local authorities of the net surplus remaining in any year in payment of certain specified expenses chargeable to capital, such consent to be operative as from the 1st April, 1947.

778—Consents to Loan—(a) Portable Oil Filter---The Town Clerk reported consent to the borrowing of £288 received from the Electricity Commissioners for the purchase of a portable Oil Filter.

(b) Improvement of Supply- -Brooklyn Gardens--The Town Clerk reported consent to the borrowing of £3,625 in connection with work necessary for the improvement of the existing supply in the Brooklyn Gardens area.

(c) Meter Testing Equipment--Consent to the borrowing of £1,202 for the purchase of 3 phase 1,000 ampere meter testing equipment had been received from the Commissioners.

779—Lamp, 38 Wyman's Road—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the tenant of this house asking that the lamp outside should be permanently extinguished since a nuisance was caused by children playing around it at night. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that a similar application had been received in respect of the same lamp at the last meeting of the Committee and it was felt, on the advice of the Borough Electrical Engineer, that this request could not be acceded to. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to recommend the extinguishing of this lamp.

780—Surplus Revenue—RESOLVED, (i) That the statutory maximum of 1 ½ % of the outstanding debt amounting to approximately £2,400 be transferred to the General Rate Fund for the relief of rates in the year 1947 to 1948.

(ii) The Borough Electrical Engineer made proposals for the disposal of the anticipated surplus for the current year. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve the proposals in principle and that the Borough Treasurer and Borough Electrical Engineer be asked to consult together and submit estimates and definite proposals to the next meeting with a view to recommendations being made to the Council at the April meeting.

781 ----Fringe Order—Gloucester Corporation—The Town Clerk reported receipt of copy of an Order made by the Commissioners under Section 6 of the Electric Lighting Act, 1909, to permit the Corporation of Gloucester to supply electricity to certain premises in the Rural Districts of Cheltenham outside their areas of supply.

782—Annual Convention of Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association—The annual convention of the Association would be held at Bournemouth from the 23rd to 27th June, 1947, and the Council were invited to appoint delegates to attend. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend.

783—Electricity The Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and the Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the provisions of the Electricity Bill.

(ii) The Town Clerk submitted notice of an extraordinary general meeting of the I.M.E.A. to consider, and if thought fit adopt with or without modification the following resolutions.

Resolution (1)—That steps be taken to secure that the scheme of administration below Area Board level as described in the Association's Memorandum dated 17th December, 1946, including the formation of District Distribution Units and District Committees, be established in lieu of the Consultative Councils proposed in Section 7 of the Bill.

Resolution (2)—That, in the event of the amendment to the Bill embodying the proposals set out in the fore-going Resolution (1) being unsuccessful, steps be taken to secure that the Local Authority members of the Consultative Councils referred to in Section 7 (2) (a) of the Bill be elected by and from amongst members of Local Authorities in the Area, in lieu of appointment by the Minister.

Resolution (3)—That steps be taken to secure :

(a) That the Minister, in the exercise of any of his powers in relation to any Area Board, shall first consult the Central Authority and

(b) That the Central Authority shall consider any conclusion, report and representations notified or made to them by Area Boards and the Area Boards may, after consultation with the Central Authority make representations to the Minister on any matter arising thereout.

Resolution (4)—That steps be taken to secure more adequate compensation for Local Authorities including compensation for all losses arising from the severance of the electricity undertakings from the other activities of Local Authorities.

Resolution (5)—That the Council be empowered to take steps to secure such amendments to the Bill as would give effect to the resolutions adopted by the Association, and such other amendments as the Council may consider necessary in the interest of the Electricity Supply Industry.

RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend the meeting.

RESOLVED ALSO, That the Council support the above-mentioned resolutions.

(iii) Read also circular from the Association of Municipal Corporations and Non-County Boroughs Association giving their views on the Bill so far as it affected local authority electrical undertakings. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate the views of the Association to the Borough Member and that he be asked to support the views put forward on behalf of local authority undertakings during the Committee stage of the Bill.

131

784—Street Lighting (a) The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there were no damaged lamp columns during the month of January. One new column was erected in St. George's Road, and one damaged c re-erected in Lower High Street. A number of cable faults on the street lighting system prevent further work in connection with the reinstatement of damaged columns.

(b) Promenade Lighting—The use of fluorescent tubes for street lighting had been tried in certain towns and the Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he and the Chairman had inspected an installation in Bond Street comprising lanterns housing three fluorescent tubes approximately. 80' apart. This lighting gave an almost uniform distribution of light at a high intensity over the whole of the road surface. He had now been in communication with Messrs. Revo Electric Co. and as a result they had submitted a scheme for the lighting of the Promenade between the fountain and Clarence Street which provides for seven lanterns housing only two 80 watt fluorescent tubes suspended

from the existing lamp columns which are approximately 150' apart, It was anticipated that such a scheme would give a fairly uniform distribution of light well within the limits required for Group A roads.

The cost of the equipment had been agreed at a special low figure of £200 and installation would amount to only £55 16s. 0d. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the installation of this equipment should be proceeded with and the cost charged to Revenue Account.

If, after an experimental period. it was agreed to retain the fittings as permanent, the cost could then be charged to street lighting. Whilst the new installation would give a much more even distribution of light and a greater total illumination there would at the same time be a reduction of 68% in the energy consumed.

RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

(c) Thirlestaine Road-----As instructed, the Borough Electrical Engineer had prepared a scheme for lighting this road as a Group A road. The scheme provided for replacement of existing lamps by 17 140 watt sodium dis-charge lamps mounted 25' high on concrete columns with an average spacing of 143'. He estimated the total cost of the scheme at £866 9s. 4d., of which £199 12s. 2d. would be the cost of labour for erection and cable work. RESOLVED, That the scheme be approved and application be made to the Ministry of Health through the Ministry of Transport for their consent. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made for consent to borrow a sum of £866 to cover the cost of the work,

785-2,000 Volt Change Over Scheme, Leckhampton Area—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted proposals to change over the single phase system in the Leckhampton area to a 3 phase network and provide three additional 3 phase 11,000 volt sub-stations. The proposed work would supersede eight 2,000 volt single phase transformers and the whole of the 2,000 volt network from Leckhampton Depot.

The estimated cost of the work was £10,156 13s. 10d., including £288 15s. 3d. for the change over of services and existing single phase mains to the new distributors. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for approval to the scheme and consent to borrow £9,868 for the cost of new mains and sub-station buildings and equipment.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for the above sum and the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(c) That tenders be invited for the laying and jointing of the underground mains.

(d) That the cost of jointing existing single-phase distributors to the new mains be charged to the revenue account.

786—National Wage Agreement—It was reported that the national wage agreement which was referred to at the last meeting of the Committee had now been approved with a few slight amendments to operate from the first full pay week in February. The cost to the Department due to the increases in the rates of pay amounted to, approximately £1,400 which would be in addition to the increase of £900 per annum due to the re-zoning of the Undertaking.

787--Hire of Film Projector—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported receipt of a letter from the Secretary of the Cheltenham Youth Committee asking that the usual fee of £1 11s. 6d. for the hire of the projector should be reduced since it would be used for educational purposes at Youth Clubs. He had also been approached by the Entertainments Sub-Committee with a view to the hire charge for

the Projector being reduced in order that a tennis instructional film should be shown. RESOLVED, That a fee of £1 11s 6d. be reduced to £1 1s. 0d. to the Cheltenham Youth Committee and to the Entertainments Sub-Committee for the occasion in respect of which application was made.

788—Site of Transformer, L.M.S. Station—A form of agreement from the L.M.S. Railway Company was submitted in respect of the transformer site adjacent to the existing kiosk sub-station in Gloucester Road on land adjoining the station. The agreement included an annual payment of £1. RESOLVED, That the terms agreement be approved and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

789—Interruptions—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there were six interruptions of supply during the month of January.

790—Accommodation—The Committee further considered the purchase of Thirlestaine House. The Borough Electrical Engineer had had the house inspected and it appeared suitable for the Department. He had also inspected Southwood, Lypiatt Road, which was empty, and considered it would be more suitable for the purposes required. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to negotiate terms with Cheltenham College for the acquisition of Southwood, Lypiatt Road.

791—Staff—Ex-Service Trainee—Five candidates for this position were interviewed by the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer. The position had been offered to a Fl.-Lt. J. A. Bailey, who was shortly to be demobilised. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

132

792—Bath and West Show—The Borough Electrical Engineer had agreed to carry out a distribution scheme for this Show. The total cost of the scheme would amount to approximately £750, of which £500 would be recover-able in the materials which were used. Certain charges would be made with a fixed charge for energy but it was not possible to forecast whether the balance of £250 would be recovered, since all the applications for supply from exhibitors had not yet been received. He had also received a letter from the Mayor asking the undertaking to contribute towards the local Show Fund. RESOLVED, That the scheme as outlined be approved, but that consideration of making a donation to the local Fund be adjourned until the next meeting of the Committee.

793—Lynworth Farm Estate—Min. 1565/45 : Wiring of Houses—The Town Clerk reported that the Housing Committee had received an account from the electricity undertaking amounting to £19 14s. 0d. in respect of the first 2 houses on this estate, the tenants of which had failed to adopt the 5-point scheme. The Housing Committee were under the impression that in addition to the wiring, the service cables would be installed free of charge by the electricity undertaking in accordance with the terms of the above minute, whether or not the tenants decided to install gas or electric apparatus. RESOLVED, That as there appears to be a misunderstanding in this matter no charge be made in respect of the contract for the first 62 houses but that the Borough Electrical Engineer be instructed to discuss with the Borough Surveyor terms for the electrical installation for the other contracts now in hand on the estate.

794—Power Tariffs (Min. 517)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported further on his proposals to reduce certain power tariffs, and pointed out that due to the omission of the coal clause from the general power tariff, that certain consumers were obtaining an undue advantage. It was desired to remove this anomaly and also to pass on to large power consumers as a whole, some of the benefit of the reductions recently obtained from the Power Company from which our bulk supply was obtained.

The existing tariffs for electricity taken for power purposes were (i) for small power 1d. per unit in the Urban Area and 1 1/8 d. in the Rural Area ; and (ii) under Contract Rate in the Urban Area :—

£5 15s. 0d. per kW. per annum for the first 100 kW.

£4 15s. 0d. per kW. per annum for all above 100 kW. plus a running charge of 0.6d. per unit for the first 200,000 units per annum and 0.4d. per unit for the remainder.

The Coal Clause added .0008d. per 1 d. rise in the price of coal over 14s 6d per ton, the price being adjusted to a calorific value of 12,700 British Thermal Units per lb.

The corresponding prices charged in the rural area under this tariff were :-

£6 6s. 0d. per kW. per annum for the first 100 kW.

£5 5s. 0d. per kW. per annum for all over 100 kW.

the unit charge being 0.66d. per unit for the first 200,000 units per annum and 0.44d. per unit for all units above 200,000 per annum.

Now that the new bulk supply agreement had been approved, it was appropriate to bring the power tariffs more into accord with the new terms, and in particular, to modify the coal clause to absorb into the unit running charge, the major part of the increase in price due to higher cost of coal.

Under the old coal clause, the increment due to the rise in price of coal was 0.3216d. per unit, but now that the new basic figure was 38s instead of 14s 6d, the increment had been reduced to 0.0192d. The increases which were proposed for the running charge were considerably less than the basic figure, and there would be, therefore, a net reduction to power consumers on the combined running charge and coal clause for this tariff. The Borough Electrical Engineer also considered that there should be some revision of a tariff for small power at present charged to larger power consumers who do not pay the coal clause and therefore obtain their power energy on a tariff which was originally intended only for heating or small power. It was suggested, there-fore, that tariff (i) under which supply is taken at a flat rate of 1d. per unit in Urban Area and lid. in Rural Area should be designated as the heating and small power tariff, and consumers whose installed horse power of motors exceeds 30 should not take their supply under this tariff but should be required to pay contract rate, Existing consumers who were supplied under tariff (i) above would continue to have the option to take supplies for existing motors under that tariff but such supplies should be separately metered and all units consumed for this purpose should be subject to a special coal clause increment of 0.0008d. per 1d. rise in the price of coal over 14s 6d per ton. The price of coal would be calculated as in the case of the contract rate tariff. It was also suggested that the Contract Tariff Rate should be amended as follows :—

The Kilowatt Charge to remain as before.

The Running Charge for the first 100,000 units per annum to be increased from .6d. to .8d. per unit.

The Running Charge for the second 100,000 units per annum to be increased from .6d. to .7d. per unit.

The Running Charge for the remaining units over the first 200,000 per annum to be increased from Ad. to .6d. per unit.

The Coal Clause to be modified to a variation of .0008d. per unit for each 1d. rise or fall above or below 38s per ton, the price of fuel being adjusted to a calorific value of 11,000 B.Th. U's per lb.



In addition a load factor rebate applicable to the running charge should be offered on the following scale in order further to encourage and benefit long hour users of electricity for power purposes.

|                    |     |            |
|--------------------|-----|------------|
| Annual load factor | 25% | 1% rebate  |
| Annual load factor | 30% | 2% rebate  |
| Annual load factor | 35% | 4% rebate  |
| Annual load factor | 40% | 6% rebate  |
| Annual load factor | 45% | 8% rebate  |
| Annual load factor | 50% | 10% rebate |

133

In the rural area the fixed kW. charge should remain unaltered at £6. 6s. 0d. and £5. 5s. 0d. per kW., whilst corresponding running charges should be .88d., .77d. and .66d. respectively. The revised coal clause and new load factor rebate should apply as in the Urban Area tariff.

The nett result of these modifications would be to reduce the price of electricity to the average consumer on the contract tariff by something between five and ten per cent., and to increase the cost to larger power consumers on the flat rate power tariff by adding the coal clause increment.

The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had interviewed the Chief Financial Officer of the Electricity Commission to consider possible effect of the new Electricity Bill on these proposals and had been informed that such a reduction in tariff would in fact be considered within the duty of the Corporation. Sanction of the modifications which meant the imposition of a coal clause increment on certain power consumers might have to be referred to the Ministry of Fuel and Power but the Electricity Commissioners were expecting such power to be delegated to them by the Ministry shortly. It is estimated that the increase on the ordinary or small power tariff due to the introduction of the coal clause will cost the consumers to whom it may apply approximately £70 per annum, but the reductions to power consumers on the contract tariff will save them approximately £3,300 per annum. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be adopted to take effect immediately after March, 1947, quarterly or monthly meter readings, for the heating and small power tariff, and that the revised contract tariff be retrospective to 1st April, 1946. ALSO RESOLVED, That if the Electricity Commissioners consider it necessary for a flat rate for motive power to be available for consumers with over 30 h.p. of installed motors, that a flat rate of 1 ½ d. per unit be offered.

BETTRIDGE. Chairman.

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**13th February, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, Mrs. Atherton, Major Shakspeare, Messrs. W. Clegg and W. S. F. Harris.

**14th February, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss and J. Bendall.

795—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or other-wise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                       | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaw's   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| 5815        | Dentons Ltd.               | Amended layout for basement flat, Park Grange, Moorend Park Road           | Approved subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building                                      |
| 5965        | Miss E. Hawker             | Amended layout of entrance to basement flat, 10 Lansdown Place             | Disapproved   | Disapproved  |
| 5988        | Maj. Bourne Thompson       | Storerooms and office, St. Paul's Parade                                   | Approved as in Plan No. 5815  | Approved on 14th November, 1946  |
| 6020        | F. O. Martin               | Revised siting of garage, Seagrave House, Pittville Gates                  | Exempt  | Approved   |
| 6022        | A. J. Tapp                 | New bathroom and pantry, 14 Swindon Street                                 | Approved as in Plan No. 5815  | Approved for a period of 10 years from the date of consent, as the site is in a proposed re-development area |
| 6023        | S. J. Hooper (Chelt.) Ltd. | Alterations and extensions College Garage, Suffolk Road                    | Approved as in Plan No. 5815  | Approved   |
| 6024        | H. Talbot                  | Amended elevation to garage, and external stairway, Crenden, Lansdown Road | Approved  | Approved   |
| 6036        | Miss V. G. Evans           | Conversion into two flats, 2 Spa Buildings Montpellier Spa Road            | Approved subject to the basement not being used for habitation  | Approved subject to conditions attached to approval of preliminary application [Min. 374(c)]                 |
| 6045        | G. E. Smith                | Cycle shed, 157 Arle Road  | Exempt  | Approved   |

| No. of Plan | Name                          | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 6048        | H. L. Winterson               | Provision of kitchen and renovation of sanitary accommodation, 27 King Street | Approved as in Plan No. 5815   | Approved   |
| 6049        | R. S. Ames                    | Nissen hut as factory, G.W.R. Goods Yard, Leckhampton Road                    | Approved   | Approved subject to conditions as set out in Min. 374(g)   |
| 6054        | A. E. Challenger              | Garage, 161 Arle Road   | Exempt   | Approved   |
| 6055        | A. W. Watkins                 | Garage, 384 Gloucester Road   | Approved   | Deferred   |
| 6056        | L. Hack                       | Garage, 8 Cleeve View Road  | Exempt   | Approved   |
| 6057        | M. Kent                       | Garage, 218 Alstone Lane  | Approved subject to roof water being carried to existing drainage system | Approved   |
| 6058        | S. H. Davies                  | Garage, 20 Brooklyn Gardens   | Exempt   | Approved   |
| 6059        | G. L. Scudamore               | Store shed, Kilreague, Tivoli Road  | Approved   | Approved   |
| 6060        | N. H. Powell                  | Cycle and tool shed, 3 Ewlyn Terrace  | Exempt   | Approved   |
| 6061        | A. McGregar                   | Garage, 25 Selkirk Street   | Exempt   | Approved for a period of 10 years from date of consent as the site is in proposed redevelopment area |
| 6062        | W. A. Barr                    | Extensions to kitchens and snack bar, 47 Promenade                            | Approved   | Approved   |
| 6063        | The Bursar, Dean Close School | Remodelling of domestic offices, The Cottage,                                 | Approved as in Plan No. 5815   | Approved subject to walls being taken up to  |

|      |                         | Hatherley Road   |                              | form a parapet to coincide with the stringing course   |
|------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6064 | A. J. Keen              | Additions to kitchen, 29 Selkirk Street                          | Approved as in Plan No. 5815 | Approved for a period of 15 years from the date of consent as the building is in a proposed redevelopment area   |
| 6065 | A. Holmes               | Cycle and coal shed, new semi-detached house, Shurdington Road   | Exempt                       | Deferred   |
| 6066 | E. Holmes               | Garage and coal-house, new semi-detached house, Shurdington Road | Exempt                       | Deferred   |
| 6067 | H. R. Williams          | Garage, 197 Arle Road  | Exempt                       | Approved   |
| 6068 | L. W. Lewis             | Lattice steel radio mast, 117 Fairview Road                      | Approved                     | Approved   |
| 6069 | Costelloe & Kemple Ltd. | New office accommodation, Southam Court, Prestbury Road          | Approved                     | Approved as in Plan No. 5815   |
| 6070 | A. G. Widdows           | Garage, 6 Wordsworth Avenue                                      | Exempt                       | Approved   |
| 6071 | Eton Lodge Hotel Ltd.   | Conversion of Montpellier Lawn, Bath Road, into 4 flats          | Approved as in Plan No. 5815 | Approved as in Plan 5815   |
| 6072 | E. T. Stinchcombe       | Pair of semi-detached houses, Pittville Circus Road              | Approved                     | Approved subject to the front elevation being amended to the satisfaction of the Committee and to no building being erected on the plot of land between the proposed houses and Hewlett Road |
| 6073 | G. W. Gill              | Alterations. Overton Lea, Parabola Road                          | Approved                     | Exempt   |
| 6074 | E. E. Challoner         | Glass lean-to, 20 Overbrook Drive                                | Exempt                       | Approved subject to no part of the building projecting beyond the back wing of the house   |

| No. of Plan | Name                                    | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|
| 6075        | B. Rees                                 | Alterations & extensions,<br>15 Windsor Street                                  | Disapproved   | Disapproved   |
|             |   | 135   |   |   |
| 6076        | F. Sutton                               | Garage,<br>299 Hatherley Road   | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6077        | Mrs. E. A. Toomey                       | New bathroom,<br>33 Tivoli Road   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815   | Deferred  |
| 6078        | Gloucestershire Dairy<br>Co. Ltd.       | Motor repair shop,<br>Imperial Lane   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815   | Approved subject to the<br>premises not being used<br>as a separate motor<br>business, and for a<br>period of 5 years only<br>as the site is in a<br>proposed<br>redevelopment area |
| 6079        | L. C. France                            | Garage, Teme Lodge,<br>Teme Road  | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6080        | Cheltenham General<br>and Eye Hospitals | Conversion of Penryn<br>Nursing Home, Bayshill<br>Road, into a Nurses'<br>House | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815   | Approved as in Plan<br>No. 5815   |
| 6081        | Sharpe & Fisher<br>(1924) Ltd.          | Alterations,<br>19-21 Albion Street   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815 and to<br>the steel work details<br>being to the<br>satisfaction of the<br>Borough Surveyor | Exempt  |
| 6082        | J. W. Steele                            | New porch, Ampney,<br>Shurdington Road  | Approved  | Approved subject to<br>provision of a flat roof   |
| 6083        | Mrs. B. Thorp                           | Bungalow, Harp Hill   | Approved  | Approved subject to the<br>front fence being set<br>back  |
| 6084        | F. R. Shenton                           | Garage,   | Exempt  | Approved  |

297 Hatherley Road

|      |                                   |  |  |             |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------------|
| 6085 | S. Smith & Sons<br>(England) Ltd. | New bathroom,<br>Mountsorrel,<br>West Approach Drive                                 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815                        | Approved    |
| 6086 | Cheltenham General<br>Hospital    | Alterations,<br>Royal Nursing Home,<br>Parabola, Road                                | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 5815                        | Approved    |
| 6087 | W. H. Colton                      | Conversion of 9 Cambray<br>into 4 flats and 1<br>bed-sitting room                    | Disapproved  | Disapproved |
| 6088 | Mrs. C. Adcock                    | New proposal to utilise<br>59 Rodney Road as a flat<br>in lieu of hotel<br>extension | Approved subject to<br>partition wall being<br>omitted | Approved    |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of<br>Plan | Name                          | Description   | Recommendation under Interim<br>Development Order  |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| T.P.2235       | T. E. Hanks                   | Pair agricultural cottages, near The<br>Paddocks, Swindon Lane, Prestbury                     | Approved   |
| T.P.2236       | Col. R. H. Hoffman,<br>O.B.E. | Conversion of existing stable into<br>refreshment room, Royal George Hotel,<br>Birdlip        | Approved   |
| T.P.2237       | J. I. Aitkins                 | Garage, Gambles Cottage, Gambles Lane,<br>Woodmancote   | Disapproved  |
| T.P.2238       | C. H. Stacey                  | Greenhouse, Kingswood Nurseries,<br>Bishops Cleeve  | Approved   |
| T.P.2239       | Mrs. Sadd                     | Conversion of attic into 2 bedrooms,<br>Greyholme, Bishops Cleeve                             | Approved   |
| T.P. 2240      | Mrs. Parker                   | Proposed additions, Hillside,<br>Bushcombe Lane,<br>Woodmancote                               | Approved for a period of 15<br>years from the date of consent<br>as the building is in front of<br>the building line for this road |
| T.P.2241       | R. S. Vines                   | Proposed farmhouse,<br>Bentham, Near Cheltenham   | Approved subject to the<br>Cheltenham Rural District<br>Council being satisfied with<br>the water supply and drainage              |
| T.P.2242       | R. S. Such                    | Garage, 16 Brookway Drive<br>Charlton Kings   | Approved   |
| T.P.2244       | E. Robinson                   | Proposed porch, fuel store and green-<br>house, Chapel Cottage, Ryeworth Road, Charlton Kings | Approved   |

| No. of Plan | Name               | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|--------------------|--|--|
| T.M244      | H. S. Hopkins      | Proposed shed and greenhouse, 5 Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury | Approved subject to the buildings being satisfactorily screened from the highway   |
| T.P.2245    | E. Kay             | Proposed garage, Strathnairn, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings           | Approved subject to no part of the building being at a less distance from the road than the adjoining dwelling-house               |
| T.P.2246    | Lt.-Col. P. Dennis | Proposed sectional concrete garage, Bafford House, Charlton Kings        | Approved   |
| T.P.2247    | Roy Fedden Ltd.    | Additional buildings on test site, Stoke Orchard                         | Approved subject to the conditions laid down by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning in their letter dated 7th December, 1946 |
| T.P.2248    | L. Stanley         | Additions to stables, Swindon Fields Farm, Swindon                       | Approved   |

798— Development Plans—(a) College Lawn (Plan No 6026)—Messrs. Rainger & Rogers were now prepared to give access to the proposed basement flat at No 1 College Lawn, from the existing drive. RESOLVED, That the plan be approved.

(b) Ullenwood—Mrs. F. L. M. Avent made formal application for the conversion of Ullenwood Manor into a Country Club and Hotel. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(c) The Reddings, Badgeworth—Messrs. Liddiard Lubricants Ltd., made application to use the old stables and outhouses at Cambria, The Reddings, as a local store and depot. RESOLVED, That consent be given for a period of three years from the date of consent.

(d) The Abbey, Winchcombe—Mrs. D. E. Lancashire made application for permission to use The Abbey, Winchcombe, as a Guest House RESOLVED, That consent be granted.

(e) Well Place—Letter from Mr. F. F. Griffiths to develop a portion of the garden of Green Mount, Christchurch Road, which fronts on to Well Place RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle but that final approval be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(f) Swindon Road—Application from Messrs. Sharpe & Fisher Ltd., for the fixing of the improvement line in Swindon Road so far as it affects their property. RESOLVED, That provision be made in the scheme for the widening of Swindon Road to 60 ft. and that at a point co-extensive with Messrs. Sharpe & Fisher's property the widening be carried out on the north side.

(g) Bishops Cleeve—Application from Mr. J. McAteer for permission to establish a hairdressing business on the main road at Bishops Cleeve. RESOLVED, That as the proposed site was not in a shopping centre and would constitute a danger to traffic at a very dangerous corner on the main road, consent be refused.

(h) Hatherley Road—Application from Mr. A. J. Sullivan for permission to build a house on land fronting Hatherley Road, opposite Warden Hill Road. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, but that final approval be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans

(j) Southwood. Lypiatt Road—Application was made for the use of Southwood. Lypiatt Road, as offices by the Electricity Undertaking. RESOLVED, That the application be approved subject to all commercial vehicles to the premises using the back lane entrance

797—Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946—Cambray---Regent Street & Royal Well Chapel Sites—The Committee further considered the question of making directions under Article 5 of the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946, in respect of these areas. The Town Clerk reported that the Regional Planning Officer had advised that boundary of a Direction should conform approximately to the area of the proposed compulsory purchase order. The Borough Surveyor submitted plans showing the areas edged blue. RESOLVED, That the Council, being the interim development authority, are satisfied that it is expedient having regard to the proposals for the re-development of the land shown within the blue edging of the plans, that development comprised within Class IV referred to in Article 4 of the said Order, and not being development of any other class, should not be undertaken unless permission therefor is granted on application made under this Order, provided that these Directions shall not have effect in connection with this class of development so far as it relates to the carrying out of alterations to, or operations required for the maintenance of any building, the cost of which does not exceed in a period of twelve months £100 or twenty-five per cent. of the net annual value of the premises, whichever is the greater. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to such Directions and that they be submitted to the Minister of Town and Country Planning for approval.

798—New Factory—Stoke Orchard (Min. 382)—(i) The expressions at the Council meeting on the 6th January, when the report of the Planning Committee was submitted upon the decision of the Minister of Town and Country Planning allowing the appeal of Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a testing house at Stoke Orchard had been conveyed to the Company. The Company had expressed their appreciation of the welcome to this district, and the offer to assist them as far as it is within the Council's power.

(ii) Building Restrictions (War-time Contraventions) Act, 1946—Application was submitted from the Ministry of Supply for a formal determination under the Building Restrictions (War-time Contraventions) Act, 1946, in respect of the Ministry's buildings at Stoke Orchard, which were allocated to Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. in December, 1945, with the consent of the Board of Trade and other interested Departments. The Company were negotiating for a lease for a term of 10 years, at the end of which they would have an option to continue

137

in occupation under a new lease for a further period of 50 years. It was proposed that the factory should be used throughout the period of occupation by Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. for the purposes aero-engine and motor Clerk car research and development only, and not for production work. The Ministry have a strong and direct interest in the development of aero-engine projects which the Company were undertaking. The Town reported upon the procedure to be adopted in dealing with the application. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee and the Town Clerk take the necessary steps as to notice and advertisement of the Committee's consideration of the application.



799—Building Site, Eldorado Road—Letter was submitted from the solicitors to certain residents in Eldorado Road requesting the Committee to re-consider their decision approving Plan No. 5980. for the erection of Eldorado small type house in this road. Houses owned by their clients, and other houses in this district, were of a present value of approximately £5,000, and the erection of the proposed dwelling house would be detrimental to the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That having regard to the present limitation in the cost of houses the present-day demand for a smaller type of house, and the fact that the proposed house, whilst smaller, was of similar character and style to those already erected in the area, the Committee adhere to their previous decision.

800—Godwynhurst, Pittville Lawn—These premises were converted and used as a school without application being made for a change of use. The solicitors to the owners expressed their client's regrets and made formal application consent. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Housing Committee under the Defence Regulations, consent be given to the change of use for a period of 5 years from the date of consent.

801—Slaughterhouse, Dunalley Parade (Min. 540)—Letter was submitted from Messrs. Holiday & Page Ltd. stating that these premises had now ceased to be used as a builders' yard. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken thereon.

802—Temporary Building, 34 and 34a North Place (Min. 544). A Letter was submitted from the solicitors to Messrs. Costelloe & Kemple Ltd. stating that it was expected to complete the purchase of part of Southam Court by the 31st March, 1947, when arrangements would be made to transfer their clients' business and vacate the premises in North Place. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for a period of two months.

803—Preservation of Trees—The Committee considered Min. 564 (Parks Committee) that the Planning Committee should make Orders under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Act, 1943, for the preservation of suitable trees and groups of trees in the Borough. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that Borough Surveyor, Planning Officer and Parks Superintendent carry out a survey and report thereon to the Committee in due course.

804—Dairies--Siting (Min. 579)— The Public Health Committee had considered the suggestion of this Committee on the future siting of dairies. They recommended that a joint meeting be held of the Public Health Committee, the Planning Committee, and representatives of the Dairymen's Association. RESOLVED, That this be agreed.

805—St. Paul's Training College (Min. 385)—As a result of an interview between the Solicitors and Agent of the Unwin Trustees, the Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor and Planning Officer, arrangements had been made for negotiations to be resumed for the sale of the land in Gloucester Road to the College. The Trustees were now willing to consider the sale of the whole of the land, including the frontage.

806—Regional Organisation—The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Town and Country Planning had now appointed a Regional Controller, to take charge, as an Administrative Officer, of the Department's business in each Region. It was also proposed to appoint a Regional Planning Officer, a Research Officer, and an Estate Officer at each Regional Office.

807—South Midlands Garages & Engineering Company Ltd. (Min. 1963/46)—An application submitted by this Company to the Regional Controller for the erection of a garage in Gloucester Road had been sent to the Planning Officer for observation. The plans for this garage had been approved by the Committee (Min. 1963/46), but varied from the particulars submitted to the

Regional Controller. It appeared that instead of the proposed garage being used to meet the demand of numerous car owners living in the area the garage was now required for heavy engineering repairs and the maintenance of commercial vehicles, which was likely to seriously affect the residential amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That the Regional Controller be informed of the position.

808—Wards Road—Garage—This garage was approved under the building byelaws but was disapproved under planning. The owner had interpreted the notice under byelaws as complete approval, and had proceeded with the erection of the garage, which was in front of the building line for this road. RESOLVED, That the owner be instructed to set back the building behind the building line.

809—Crenden Concrete Co., Shurdington. The Committee gave further consideration to an application from the Company to be released from the undertaking given by the Gloucestershire Tile & Sand Co., the then owners of the sandpits and buildings at Shurdington, to remove the buildings and make good the area. RESOLVED, That having regard to the work being carried out by this Company, consent be given to the buildings remaining on the site for a period of 5 years from the date of this consent.

810-4 Suffolk Street—Dangerous Wall (Min. 2161/46)—The Borough Surveyor reported that in accordance with the Committee's instructions the dangerous wall at 4 Suffolk Street had been made temporarily safe by shoring. Every effort had been made to ensure that the shoring was effective, but the wall was in such a dilapidated condition that it should be demolished. RESOLVED That the Town Clerk be authorised to take the necessary action in pursuance of Section 58 (1) of the Public Health Act, 1936.

811—Black & White Motorways Ltd.—Emergency Exit—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had now discussed the question of the exit doors to the Black & White Motorways Ltd. Maintenance and Repairs Shop in North Place with a representative of the Company. They were prepared to enter into an undertaking that such exit would only be used in the event of fire. RESOLVED That subject to the exit being used only in the event of fire, and no claim for compensation being made by the Company in the event of the pavement being raised to a higher level, consent be granted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

138

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**14th February, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter and Yeend.

812—Superintendent's Report—During the period 1st to 31st January, 1947, there were 96 interments and 54 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 7 ; 2nd position, 1 ; 3rd position, nil ; 4th position, 23 ; new memorials erected, 4 ; additional inscriptions, 1. 813—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,434 to 11,464 inclusive.

814—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4,326 to 4,344 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman, be approved.

815—Cemetery Office—Telephone—In order to facilitate the answering of telephone calls during the lunch hour when the office was unattended, and in the evening, the Superintendent

recommended an extension of the tele-phone from the office to his private rooms, at a rental of 4s a quarter plus an initial installation charge of 5s. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

816—Common Graves—The Superintendent called attention to the fact that No. 18 of the Rules and Regulations made by the Council in 1892 provided that " No unwalled grave shall be re-opened for another interment within fourteen years after the burial of a person of the age of 17 years and upwards, or within seven years after the burial of a person or child under 16 years of age, unless to bury another member of the same family." The charge for interment in a common grave was £1 10s. 0d. and by virtue of the above Rule, relatives were able to exercise the right to purchase the grave within fourteen years. The Rule was an unusual one, and in most Cemeteries there was no such reservation period. The result of the Rule was that a considerable area of land was occupied at very low fees, and he was of opinion that the period for subsequent burials should be greatly reduced. Of the 765 interments last year, 270 were in common graves.

RESOLVED, That as from the 1st April, 1947, the Rule be rescinded, and the following Rule substituted therefor :—

" No unwalled Grave shall be re-opened for another interment within two years after the burial of a person therein unless to bury another member of the same family,"

The rule only applied to unpurchased (common) graves, and would not apply to common graves in which there were interments up to the 31st March, 1947, and only to apply to common graves interred in for the first time from the 1st April, 1947. RESOLVED ALSO,

That the local Undertakers be informed of this alteration in the Rules.

817—Staff—G. Aylward—This man, who was the Head Gardener at the Cemetery, was a superannuated employee, and his services had from time to time been extended, the last extension being until June next. His health was now failing, and the Superintendent felt it was unfair to ask him to continue any longer, and that he should be replaced. The J.I.C. rate for a Gardener/Propagator was £4 13s. 6d. per week, and with the development of the grave maintenance work and extension of the Garden of Remembrance, it was desirable to engage a well-trained and experienced man, RESOLVED, That the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended to approve the appointment of a Head Gardener/Propagator at a wage of £5 per week, and that the appointment be advertised accordingly.

818—Garden of Remembrance—(a) Extension of Memorial Wall—Four tenders were submitted for carrying out the extension of the Memorial Wall. RESOLVED, subject to the estimates for next year being approved, That the tender of Messrs. Amos Wilson & Son amounting to £429 8s. 9d. (being the lowest) be accepted, subject to Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk. (b) Bronze Plaques for Kerbing—The Borough Surveyor submitted a sample plaque received from Messrs. H. H. Martyn & Co., Ltd. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

819—Memorial Service--The Superintendent reported that the usual Easter Day service conducted by the Rector of Cheltenham, would be held in the Cemetery Grounds on Easter Sunday, 6th April, at 2.30 p.m. The address would be given by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, and the Prayers read by the Rev. W. R. Bellerby. The B.B.C. had arranged to broadcast the service on the Midland and West Regional programmes. RESOLVED, That these arrangements be approved.

820—Maintenance of Graves [Min. 217 (c)]—The Superintendent reported he had now accepted the maximum of six orders for a margin relief of shingle stone round the outside of graves approved by the Committee in November last. Enquiries were still being received, and he would like to be able to

continue to undertake this work. RESOLVED, That the Superintendent be authorised to continue to accept orders for this work.

G. READINGS, Chairman

139

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE**

**14th February, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman); the Mayor ; Aldermen Smith and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

821—Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee - The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 4th February, 1947 (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED,

(i) That with the exception of Item 1 (iii), the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That with regard to Item 1 (iii) as this Committee feel unable to include expenditure in this year's annual estimates for the provision of amplifying equipment at Sandford Park, no further steps be taken at the present time.

822--Entertainments Sub-Committee---The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 5th February (report circulated herewith).

With regard to Item 7 and the date for the commencement of the Summer Orchestra, the Entertainments Manager stated that he was encountering certain difficulties in hiring a marquee before 28th June but was making further enquiries and would report thereon to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee consider and submit in due course recommendations upon the re-naming of the Winter Garden grounds, including the suggestions now put forward of " Imperial Gardens " or " Town Hall Gardens."

823—Montpellier Pavilion--RESOLVED, That the appropriate Sub-Committees consider the possible utilisation of this building during the coming Summer season and report thereon.

824—Town Hall—(a) Bar—Justices' Licence—The Town Clerk reported upon the application to the Justices on 13th February for an annual licence in respect of the Town Hall in the name of the Entertainments Manager on behalf of the Corporation and that the Justices proposed to grant a licence upon similar terms and conditions to the existing licence. The Justices had indicated their wishes in regard to improvements in the bar service, particularly in the method by which beer was served. The Justices had been informed that the appropriate Committee of the Council had this matter under active consideration. The Chairman of the Entertainments Sub-Committee had authorised an undertaking to be given that improvements would be effected without delay. A special meeting of the Sub-Committee had been arranged to discuss this and associated matters.

(b) Floral Decorations—The Entertainments Manager drew attention to the extent to which the cost of decorations at the Town Hall had been charged to this Committee. RESOLVED, That, as this Committee give the free use of the accommodation required for such purposes as Mayoral functions, conferences and the like, the cost of floral decorations on these occasions might be borne by the Parks Committee.

825—Royal Well Chapel—The Town Clerk reported upon the Council's negotiations for the acquisition of this property. The Borough Surveyor had made an inspection and was of opinion that the ground floor would be suitable for large gatherings such as whist drives and other functions.

With regard to the upper floor he could not recommend its use for such purposes without considerable expenditure for strengthening and supporting the floor. He was exploring the possibility of providing adequate heating and in due course his recommendations would be submitted together with an estimate of the cost of necessary decorations. He suggested that should it be decided to let the hall for functions of the character mentioned, the ancillary rooms on the ground floor might be adapted and equipped for the service of light refreshments. RESOLVED, That this Committee welcome the provision of additional accommodation pending the re-development of the island site, and that the Borough Surveyor's report upon heating, decorations and other matters be awaited.

826—Bridge Congress—The Entertainments Manager reported that the English Bridge Union would like again to hold their Congress in Cheltenham in June next and had asked if accommodation at the Town Hall and other facilities could be provided. The Town Hall would not be required for any Sunday play which would take place at the Queens Hotel. The expenditure to be incurred for publicity, literature, clerical staff and prizes would amount to £100-£150 as on the last occasion. The Entertainments Manager pointed out the national publicity which the town would derive as a result of this important event. RESOLVED, That an invitation be extended to the Congress accordingly and the expenditure referred to be authorised.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

140

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**17th February, 1947**, Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, her, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Strickland.

827—Labour Sub-Committee—The Labour Sub-Committee met on 6th February. RESOLVED, That the report be received.

828—Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 12th February (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

829—Traffic Orders (Min. 645)— (a) Trinity School Lane—Read, letter dated 31st January from the Ministry of Transport stating that as soon as authorised signs were ready for erection, the Minister would confirm the Borough of Cheltenham (Roads Restrictions) Order No. 3, 1946, and the Borough of Cheltenham (Traffic Regulation) Order, 1945, subject to certain modifications in the latter. The Town Clerk explained that these Orders related to one-way traffic in Trinity School Lane and prohibition of heavy traffic in the same road. The Borough Surveyor was now obtaining the requisite signs which would be erected in positions authorised by the Ministry.

(b) The Minister expressed regret that confirmation of Traffic Orders submitted by the Council had been delayed. Unfortunately increasing volume of work, coupled with staff shortage had rendered delays inevitable. It was hoped to inform the Council of the Minister's decision within a few weeks and, as consideration had reached a stage where it was unlikely that further consultation would be necessary with the Council's Officers or the Divisional Road Engineer, the Minister suggested that the interview sought by the Council was not now necessary.

The Chairman had asked the Town Clerk to point out in reply how disappointed the Council were at the time which had elapsed in the confirmation of these Orders, particularly in view of the considerable traffic congestion now experienced in main thoroughfares. Until the Orders were put

into operation neither the Council nor the Police Authorities could remedy the present situation which was the subject of serious complaints from the public. RESOLVED, That the position be noted and that, if necessary, the Town Clerk press further for the confirmation of the Orders at an early date.

830—Class III Roads—Read, Circular No. 596/47 from the Ministry of Transport referring to Circular 595/46 wherein the Minister had stated that he intended to issue a declaration that Class III roads were not inferior to roads Classified I and II for the purposes of the Local Government Act, 1929. Class III roads would be eligible for advances for construction improvement or maintenance in a manner similar to Class I and II roads and the Ministry had issued a declaration accordingly.

831—Road Safety Activities—(a) Supplementary Grant [Min. 649 (c)]—The Ministry of Transport had issued formal approval to a grant of 50% of the Council's supplementary estimate of expenditure amounting to £150, necessitated by the appointment of a full-time Road Safety Organiser.

(b) Office Accommodation for Road Safety Organiser—An offer had been received of two rooms on the ground floor and the basement of No. 14 Regent Street at an inclusive weekly rental of £2. The Borough Surveyor reported that provision had been made in the estimate for office rent together with a sum of £50 for furnishings and equipment. The Chairman had, therefore, authorised acceptance of the offer. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed, the Common Seal be affixed to the lease of the premises, and that furnishings and equipment be provided at a cost not exceeding £50.

(c) " Keep Clear" Spaces [Min. 649 (d)]—The Borough Surveyor had discussed with the Police Superintendent the provision of " Keep Clear " spaces at the junctions of a number of roads in the main thoroughfares, and the Police Superintendent was in agreement therewith. The Borough Surveyor was therefore proceeding as authorised to mark the roads for a distance of seven yards on either side of the junctions concerned.

832—Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents—The Society asked for entries in respect of drivers qualifying for awards for the 1947 competition, and the Borough Surveyor recommended the names of 16 drivers from the Highways Department. RESOLVED, That these drivers be entered accordingly, together with any drivers whom the Electricity Committee may wish to include.

833-3, Albion Street—Youth Centre (Criterion Hotel) (Min 662)—The Ministry of Health had now approved, in principle, the Council's proposal to convert a portion of these premises into housing accommodation for a care-taker, including the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Son amounting to £249 13s. 3d.

834—Kingsley Gardens—Shrubberies (Min. 657)—The Borough Surveyor had now considered the improvements to these Shrubberies suggested by the Housing Committee and saw no objection to this Committee agreeing to the grass verge being included therein. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

835—Orchard Avenue—Read, Memorial from five occupiers complaining of the condition of the footpath including the inconvenience caused to omnibus passengers at the bus stop. The Borough Surveyor stated that Messrs. Pye Brothers who had erected the houses had deferred completion of paving owing to the outbreak of war. He had now been in communication with Messrs. Pye who would endeavour to carry out the work. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Pye be urged to complete the paving as soon as possible.

836—Brooklyn Road—Footpath—Complaints had been received from the occupiers of Nos. 86 and 199 of the condition of the footpath and the latter enquired when the Council were likely to call upon the owners to do the necessary work. The Borough Surveyor had made an inspection and recommended that in view of housing development in the vicinity, the work be deferred until the late summer. RESOLVED, approved.

837—Priors Road—Widening—The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that before the war a scheme was approved for the widening of this road to 60 ft. and work near the Cemetery gates was undertaken. Considerable development had now taken place, in particular the Priors Farm housing estate and the establishment of a Training College at Oakley Farm, and this must result in more extensive use of the road than hitherto. He, therefore, considered there was justification for re-considering the improvement line thus enabling the row of fine trees to be retained and a wide footpath provided on the east side. A plan of the revised scheme was submitted and the Borough Surveyor recommended approaches to the appropriate Government Department for the surrender of the necessary land required to enable the improvement to be carried out adjacent to Oakley Farm.

With regard to the frontage to Priors Farm Housing Estate, this work might be deferred for a short while to enable a screening hedge to be planted, trained and established. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved and that the Town Clerk approach the Government Department concerned for the surrender of the land required and that the opportunity be taken of drawing attention to their liabilities for paving the frontage of Oakley Farm.

838—Land, Albion Street, adjacent to Old Swan Hotel (Min., 656)—The Town Clerk had now had an opportunity of discussing with the Cheltenham Original Brewery Company the Council's offer of alternative accommodation on the Rowanfield Estate to enable the Council to acquire the Old Swan Hotel and Vaults. The Company were, however, not very favourably disposed to such a transfer at the present time. The Committee reviewed the position, including the very considerable expenditure involved for the development of this area as a park for country buses. They had in mind that the provision of accommodation for 10 or 12 buses at the Athletic Ground car park might serve as a temporary expedient for buses from the northern portion of the county and give an opportunity for experience to be gained in the actual need for parking facilities of this type. Further-more, in view of the shortages of labour and materials it was most probable that considerable time must elapse before the site could be developed. RESOLVED, That the scheme be deferred for the time being.

839—Land adjoining Full Moon Hotel, High Street (Min. 202)—The Town Clerk also reported upon the negotiations for the acquisition of this site which it was intended to lay out as a car park. An indication was given of the expenditure involved both for acquisition and development. The Committee had in mind a communication submitted to them at their last meeting from Regent Motors Ltd. (Min. 646) giving details of the small extent to which the large parking area in the Plough Yard was used by motorists. It would appear that the additional parking facilities which the Council proposed to provide in Bayshill Road, St. George's Road, Imperial Square (east side) and Montpellier Spa Road, coupled with the existing accommodation available at both the Plough Yard and Rodney Road Car Park, might be sufficient for the time being and that consideration of the acquisition of the Moon Hotel site should be deferred until further experience had been gained in the demand for parking facilities. In coming to this conclusion the Committee also had regard to the fact that the site in question was not centrally situated and that even if the scheme proceeded its use by the public might be slight. RESOLVED, That the scheme be deferred for the time being.

840—Folly Lane—Culvert and Additional Land (Min. 658)—The Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of extending the culvert from its present point of termination to the westerly boundary of the land

now owned by the Council, at £3,500. There would, in addition, be the cost of the purchase of fields Nos. 598 and 599 together with the two small paddocks adjoining, should the Council's negotiations prove successful. As had previously been reported, this additional land would enable tipping to continue to the limit of the Railway Company boundary and avoid the necessity of constructing embankments, and would have the added advantage of pre-venting pollution of the stream. RESOLVED, That application he made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £3,500 for the cost of the work, and in addition the cost of acquisition of the land mentioned at a price agreed by the District Valuer.

841—Rodney Road Car Park—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor endeavour to provide an additional attendant at this car park at night time when functions are arranged at the Town Hall attracting large audiences and necessitating considerable parking facilities.

842—Annual Contracts—Waterproof Sheets—The Wilcox Agencies of Weston-super-Mare notified an increase of 15s. on their tender price of £2 5s. 4d. for waterproof sheets. RESOLVED, That the increase be noted.

843—Annual Tenders, 1947/8—The Chairman and Councillor Bettridge had, in accordance with the Standing Orders, opened these tenders but it had not been possible for the Requisitions, Stores and Plant Sub-Committee to meet prior to this Committee for the purpose of submitting recommendations upon the tenders to be accepted. The Sub-Committee would, however, meet on 21st February and in view of the time factor it was RESOLVED I; That the Sub-Committee be authorised to submit their recommendations and report direct to the Council.

844—British Standards Institution—Annual Subscription—This Institution stated that the present annual subscription was not sufficient to cover the cost of literature supplied throughout the year and they, therefore, approached subscribers for an increased subscription. The Council had in the past subscribed the minimum amount! £2 2s. 0d. per annum, and the Borough Surveyor recommended that in view of the value of the information made available to his Department, the annual subscription be raised to £4 4s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

142

845—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which had been considerably hampered due to weather conditions. Highways employees had for the past three weeks been engaged on gritting, snow clearing and cleaning out ditches. It had been necessary for snow clearance to be undertaken on three Sundays and snow ploughs were in use on two occasions. Re-surfacing had been undertaken to the carriageway of College Road ; kerbing and channelling to Lansdown Road and North Street ; paving to Lynworth Estate, and other work. Trees had been pruned and trimmed at Lynworth Estate, Tryes Road and Whaddon Avenue and trees had been felled in College Road and Lansdown Road. 1,752 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,650 tons for the, month of January.

846- Labour (Min. 667)—The Borough Surveyor had ascertained that the employees of the Highways Department had no objection to the introduction of Polish labour. No further information as to recruitment, however, had yet been received from the appropriate Government Department.

847—Highways Department—Plant Account—The Borough Treasurer reported that approximately £1,500 would be credited to the Highways Plant Account in respect of refuse collection vehicles and as this amount would be insufficient to meet the cost of new vehicles which the Committee had



decided to acquire, he suggested that the surplus balance on the Slab Factory Account, amounting to £2,839 7s. 4d., should be transferred to the Plant Account. RESOLVED, That the suggestion of the Borough Treasurer be adopted.

848-Highways Department Staff—Cleansing Inspector—The Cleansing Inspector made application for his position to be re-graded from Miscellaneous Division Grade II (£315 to £360 per annum) to A.P.T. Division Grade I (£330 to £375) and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the application be granted. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be asked to agree to the establishment of the Borough Surveyor's Department being amended accordingly.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman

#### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**13<sup>th</sup> February, 1947.** Present—Councillor Gardner (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Smith ; Councillors Brown, Carter, Compton, Grimwade and Yeend, Mesdames Mellersh, Hopkins and Wood; and Miss Tinson.

849—Sunnyside Maternity Home—(a) When considering the estimates for next year, the Borough Treasurer drew the Committee's attention to the greatly increased charges which the County Council were having to make for the treatment of Borough cases in this Home, and although the County Council had not yet ascertained the current charge per head, it appeared the costs would be in the region of £14 per case for fourteen days, and he suggested that the Committee should re-consider the scale of charges made to patients according to their income. The present scale provided for a maximum charge of only £10 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Committee consider at their next meeting the revision of the charges made to patients, but that in the mean-time the maximum charge be increased from £10 10s. 0d. to £14.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that owing- to the great increase in the birth rate and the large number of applications for beds in the Home, the County Council had requested him to limit Borough bookings to 30 a month. This would inevitably result in having to refuse many cases, notwithstanding the fact that the Home, in accordance with the Ministry's suggestions, were discharging many cases long before the usual lying-in period of 14 days. A member of the Committee drew attention to the fact that there were eleven vacant beds in the maternity ward at the Public Assistance Institution. which were kept for emergencies, and the Committee felt that in view of the fact that patients were being discharged from Sunnyside well in advance of the normal time, it would be reasonable to ask the County Council to bring some of the beds at the Institution into use and thereby relieve pressure on Sunnyside. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the County Council accordingly.

850-Day Nurseries—RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to loan of £900 for the purchase price of the three Day Nurseries.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

## GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

**18th February, 1947.** Present--The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Trye, Ward, Winterbotham, and wane; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson.

851—**Market and Public Control Sub-Committee**—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on 5th February 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

852 —**Establishment Sub-Committee**—The Establishment Sub-Committee met on 6th February, 1947 (report circulated) RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

853—**Labour Sub-Committee**—The Labour Sub-Committee met on 6th February, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED That the report be approved and adopted.

854—**Staff Joint Advisory Committee**—The Staff Joint Advisory Committee met on the 14th February, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Committee's proceedings be recommended for adoption. ALSO, RESOLVED, That para. 4 of the report of the Establishment Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 16th January, 1947, on the payment of merit increases, referred back at the meeting of the Council on 3rd February, 1947. for the views of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, be re-submitted, and that the recommendations contained therein be approved and the four officers referred to be granted merit increases with effect from 3rd February, 1947.

855—Aged Persons Hostel, 109 Old Bath Road (Min. 398). This hostel was closed on 17th February, 1947, following a decision of the Ministry of Health to this effect. Whilst the hostel was necessary during war time, although uneconomical, under post war conditions it was quite inadequate for the purpose. The matron and three inmates were transferred to a hostel at Burnham-on-Sea and the remaining inmates to other institutions.

856—Visit of Sudanese Administrative Officers --(Min. 1323/46). The Council in May, 1946, authorised the Town Clerk to provide facilities for a visit of further Sudanese administrative officers in order that they might gain experience in local government administration. These officers were expected towards the end of March, when similar arrangements would be made as on the previous occasion.

857—Exhibition--Hermann Goering Car--The Cheltenham District Traction Company had arranged the booking of the Hermann Goering Super Mercedes bullet-proof car for exhibition purposes in the area, the proceeds to be given to a war charity. RESOLVED, That the Committee have no objection to the car being exhibited in Cheltenham and that the matter be referred to the Mayor of Cheltenham's Victory Fund with a view to that Committee organising an exhibition should they so desire.

858—Southwood. Lypiatt Road—The Electricity Committee (Min. 790) instructed the Town Clerk to negotiate for the acquisition of this property, which was owned by Cheltenham College. The building was urgently required for office accommodation, and, in addition, its acquisition would facilitate the transfer of the electricity undertaking to the new responsible authority, and some advantages to the town might accrue by reason of that authority having such a property at its disposal.

It would still be necessary for the time being to retain the existing showroom and cash collection section in view of the close association required with the Borough Treasurer. The Borough Electrical Engineer also desired to have the use of the demonstration room at certain times but otherwise it would be available for meetings and other purposes.

The Town Clerk reported on his negotiations with the owners, and that an offer as mentioned below had the approval of the District Valuer and that he understood informally from the Electricity Commissioners that they were prepared to favourably recommend a purchase on these terms for loan purposes. As an offset to the purchase price, the Council would retain the benefit of the compensation payable by the War Department for the occupation of the property during the war years. The claim which was still the subject of negotiation substantially exceeded £3,000.

RESOLVED, (i) That as a matter of urgency the Town Clerk be authorised to make an offer of £10,000 for the acquisition of Southwood. the Council having the benefit of compensation payable by the War Department, (ii) That. subject to acceptance of the offer, application he made to the Electricity Commissioners for sanction to a loan of £10,205, purchase price, costs and stamp duty, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage. (iii) That the Common Seal be affixed to any necessary documents, including the mortgage, form of receipt and order in respect of the loan from the Board.

859-57 Promenade-The Town Clerk reported on his negotiations for the acquisition of this property and the views of the District Valuer thereon, and stated that whilst possession could be obtained of a portion of the upper floors with little delay, Miss Anne Mason desired to retain her business in the Promenade and had suggested a lease for a term of 21 years of the first floor. He had communicated with other Chief Officers in regard to their accommodation requirements for the next ten years, and, whilst it would have been preferable to secure possession of the whole of these premises to overcome the difficulty in regard to office accommodation, it would be possible for Miss Anne Mason to be granted a lease as suggested for a period of 7-10 years. The basement was occupied by Kate's Kitchen and so far as could be seen at the moment, the lease might remain undisturbed. Certain other rooms were held on lease by the Y M C A and it was hoped that arrangements might be made for obtaining early possession. RESOLVED, (i) That the Town Clerk be authorised to purchase the above property for £6,000 on the basis of Miss Anne Mason being granted a lease of the first floor for a term, and at a rent, to be negotiated between the Town Clerk and the solicitors to Miss Mason (ii) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan of {6,135, the purchase price, costs and stamp duty, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for that amount (iii) That the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary documents including the form of mortgage, order and receipt in respect of the loan from the Board. (iv) That it be a condition of the arrangements that Miss Anne Mason shall be required to conform to the Planning Committee's requirements as to advertising signs in the terrace.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **HOUSING COMMITTEE.**

**19th February, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Grimwade, Morris, Strickland and Yeend.

860—Change of User (a) Southwood. Lypiatt Road—The Town Clerk reported that it was proposed to acquire South-wood. Lypiatt Road, to accommodate the Electricity Department. RESOLVED, That, in pursuance of the Defence Regulation 6SCA the Committee consent to the use of these premises for purposes other than residential purposes.

(b) Godwynhurst School, Pittville Lawn—It was reported that this house, formerly known as Kenilworth, had recently changed ownership and the new owner had, in ignorance of the requirements of the Defence Regulations, opened a school on the premises, The school was formerly carried on at Overton House, St. George's Road, and was removed to temporary premises before being transferred to Kenilworth. Part of the basement was let as living accommodation to a nurse, who proposed to assist in the school shortly, and part to another tenant. Other accommodation at the top of the house was occupied by the owner and a student teacher. The remainder of the accommodation was used for School purposes.

The Town Clerk reported that the Planning Committee had approved the change of use, subject to the consent of the Housing Committee, for a period of 5 years. RESOLVED, That consent be given under the Defence Regulations 68CA

861—Rent Rebate Scheme—Under the rent rebate scheme the maximum and minimum rents were all based on net rents, that is, excluding rates and in the case of the 800 approx. tenants who had recently been brought into the scheme their houses were being let to them on this basis so that any increase or decrease in rates would be automatically passed on to the tenants from the date of the making of the rate.

With regard to the remaining 1,200 approx. houses already included in the rent rebate scheme these houses were still let at inclusive rents. In view of the anticipated considerable increase in the General Rate the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer recommended that all Council Houses should be let at net rents so as to avoid any loss of rates, as at present any increase in rates involved the tenants being given a week's notice to quit which could not be done until the rate was made, so that even if the rate was made before the 1st April at least two weeks must elapse before it would be possible to pass on the rate increase to the tenants, in view of the anticipated heavy increase in rates the loss to the Council would be very considerable.

By letting the houses at net rents plus rates any increase in the rates was automatically payable by tenants without the necessity of serving notice to quit. The proposal would not in any way affect the rebates already granted to tenants who would continue to receive the same rebate until such time as their rent was reviewed in the normal course through any change in circumstances, but as in previous years the rate increase would, of course, be passed on to the tenants. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to all houses being let at net rents plus rates and that the Town Clerk be instructed to give the tenants notice accordingly with a view to reletting the houses to the tenants on these terms.

862—Building Apprenticeship Scheme—With regard to a letter from the Secretary of the Building Apprenticeship and Training Council drawing attention to the condition which required all boys on reaching the appropriate age to be indentured, the Borough Surveyor reported that he was informed by the Apprentice Master that this condition was observed in the case of all boys employed on time Council's scheme.

863—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Damage to Houses and Trees--It was reported that damage had been done over the weekend to steel houses and trees on the site by children. Instructions had been given that external doors should be hung wherever possible and kept locked. The Borough Surveyor understood that the Police were aware of the position and knew the identity of the persons

responsible, and proposed to take proceedings against time offenders. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) Erection of Houses by Small Builders—The Town Clerk reported that pressure had been brought to bear on the Ministry of Health to obtain approval to the proposed scheme for the erection of 60 houses by small builders before the zonal conference, He had been informed by telephone that it would be necessary to reduce the tenders to a figure of 22s 1d per super foot before the Ministry would be prepared to approve them which was considerably less than the majority of the tenders received.

A letter had been received from the Ministry approving the layout plans but suggested several small alterations, one of which included the placing of the ground floor W.C. in the outbuildings. This, the Borough Surveyor did not regard favourably both on the grounds of cost and also because in cold weather the cistern would inevitably become frozen up.

It was also pointed out that any houses erected under this scheme would have to be included in the Council's programme for 1947 to be discussed at the next zonal conference. The Borough Surveyor had arranged to discuss the matter with the Ministry's Quantity Surveyor in the near future.

(c) Feeding of Building Operatives—The Town Clerk reported that two Factory Inspectors had recently interviewed the Deputy Mayor in regard to the suggestion of the Ministry of Food that building workers should be able to obtain a meal "on the job. The suggestion was that the British Restaurants Committee should undertake the provision of packed meals which should be conveyed to the site by the Contractors who would undertake the responsibility of obtaining payment from the men. The Borough Surveyor reported that he understood that Messrs. Wheeler Mansell were willing to assist but they had pointed out that most of the men at present left the site during the lunch hour and no request had yet been made for the provision of mid-morning meals. RESOLVED, That the Borough Sur, Poor approach the various Contractors on this site and ascertain whether the building operatives desire packed meals or snacks to be provided on the site.

145

864 Temporary Housing Site—The Knole- Read, letter from the Ministry of Health that the preliminary layout plan for erection of 50 temporary bungalows on this site was considered to be generally satisfactory with a few minor of modifications.

The Borough Surveyor reported that the necessary arrangements had been made for work to be commenced on the 24<sup>th</sup> February utilising ten Prisoners of War to be increased to twenty on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March. He estimated the cost of the site work at £3 44s 19s. 8d And the slabbing on behalf of the Ministry of Works, at £8,585 9s. 6d. He recommended that the Clerk of Works now engaged on group housing be appointed to organise the work at a salary of £8 per week plus cost of bonus, he also recommended that the Clerk who had been engaged on the Priors Farm site should be appointed at a salary of £6 per week to work on this site. The necessary keymen would be loaned from the Highways Department and the Council owned the necessary heavy plant and small tools, exception of the steel road forms which would be available front Priors Farm and Lynworth Farm. Materials would be purchased from firms on the approved tender list.

The Ministry of Health had intimated but Prisoner of War labour could not be authorised until an estimate of the cost had been approved and the Council had Agreed to pay to the Ministry of Works the full trade union rate for prisoner of war labour. This was necessary under the terms of Circular

149 which made the local authority responsible for the whole cost of site development without guarantee from the Ministry of Health in respect of excess cost of prisoner of war labour over ordinary labour.

The Town Clerk reported that some of the land which it was proposed to use was at present used as allotments and for grazing and it would be necessary to terminate the tenancies and also the tenancies of four garages which were erected on part of the land. RESOLVED (a) That the estimate by the Borough Surveyor be approved and application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £3,446 for the cost of the site preparation work (b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a loan for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt. (c) That the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary notices to enter and take possession of the land in pursuance of the powers conferred by the Housing Acts.

865—Rowanfield Road Estate—The Borough Surveyor submitted revised layout for this estate incorporating the new designs of " No Fines " houses of which 352 were included and 42 traditional houses. He had not been able to incorporate the whole of the 420 " No Fines" houses remaining after the 80 had been erected on Lynworth Farm on this estate owing to the extra frontage required by the new designs, In addition, he had been informed that the Education Committee required that a 3 Form Primary School must be erected on a site of not less than 10 ¼ acres to comply with the Regulation of the Ministry of Education. This involved the taking up of certain land allocated for houses and also some allocated for extension of the playing field. It was proposed to discuss this layout with the Regional Architect of the Ministry of Health. A balance of 35 "No Fines" houses was still left to be accommodated and if they were not to be placed on to a third site either the number of traditional houses on the -Rowanfield Road Site would have to be reduced or the number of " No Fines" on Lynworth Farm increased. He was of the opinion that some of the small builders would be unable to erect houses on Lynworth Farm estate at the figure approved by the Ministry of Health and it might be possible to erect some further " No Fines" houses on the sites allocated for the small builders' scheme, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor endeavour to site the whole of the 500 "No Fines " houses on the Lynworth Farm and Rowanfield Road Estates and that the method of carrying this into effect be left to his discretion.

866—Quantity Surveyor—As instructed the Borough Surveyor submitted a further report on the work of the Quantity Surveyor. He recommended that this appointment should be placed in the next grade (Grade VI £535-600) as from 1st April, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve of the re-grading of this appointment to Grade VI.

867-10, 11, 12, Kew Place—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that these properties had been inspected by the Public Health Committee who recommended in view of the present housing position they be acquired and re-conditioned at a minimum cost of £135 per house in order that they might be used for a period of approximately 5 years. It was pointed out that in order to re-condition these houses thoroughly to give them a life of 20 years the expenditure involved would reach L850, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of these properties and that they be reconditioned at the minimum cost necessary to enable them to be used for a period of about 5 years.

868-9, 10, Upper Bath Street—The owner of these properties had received a statutory notice to carry out certain repairs and had offered to sell the property to the Council: He had recently expended £97 in providing a new roof to one of the houses and it was estimated that the cost of repairs amounted to £120. If the property were purchased by the Council it was recommended that an additional sum of £55 should be expended on No. 10 for new floors, ceding, new w.c. roof and

internal decoration. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of these properties and that the necessary repairs be carried out.

869-23, 25, 27, Bath Terrace—The Chief Sanitary Inspector recommended that additional drainage work and paving in the yard at the rear of these houses should be carried out at a cost of £36 17s. 6d. There were sheds and outbuildings to these cottages which the occupiers were using and did not want removed and it was felt desirable to carry out this work at the above figure. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out and that the cost be charged to the Housing Revenue Account.

870—Priors Farm—The Town Clerk reported that application had been made to the Ministry of Health for permission to instal certain children's playground equipment on the open space on this estate. He now submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that no objection would be raised to the scheme at an estimated cost of £296. RESOLVED, That the equipment suggested by the Gardens Superintendent be installed on this estate and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £296 for the cost.

871-36 Lansdown Crescent—Four tenders were received for the conversion of this requisitioned house into four flats. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros amounting to £701 7s. Od., being the lowest be accepted subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health, and that the Common seal be affixed to the contract. RESOLVED, ALSO, That application he made to the Ministry of Health for the necessary approval.

872—Repairs Superintendent's Report—The Housing manager submitted report of the Repairs Superintendent. RESOLVED, That the various recommendations for repairs and renewals be approved and adopted, subject in the case of requisitioned property, to the approval of the Ministry of Health being obtained where appropriate.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

146

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**19th February, 1947.** Present—Councillors Bettridge (Chairman), Gardner, Mann, and Morris.

873—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

874-Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

875—Remission of Rates—The Committee considered applications for reduction or remission of General Rate on account of poverty. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Rating and Valuation Officer consider these and that such applicants as they think desirable be invited to interview the Committee,

876—Authority to Officers--RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer (Mr. S. D. Morris), the Assistant Rating and Valuation Officer (Mr. H. Tudge), and the Rating and Assistant Collector (Mr. H. V. Webb), be hereby respectively authorised generally to undertake and carry on proceedings in relation to the collection or recovery of rates which the Rating Authority are themselves authorised to undertake and carry on

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**21st February, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen. Ward; Councillors Biggs, Bettridge, Grimwade, Mann and Morris.

77—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £184,428; amount outstanding £6,663.

878—Water Rate and Charges —Read. report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £31,432 ; amount outstanding £646.

879---Electricity Charges-- The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £21,172 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £520 for re-chargeable works carried out and £303 for electricity supplied.

880—Loans—Loans amounting to £250 were repaid since the last meeting.

881--Superannuation—(a) Refund of Contributions—The following refunds of contributions had been made :—

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Mr. E. L. Webb (Borough Treasurer's Department) | £46 3s. 5d.  |
| Mr. B. Tate do.                                 | £80 12s. 2d. |
| Miss G. D. Howse do.                            | £15 2s. 4d.  |
| Mr. C. Coles (Borough Surveyor's Department)    | £6 14s. 7d.  |
| Mr. F. S. Burton do.                            | £18 5s. 5d.  |
| Mr. J. Blunt do                                 | £50 9s. 1d.  |

(b) Transfer values had been received as follows :—

Stourbridge Mr. L. F. Washbrook (Borough Treasurer's Department) ... £476 7s. 8d.  
Stockton-on-Tees ... Mr R. H. A. Clerehugh (Borough Surveyor's Department) ... £997 8s. 11d.

(c) Transfer value amounting to £424 13s. 5d. had been paid to the Guildford Corporation in respect of Miss S. Graham Swift (Public Library).

(d) J. F. Pearse, Clerical Assistant. Public Health Department—The Borough Treasurer reported that in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee approved and confirmed by the Council in July, 1938, the allowance payable to the above who would retire on 31st March, 1947, was £51 16s.. 9d. based on 7 years' non-contributory service and 6 years 11 months contributory service. RESOLVED, That the above allowance be paid.

(e) Transfer Values—A letter was submitted from the Association of Municipal Corporations recommending that a uniform practice of ignoring odd days in computing superannuation transfer values should be adopted. The Borough Treasurer stated that the position would only be materially affected in those cases where an officer had transferred very frequently. RESOLVED, That the Committee adopt the recommendation.



882—Pensions Increase Act, 1944—J. F. Pearse—Application was submitted for an increase under this Act, the applicant being entitled to a 30 per cent. increase. RESOLVED, That the application be approved with effect as from 1st April, 1947.

883—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date.              | Proposal.   | Amount. | Term.    |
|--------------------|---|---------|----------|
| 28th January, 1947 | Erection of houses, Lynworth Farm Estate<br>(Building (On account) Apprenticeship Scheme) | £4,000  | 60 years |
| 30th               | Electricity plant (portable oil filter)   | £288    | 10       |
| 31st               | Electricity Mains   | £2,345  | 25       |
| 31st               | Plant (substation equipment including kiosk)  | £1,080  | 20       |
| 6th February, 1947 | Meter testing equipment   | £1,202  | 10       |
| 7th                | Electricity Mains   | £1563   | 25       |
| 17th               | Electricity Mains   | £6.383  | 25       |
| 17th               | Plant (substation equipment and kiosk)  | £1,090  | 20       |
| 17th               | Electricity Mains   | £554    | 25       |
| 17th               | Plant (substation equipment)  | £2,447  | 20       |

884—Annual Estimates—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be asked to summon a special meeting of the Council for Wednesday, 26th March, 1947, to consider a recommendation of this Committee as to the making of a rate for the year 1947/48.

885—Apportionment of Administration Charges-- (Min. 1523/46). The Committee in June, 1946, reported to the Council upon the apportionment of administration expenses to the various funds and undertakings of the Council. The Borough Treasurer now recommended that administration expenses for the years 1942/43 and subsequent years be apportioned between the various funds and accounts of the Council on the basis now submitted. These apportionments were calculated on generally accepted principles having regard to actual time spent by officers, actual floor space occupied (in relation to office expenses) and any other factors which provided reasonable basis for apportionment. RESOLVED (i) That this Committee consider an apportionment on this basis to be fair and reasonable. (ii) That as no charges for the years mentioned had been apportioned on this basis owing to an oversight, the Borough Treasurer be authorised to make the necessary adjustments, if necessary, either in the accounts of past years or alternatively in one sum, in the accounts of the current financial year, (iii) That the apportioned charges be included and charged in the accounts of the various undertakings each year as from 1st April, 1946. (iv) That Min. 1523 approved by the Council on 1st July, 1946, be varied accordingly.

886—Banking Arrangements—co-operative Wholesale Society Bankers Ltd. (Min. 701)—The Committee, as reported to the last Council meeting, have considered a suggestion that the Council should consult the Co-operative Wholesale Society Bankers Ltd., with regard to the banking facilities offered by the Society. The Chairman and the Borough Treasurer had now interviewed a representative of the Society and discussed with him the matters involved in all their aspects and also the financial position and arrangements of the Society. The Manager of the Council's present Bankers, Lloyd's Bank Ltd., had also been interviewed. The Borough Treasurer submitted a report dealing with the terms and arrangements available at both Banks.

It appeared that the arrangements of the Society in regard to interest on current and deposit accounts, might result in a financial benefit to the Council of approximately £900 per annum. There were, however, a number of disadvantages in transferring the business to the Society, the most

important being that there was no bank branch in Cheltenham. This would result in delay in obtaining payments on Corporation cheques and securing banker's drafts. Many facilities were granted to local authorities by banks, not usually open to private customers, and whilst the Society provided many of them, the present facilities given by Lloyd's would not be available.

RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances, especially to the services which the present Bankers were able to offer, the Council be recommended to adhere to the present banking arrangements, subject to the amendments in the terms with Lloyd's Bank Ltd., set out in the Borough Treasurer's report.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

148

### **Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham 3rd April, 1947.

Sir (Madam),

**You, are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of April, 1947, 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 meetings of the Council held on the 3rd and 26th March, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. Election of Alderman to fill casual vacancy caused by the death of Alderman P. P. Taylor.
4. To assign an Alderman to be Returning Officer for the All Saints' Ward (Alderman Taylor was Returning Officer for this Ward). ..
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.        |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM       | 7th March, 1947.        |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY               | 7th                     |
| PLANNING                     | 13th & 14th Mar., 1947. |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 17th                    |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 17th                    |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...            | 17th                    |
| HOUSING ...                  | 18th & 26th Mar., 1947. |
| WATER ...                    | 18th March, 1947.       |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 18th                    |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 21st                    |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 21st                    |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY           | 24th                    |
| RATING ...                   | 24th                    |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 25th                    |
| FINANCE ...                  | 28 <sup>th</sup>        |

6. The Mayor to report the result of Poll of local government electors on the proposal for cinematograph entertainments on Sundays.

7. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully, F. D. LITTLEWOOD

Town Clerk

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

\*NOTE—Under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1933, the Council, if they so desire, may leave the filling of this vacancy until the May Council meeting.

### **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 March, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor ; Aldermen Leigh James and Taylor ; and Councillor Fildes.

887—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd February, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

888—Illness of Alderman Taylor—The Mayor referred to the serious illness of Mr. Alderman Taylor and intimated that he understood on enquiry that morning there was an improvement in his condition. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Alderman Taylor the Council's sincere sympathy with him in his serious illness and their earnest wish for a speedy and complete recovery to health.

889—Mrs. A. E. J. Burrow—The Mayor referred to the death of Mrs. A. E. J. Burrow, widow of Mr. Edward J. Burrow and sister to Mr. Councillor Fildes, and recalled the many active interests taken by both the late Mr. and Mrs. Burrow in the public life of the town. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Councillor Fildes and the members of the family of the late Mrs. Burrow the Council's deep sympathy with them in their bereavement.

890—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 7

(Subject to the word "primary" being substituted for "elementary" in the third line of Min. 715 (1))

Public Library                                      February 7

Allotments February 10  
Housing February 11 & 19  
Parks and Recreation Grounds February 10 & 12

(Subject to the word "Parks" being substituted for "Public" in the first line of Min 759). (An amendment moved by Councillor Bettridge, seconded by Councillor Morris, "That the word 'last' be substituted for the word 'first' in the second line of resolution (ii) to Min. 746 (St. George's Square Bowling Green) was lost).

Public Health February 10  
Water February 11  
Electricity and Lighting February 11  
Planning ... February 13 & 14  
Cemetery and Crematorium February 14

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. 816 (Common Graves—re-opening for additional interments) be referred back for further consideration" was not seconded).

Town Improvement and Spa ... February 14 & March 3

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Councillor Addis "That Min. 824(b) (Floral Decorations, Town Hall) be referred back for further consideration and report").

Street and Highway February 17 & 27

ALSO RESOLVED, That the report of the Stores Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 21st February, 1947, be approved and adopted in accordance with Min 843.

150

Maternity and Child Welfare ... February 13

General Purposes and Watch February 18

(Subject to the word "ground" being substituted for "first" in the eleventh line of Min. 859 (57 Promenade).

Southwood, Lypiatt Road—(Min. 858)—The Town Clerk submitted letter dated 24th February from the Cheltenham College accepting the Council's offer of £10,000 for the purchase of the above property, the Council retaining the benefit of the compensation payable by the War Department.

57 Promenade—(Min. 859)—The Town Clerk submitted a letter dated 20th February, 1947, from the solicitors to the owner of this property, accepting the Council's offer to purchase this property for £6,000, subject to the conditions set out in the Min.

Rating February 19

Finance February 21

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer he signed authorising him to pay to die several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names.

891—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting held on 14th February be received.

892—Cheltenham Committee for Education- RESOLVED, That the report of the Cheltenham Committee for Education in accordance with Min. 393/46, be received.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

**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 Wednesday, 26th March, 1947. Present:**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

Aldermen Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fildes, Gardner, Green, Mann; Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Taylor, Capt. Tue, C.B.E., R.N. (Recd.), Councillors J. Bendall and Fisher.

Death of Mr. Councillor Grimwade--The Mayor referred to the sudden and tragic death of Mr. Councillor Grimwade on the 21st March, 1947, who was elected a Borough Councillor in November, 1933, and a County Councillor in March, 1937. For a number of years he was Chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee, subsequently the FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE. During the war period. Mr. Grimwade was Chairman of the Emergency Committee and Sub-Controller for Cheltenham. Councillor Grimwade's public activities, which he placed before his own personal affairs, were numerous. In his passing the Council and the townspeople, particularly the residents of St. Mark's, lost a valued and respected friend. As Sub-Controller he undertook considerable responsibility and on all occasions had placed the safety and interests of the inhabitants of Cheltenham before his own personal safety. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their deep sense of the loss sustained in the passing of Councillor Grimwade, and that the TOWN Clerk convey to Mrs. Grimwade and the members of his family the deep sympathy of the Council.

Police Superintendent A. W. Hopkins—Retirement—The Mayor referred to the pending retirement of Superintendent Hopkins after completion of 43 years service in the Gloucestershire Constabulary, 9 ½ years of which he had been in charge of the Police Force in Cheltenham. Supt. Hopkins had always been willing to co-operate and had rendered valuable assistance to the Council and Cheltenham and shown the greatest interest in the affairs of the town generally. Admiration was also expressed of the manner in which he had conducted his duties in Cheltenham and the Police Court. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Supt. Hopkins the sincere appreciation of the Council for all the assistance given during his service and their unanimous and sincere wish that both Mrs. Hopkins and himself would be spared for many years to enjoy a well-earned retirement.

Flooded Areas—The Mayor referred to the distress in neighbouring areas owing to the floods and reported upon the action he had taken in offering all possible assistance to Gloucester, Tewkesbury and Cheltenham R.D.C. in alleviating the distress of residents in those areas. Certain equipment had been loaned and both the offer and the assistance given had been gratefully received by the authorities of the areas affected, but people of the affected areas had suffered considerable losses particularly in the Deerhurst area. It had been suggested that the people of Cheltenham should show their sympathy in a practical way by contributing to a fund, but both Tewkesbury and Gloucester had opened funds and it was proposed a national fund should be inaugurated which would possibly take some time to operate whilst he did not propose to open a fund in Cheltenham he would be prepared to receive contributions from residents which would be forwarded to those areas most deserving, or where specified, to a particular area, and he was confident that the towns people would be only too willing to help their neighbours in their distress and loss.

General Rate—The proceedings of the Finance Committee at their meetings held on the 14th and 15th March, 1947, were submitted. RESOLVED,

That the reports be approved. ALSO 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, 1947, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1948, 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 20s 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, 1947, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1948, and that the said Rate be payable by two instalments, namely, one moiety thereof on the first day of April, 1947, and the other moiety thereof to be payable on the first day of October, 1947 ; 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.

Lansdown Road Drainage Works—RESOLVED, That in pursuance of Sec. 47 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930, the Council hereby order that as from the 26th day of March, 1947, and during the course of the carrying out of drainage works in Lansdown Road, traffic on the roads, or sections of the roads affected, and shown in the Order now submitted be restricted or prohibited, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Order.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**3rd March, 1947.** Present--Aldermen Waite (Chairman) and Ward; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Green, Grimwade, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

893—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 1st March, 1947 (report circulated to the Council). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

[ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 3RD MARCH, 1947.]

152

### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**27th February, 1947.** Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Fisher, Green, Grimwade, Midwinter and Readings. The Police Superintendent also attended.

Traffic Orders—In June last the Traffic Sub-Committee had recommended the making of new traffic orders and the amendment of certain existing orders for the purpose of relieving traffic congestion in the centre of the town, The Council approved these recommendations with certain amendments and additions and draft orders based upon them had been submitted to the Ministry of Transport for approval.

Considerable delay, however, had occurred in obtaining the Ministry's approval with regard to which it would be recalled representations had been made to the Department concerned and to the Association of Municipal Corporations. The Minister had now expressed regret at the delay and had forwarded observations.

In view of the lapse of time and the acuteness of the position the Chairman thought it desirable that the Ministry's observations should be considered and dealt with by the Council at the earliest opportunity and a special meeting of this Committee had, therefore, been called for that purpose. The Committee had the advantage of consulting the Police Superintendent who gave his views on the orders as drafted by the Council, and the Ministry's suggestions. It should be emphasised that where waiting is not specifically prohibited for a specified time, users of cars may not leave them in such positions and for such time as will cause obstruction and for which they may be prosecuted.

The following streets referred to below are already subject to one-way traffic orders and it is not the intention of either the Ministry or the Council to disturb these :-

North Street, Pittville Street, Winchcombe Street, High Street from Cambray to Bath Road.  
Promenade from High Street to Imperial Circus.

(a) NORTH STREET AND PROMENADE. No. 1 Order.

(i) North, Street---The Council proposed prohibition of waiting on the east side of North Street (being the side of Messrs. Boots premises) from its junction with High Street to its junction with Albion Street. In this prohibition there was a proviso which enabled a person to board or alight from a vehicle and for a vehicle to be used in connection with building operation or demolition and certain other matters, but loading or unloading of goods on the east side was prohibited between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Ministry now suggested in addition that waiting on the north west side (Messrs. Wards and Drill Hall side) be limited to 30 minutes in any one hour. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised thereto.

(ii) Promenade-The Council proposed a prohibition of waiting on the west side of Promenade (Post Office side) from its junction with High Street to its junction with Crescent Terrace, with similar provisions as mentioned in (i) above. The Minister stated that as Promenade formed part of Trunk Road No. 10 any Order in this road fell to be made by him. The making of such an Order, i.e., the prohibition of waiting on the north west side was under consideration but the Minister was in

addition proposing to establish the limitation of waiting in respect of the south east side (Cavendish House side) to 30 minutes in any one hour. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised thereto.

(b) PITTVILLE STREET AND RODNEY ROAD. No. 2 Order.

(i) Pittville Street-The Council proposed a Unilateral Waiting Order for Pittville Street from its junction with High Street to its junction with Albion Street. This would mean that waiting would be prohibited on the east side on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and on the west side on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Further on the side on which waiting was not prohibited it would have to be limited to 15 minutes at any one time and not more than once in any consecutive period of one hour. The usual provision was also included enabling a person to board or alight from a vehicle and for a vehicle to be used in connection with building operation or demolition, etc., as mentioned in (a) (i) above.

(ii) Rodney Road-The Council proposed that a Unilateral Waiting Order be made for Rodney Road from its junction with High Street extending for a distance of 100 yards in a southerly direction. This would mean that waiting would be prohibited on the east side on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and on the west side on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays with provisions similar to the Pittville Street Order. With regard to both these streets the Ministry suggested that the waiting period on the sides of the street where it was not prohibited should be extended from 15 to 30 minutes in any one hour. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the Ministry's suggestion.

(c) HIGH STREET. No. 4 Order, The Council proposed that Orders be made varying the Unilateral Waiting Orders made in September 1936 and July 1938 for High Street from Clarence Street to St. George's Street and front the Colonnade to Cambray Place and that waiting be prohibited from the junction of High Street with St. George's Street to its junction with Bath Road on the north side on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and on the south side on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Provision was included to enable a person to board or alight from a vehicle and for a vehicle to be used in connection with building and demolition work; loading and unloading of vehicles was, however, prohibited between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Ministry stated that High Street, from its junction with Colonnade to its junction with Bath Road formed part of a trunk road and any order for this length fell to be made by High Minister. Consideration was being given to the making of an Order prohibiting waiting from the junction of High Street with the Colonnade to a point 30ft. south east of that junction. The Minister was also considering making an order prohibiting waiting from the junction of High Street with Cambray Place to the junction of High Street with Bath Road. The intermediate length of High Street, i.e., from the point 30 feet south east of the Colonnade to Cambray would be subject to a Unilateral Waiting system. Should such Order be made the Borough of Cheltenham (Traffic Regulation) Order, 1938, would be revoked.

153

As regards the length of High Street between its junction with St. George's Street and its junction with Clarence Street, the Ministry suggested that the Council should amend their Order so as to prohibit waiting between Clarence Street and Bennington Street-and that a system of Unilateral Waiting be instituted on the remainder of this length of road, the Borough of Cheltenham (Traffic Regulation) Order, 1936, being revoked.

The Committee thought that the Minister had overlooked the fact that High Street from its junction with Cambray Place to its junction with Bath Road was already a one-way street and in these



circumstances they considered prohibition of waiting unnecessary. They saw no objection, however, to prohibition of waiting between Clarence Street and Bennington Street subject to loading and unloading of vehicles being prohibited between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and they also concurred in prohibition of waiting for a distance of 30 feet from Colonnade junction. The Committee further consider that the Unilateral Waiting Orders for High Street should contain the usual provision relating to loading and unloading of goods and further that waiting on the non-prohibited side be allowed for 30 minutes in any one hour. RESOLVED, That the Council be asked to adopt the views of the Committee and that the Ministry be informed accordingly.

(d) WINCHCOMBE STREET. No. 5 Order—The Council proposed that a Unilateral Waiting Order be made for Winchcombe Street from its junction with High Street to its junction with Albion Street prohibiting waiting on the east side on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and on the west side on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays: The Minister considered that in view of the extreme narrowness of the carriageway complete prohibition of waiting altogether was desirable.

The Committee was of opinion that as Winchcombe Street is already a one-way street unilateral waiting would suffice with waiting time on the non-prohibited side limited to 30 minutes and loading and unloading of vehicles prohibited between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. RESOLVED, That the Minister be informed accordingly.

(e) ALBION STREET. No. 6 Order—The Council proposed a Unilateral Waiting Order for this street from its junction with North Street to its junction with Winchcombe Street prohibiting waiting on the north side on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and on the south side on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays with the usual provisions for boarding and alighting from vehicles ; the use of vehicles for building demolition and other purposes ; and restriction of loading and unloading between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Ministry suggested that only the length between the junction of North Street and a point 20 yards south east of Pittville Street should be subject to a system of Unilateral waiting and in view of the fact that it was proposed to prohibit waiting in Winchcombe Street and on one side of a length of North Street, waiting should also be prohibited on the narrower length of Albion Street.

The Ministry's view was that drivers of vehicles displaced from North Street, Winchcomb Street and the wider section of Albion Street would tend to leave vehicles in the narrower part of Albion Street unless waiting was prohibited. The Minister also considered it desirable that waiting be limited to 30 minutes in any one hour.

The Committee were not in favour of total prohibition of waiting on the portion of Albion Street mentioned and considered that unilateral waiting would meet, present needs and avoid inconvenience and difficulties to traders. Their opinion was that 2 types of restriction in this short length of road would cause considerable confusion to motorists. The Committee concurred, however, with the Minister's suggestion restricting waiting time on the non-prohibited side to 30 minutes. RESOLVED, That the Minister be informed accordingly.

(f) REGENT STREET. No. 7 Order-The Council proposed an Order prohibiting the waiting of vehicles on the west side of Regent Street from its junction with High Street to its junction with County Court Road.

The Minister suggested that in view of the very narrow carriageway this length of road be subject to an Order prohibiting waiting rather than a Unilateral Waiting system. RESOLVED, That no objection

be raised to the Minister's proposals, the Order to contain similar provision to the other Prohibition of Waiting Orders now proposed.

Trees---Folly Lane-On 25th February the View Committee inspected the remaining trees in Folly Lane when it was found that there were three trees on the north west side and four on the north east side. Representations had been made that the roots and foliage prevented the cultivation of adjacent land for food production purposes. Thy View Committee, therefore, recommend that all the trees be removed as soon as possible and also that the Allotments Committee consider felling two oak trees upon Creamery Piece Allotments.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

(Adopted at the meeting of the Council held on 3rd March, 1947).

154

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**7th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Yeend (Chairman); Councillors Bayliss, Fisher, Waite; Messrs. H. J. Lewis and C. R. Mapp.

894—Curator's Report for February, 1947.

Visitors during February, 4,367 (February last year, 2,950). Daily average, 182 (last year, 123).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, etc., 5s. 6d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c, £3 15s. 0d.

Cotswold Murals—The three large mural paintings by Gerald Gardiner, from the Cheltenham Services Club, had been on view from the 10th February-7th March, and had been greatly appreciated. Included among the visitors were five parties from Colleges and Schools in Cheltenham and Gloucester. The murals belonged to Mr. Cyril Bird, who was prepared to consider selling them. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be asked to consider whether it is possible to hang these murals in any Corporation building, and if so, that they be recommended to consider the purchase of the murals, as in the opinion of this Committee, it is desirable that these murals should be retained in Cheltenham.

895—Specimens Purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved : (a) " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c, Ornamental vase (Cheltenham Pottery), £3 3s. 0d. ; (b) H. A. Thomas Bequest, Bristol porcelain custard cup and cover, £6 15s. 0d. ; Bristol porcelain dish (blue and white), £5 5s. 0d. ; Bristol porcelain cup and saucer, £13 0s. 0d.; Bristol Porcelain circular dessert dish, £35 0s. 0d.

896—Museum Show Window—The Curator read letter from Mr. J. C. Karn suggesting the formation of a window near the Art Gallery entrance in which an " exhibit of the week " could be shown regularly; so that passers-by might have brought to their notice important and interesting items in the Museum collections. Mr. Karn further suggested that if the Committee would entertain this proposal he would endeavour to collect sufficient money with which to defray the expenses. RESOLVED, That the Curator make enquiries as to the cost of such a window and that meanwhile Mr. Karn be thanked for his interest.

897—Whit Monday Closing—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum close on Whit Monday, 26th May.

E. M. YEEND, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**Friday, 7th March, 1947.** Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman); Councillors J. Bendall, Tucker Brown and Grimwade; Rev. E. C. Hanson and Rev. B. Thomas and Mr. H. J. Norris.

898—Librarian's Report for February, 1947:—

Issues—Reference Dept., 6,115; Lending Dept., 34,684; Junior Dept., 4,405; Branch Libraries, 1,653; Loan Collections, 400. Total, 47,257. (February last year, 48,027). (A record issue of 4,006 volumes was made from all departments on Saturday, 15th February, 1947. The previous highest figure was 3,922, on 1st February, 1947.)

Receipts amounted to £85 2s. 10d.

Replacements and Binding—248 volumes had been replaced and 158 dispatched to the binder.

Lectures—Five lectures had been given in the Art Gallery during the period. The average attendance being 71.

899—Books—RESOLVED, That 330 volumes published at £171 18s. 6d. be purchased for £153 14s. 11d.

900—Donations—8 volumes and 1 map had been received from 6 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

901—Periodicals—RESOLVED, (a) That the "Investors' Chronicle" (1s weekly) suggested by a reader, be purchased.

(b) That the "Labour Forum Quarterly" offered as a gift, be accepted with thanks.

902—Branch Libraries—(a) Naunton Park—The Librarian reported that it was now no longer possible to carry on Naunton Park Branch Library with voluntary help. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be accorded to the volunteers, and that the Librarian be authorised to appoint Mrs. Walters for two evenings per week, at the same rate of pay as that obtaining at the St. Mark's and Whaddon Branch Libraries.

(b) The Librarian further reported that the use made of Whaddon Branch Library on Saturday nights did not justify keeping open. RESOLVED, That this service be continued on Mondays and Thursdays, and discontinued on Saturdays after March 22nd, 1947.

903—Staff—The resignation of Miss A. M. Pollard was received and accepted. RESOLVED, That the Chairman's authorisation of an advertisement in the "Times Literary Supplement" for a Senior Library Assistant (male or female) in Grade II A.P.T. Division of the National Scale of Salaries (£360 x £15 to £405 per annum) plus bonus be approved, and that the Librarian be authorised to make an appointment.

904—Whit Monday Closing—RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library be closed on Whit Monday, 26th May.

905—Fuel Crisis—The Librarian reported as to the fuel position for heating the Library. RESOLVED, That if in order to conserve sufficient fuel to maintain the heating, the Librarian considers it necessary to curtail the hours of opening the Library, he be authorised in his discretion to open the Library half an hour later in the mornings.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman.

155

#### ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

**17th March, 1947.** Present Councillor Addis (Chairman), Alderman Smith, Councillor Compton, Fildes, Green Midwinter, Waite and Yeend ; Messrs. Bull, Barlow and Roe.

906—Temporary Allotments, Alstone Lane (Min. 731)—The Town Clerk reported upon a further interview with representatives of the Territorial Association and stated that sites on the bombed area in Stoneville Street and off Leckhampton Road had been suggested as alternatives to the allotment land in Alstone Lane. The Association stated that neither site was suitable and the only site which appealed to meet their requirements was the N.F.S. Station site at Whaddon which the Housing Committee required a Community Centre.

It was understood that the Ministry of Agriculture had taken up the matter with the War Department and so far no instructions to commence the temporary erections had been received, but the Association anticipated consent would be forthcoming in the near future.

With regard to the displaced tenants, the Association pointed out that when the erection of a Drill Hall was contemplated in 1939 the allotment tenancies were terminated and substantial compensation paid. Due to the war, however, the proposals were abandoned and the tenants were permitted to remain on a temporary basis on the understanding that possession would be given when the Association wished to enter into occupation.

907—The Vineyards—At the last meeting the Chairman and Gardens Superintendent were asked to inspect this site and if satisfactory, the Town Clerk was authorised to commence negotiations for purchase, in order to provide alternative accommodation for displaced tenants in Alstone Lane.

The owner was unwilling to sell and her agents pointed out the great hardship incurred if the Council proceeded to compulsory acquisition. A new tenancy had recently been created and the land would be used for market garden purposes, contracts having already been placed with the War Agricultural Executive Committee for cultivation work. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances the proposal be not proceeded with.

908-----Brighton Gardens, Arle Road—The Town Clerk had discussed with the Planning Officer the possibility of obtaining other suitable land in this locality, and Brighton Gardens had been suggested. The owner was un-willing to sell or lease the site and stated that her two sons were dependent upon the land for their living. It was understood, however, that the land had not been well cultivated for some time and it appeared to the Committee that unless considerable improvement was effected in the near future, efforts should be made to obtain the site for allotment purposes. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting and that prior thereto the site be inspected again.

909—Greenhills Road Allotments--Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green stated that their client had recently purchased a building plot adjoining Woodstock and asked for the release of this area to enable her to undertake cultivation. The Gardens Superintendent stated that 9 allotments would be affected. The Committee were unable to agree to the suggestion having regard to the Ministry of Agriculture's recent pronouncement that war-time allotments should only be released for such urgent national purposes as building or essential development. Even then, tenants should continue in occupation until building actually commenced. RESOLVED, That the Solicitors be informed accordingly.

910—Allotments Rear Orchard Terrace—This land, acquired for housing purposes and let as temporary allotments, was now required for development of the Knole housing estate and the tenancies had, therefore, been terminated. The Gardens Superintendent was considering claims for compensation and would advise the Housing Committee thereon. RESOLVED, That the steps taken be approved.

911—Tennyson Road Allotments and Orchard Rear Tennyson Road—These sites, also acquired for housing purposes, were used for allotments. If compulsory acquisition of the Rowanfield Estate was approved both sites would be required in the autumn for housing development. The Committee felt that many tenants would wish to take advantage of summer crops and in these circumstances the tenancies might be determined on 29th September next, with an intimation that no winter crops should be planted. RESOLVED, That notices be served accordingly.

912—Agg Gardner Allotments Nos. 21 and 22—The tenant of these plots complained that, due to lack of fencing, his tool shed and portions of his cold frame had been stolen, and he asked for adequate fencing to be erected. The Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent reported upon the difficulties of fencing and the lam", suggested that to compensate the tenant he be granted a 12 months' rent free period. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

913—Creamery Piece Allotments-Trees—The Street and Highway Committee had decided to remove the remain: Mg trees in Folly Lane to permit increased cropping of adjacent sites, and suggested the felling of two oat' trees on the Creamery Piece allotments. RESOLVED, That the removal or otherwise be left in the hands of the Chairman with power to act.

914—" Dig for Plenty " Campaign, 1946-47—Propaganda (Min. 490)-The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had co-operated with the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society' in press publicity connected with their gardening quiz held in February and a number of applications for allotment tenancies had resulted. Supplies of leaflets and posters had now been received from the Ministry of Agriculture and would be distributed throughout the town ; local seedsmen were also displaying posters upon their premises he also proposed, in the coming weeks, to give additional press publicity to vacant allotments. RESOLVED, That the propaganda suggested be approved.

156

915—Spring or Summer Competition, 1947—In view of the difficult season the Gardens Superintendent recommended that the annual spring competition be deferred until early summer. He suggested that judging take place to-wards the end of May and awards made as a result Slur judging in mid-June. This would not conflict with the Allotments Society's competition for which judging was arranged during August and again in October. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Gardens Superintendent's recommendations he approved.

(ii) That as hitherto cash prizes of £2 2s. 0d., £1 1s. 0d. and 10s 6d be offered for the three best cultivated allotments in each of the four districts of the town.

(iii) That the Alderman P. T. Smith Challenge Cup be presented to the tenant of the best-cultivated allotment in the Borough with the usual condition that it shall not be held by any one competitor more than once in three years.

916—Scheme for the Award of Certificates of Merit—The Ministry of Agriculture were continuing this scheme for 1947. The Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society decided not to

participate last year and, again, were of opinion that for 1947 their Summer Competition, together with the Council's Competition, would provide sufficient stimulus for food production activities. The Gardens Superintendent also pointed out the difficulty in obtaining sufficient judges and agreed with the views expressed by the Society. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances, the Ministry's scheme be not undertaken in 1947.

917—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting 49 allotments had been let and the tenancies of 36 terminated.

18—National Allotments Society (Min. 286)—The Cheltenham and District Allotments Society had appointed Councillor Yeend as their representative to attend the National Society's Annual General Meeting in May, and as requested, he would be willing also to act as the Council's proxy. RESOLVED, That Councillor Yeend be appointed accordingly.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**7th March, 1947.** Present- Councillor Green (Chairman); Alderman Smith . Councillors Addis, Compton, Fildes, Midwinter and Waite,

919—Athletic Ground—(a) Gloucester County Amateur Athletic Association—The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had discussed with representatives of the Association arrangements for an important fixture on 26th July including competitions between all County Associations in the South West and at which some of the leading athletes in the country would be present.

The Association asked that the surface of the ground receive as much attention as possible during the fort-night preceding the fixture and that no motor-cycle football matches be held during that time. They also asked for the provision, in suitable places, of 2 pits for the long-high jump and a pit for the water jump, for which they were prepared to bear the cost. They further suggested that the area upon which the shelters were erected might be turfed or seeded as this would make a valuable addition to the ground and they would provide as much voluntary labour as possible. The Gardens Superintendent saw no difficulty in meeting these requirements

With regard to expenditure, it was estimated that the Association would be responsible for £200 and also for any loss sustained, and application was, therefore made for the free use of the ground. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had agreed to recommend the Committee accordingly. The Committee felt, however, that this was a case in which a small rental might be charged having regard to the amenities provided. RESOLVED, That the application be granted at a rental of £5, the Gardens Superintendent to undertake the work indicated on the understanding that the cost of pits is borne by the Association.

(b) Motor Cycle Football [Min. 2057 (d)/46]—Read, letter from the Cheltenham Motor Club suggesting dates for their eight events to commence at 7 p.m. each evening, namely, 14th and 28th May, 4th and 25th June, 9th and 23rd July, and 6th and 20th August, The second and third matches were on consecutive Wednesdays and the third and fourth matches had a lapse of three weeks, the remaining fixtures being on alternate weeks as suggested. The reason for the adjustment was the T.T. races in June which many members would attend. The Club asked the Council to rope off the ground at the goal post ends but they would undertake marshalling duties for the safety of spectators.. RESOLVED, (i) That with the exception of the fixture on 23rd July which will affect the athletic fixture on 26th July, mentioned in the preceding minute, the dates be approved.

(ii) That the 30th July be suggested as an alternative for the 23rd July.

(iii) That the Council provide rope barriers as requested.

(c) Alsatian League and Club of Great Britain—This Club asked for the use of the Athletic Ground for a dog show on Saturday, 5th July. The Committee gave consideration to their policy that no charge be made for these events and were of opinion that the time had come when a reasonable charge should be made. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to payment of a hire charge of £5 and to the usual terms and conditions.

157

970 Victory Sports Ground (Min. 745)—The Cheltenham Town Association Football Club Ltd. stated that they had decided to continue football next season and expressed the hope that the ground would be in better condition. They had requested their members to assist in procuring the necessary materials.

921—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—School Canteen (Min. 744)—The County Architect stated that he anticipated the County Council would be prepared to agree to the points which this Committee had raised upon the erection of the canteen, with the exception of the cost of constructing the access road. It was considered reasonable that the cost should be allocated as originally proposed, namely £40 by the Education Committee and £60 by this Council, particularly in view of the fact that the alteration to the boundary was made to meet the Council's wish to retain the rugby football pitch. The Town Clerk had pointed out that the Education Committee were as much concerned with the retention of the pitch as were the Council as it was required for school games. The roadway was of little value except as a means of access to the canteen. RESOLVED, That this Committee adhere to their previous decision to contribute £60 only towards the cost of the roadway, the balance to be borne by the County Council.

922—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Fun Fair, August Sports Festival [Min. 557 (b)]—Mr. C. Studt, whose offer of £50 had been accepted for provision of a fun fair from 1st to 9th August, asked permission to remain open until 11 p.m. on Saturday, 2nd August, Monday, 4th, Tuesday, 5th, and Saturday, 9th, but was willing for all music to cease at 10 p.m. each evening. He also drew attention to the clause relating to damage to the ground and was willing to accept responsibility for damage caused by his employees but not for that caused by the public. In view of the operation of double summer time the Committee saw no reason why extension of hours should not be granted as requested but they were not prepared to modify the condition relating to damage, which was in the usual form. RESOLVED, That Mr. Studt be informed accordingly.

(b) Paddling Pool [Min. 557 (c)]—The Ministry of Health had authorised reinstatement work at an estimated cost of £1,183 on the understanding that no priority for labour could be given. The Borough Surveyor was in communication with the War Damage Commission in regard to reimbursement of the cost.

923—Pittville Gardens (a) Pets' Corner (Min. 754)—The Gardens Superintendent stated that Dudley Zoo had now accepted and removed the monkey.

(b) Badminton [Min. 559 (b)] The Town Clerk reported upon correspondence and interviews with the Cotswold Badminton Club, who found that the suggested rental of 7s 6d per hour for the Pump Room, with a minimum charge of £1 per evening, was beyond their resources. It would mean a subscription of £3 10s. 0d. or £4 per member for a six months' season as compared with the pre-war subscription of £1 5s. 0d. for Alstone Baths with four courts for two nights each week. The Club,

therefore, asked for a reduction and to save the wages of a man for opening and locking the premises, the Secretary would undertake responsibility therefor. The Committee considered it unsatisfactory that members of the public should undertake control of Council property but, with the operation of double summer time, there was no reason why the Council's employees on duty at the gardens should not carry out necessary supervision. During this period the rental might be reduced to 12s 6d, RESOLVED, That the Club be granted the use of the Pump Room for a temporary period on Thursday evenings from 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. at 7s 6d per hour to be reduced to 12s 6d per evening during the long evenings on the understanding that the Club will relinquish possession when the premises are required for other purposes and will provide their own lighting equipment.

924--Marle Hill Annexe—Boating—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that, subject to weather conditions, the season commence on Good Friday, 4th April. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

925—Cricket Season, 1947—(a) Recreation Grounds—Applications had been received from a large number of sports clubs for pitches but because of the limited accommodation available the full requirements of all Clubs could not be met. The Gardens Superintendent recommended that where necessary Clubs be granted pitches on a fortnightly instead of weekly basis and that net practice be limited to portions of the field not used for matches. This would enable playing pitches to be maintained in comparatively good order.

With regard to St. Mark's Recreation Ground, he recommended that match cricket be not permitted thereon this season as it would interfere with the layout of cricket tables and other work at the King George V Playing Field, The Committee also considered the expenditure involved in preparing, marking out and rolling pitches and considered that where this work was undertaken for Clubs composed of members in a position to make a contribution thereto, a charge of 5s per match be made. RESOLVED,

(i) That the recommendations of the Gardens Superintendent be approved.

(ii) That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to meet, as far as possible, the requirements of Clubs from whom applications have not yet been received.

(iii) That permission be granted for the undermentioned Clubs to play cricket at the recreation grounds subject to compliance with the usual terms and conditions and to payment of the preparation charge referred to except the cases indicated.

| Name of Club                                       | Recreation Ground | Day of Play   |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Y.M.C.A.   | Agg Gardner       | Alternate Saturdays                                       |
| St. Paul's United ...                              | do.               | Alternate Saturdays & Wednesday evenings                  |
| Bennington Hall                                    | do.               | Monday evenings, practice ;<br>Tuesday evenings, matches. |
| Squires of St. Columbia Youth Club<br>Naunton Park | do.               | One evening each week. No maintenance charge              |
| Old Students' Association                          | Naunton Park      | Alternate Saturdays and one evening                       |
| St. Philip's United.                               | do.               | Alternate Saturdays.                                      |
| Montpellier Social Club                            | do.               | Alternate Saturdays.                                      |
| Cheltenham and District Scouts                     | do.               | Alternate Saturdays do. No maintenance charge             |
| St. Stephen's Institute                            | Hatherley Park    | Saturdays   |
| Whaddon Sports Club                                | Whaddon           | do.   |



(b) Playing Fields—The St. Mark's Community Centre and the St. Mark's Campaigners Cricket Clubs had applied for the use of the St. Mark's Recreation Ground but in view of the decision that play be not permitted thereon for this season the Gardens Superintendent recommended that these Clubs be allocated pitches at Brooklyn Road Playing Field. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That the following Clubs be granted pitches upon Playing Fields subject in each case, with the exception of the St. Marks Campaigners, to payment of 5s for each occasion the ground is used and to compliance with the usual conditions :

| Name of Club                            | Playing Field   | Day of Play         |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| Parish Church School Old Boys           | Brooklyn Road   | Saturdays           |
| St. Mark's Community Association        | do.             | Saturdays           |
| Benhall Farm (Ministry of Pensions) ... | do.             | Alternate Saturdays |
| St. Mark's Campaigners                  | do.             | Saturdays           |
| Spirax Social Club ...                  | Tewkesbury Road | Saturdays           |
| Cheltenham Corinthians.                 | do.             | Practice only       |

(c) Cheltenham Grammar School—The Headmaster asked if the Committee would consider granting the school the use of cricket pitches on the Brooklyn Road Playing Field each Wednesday during the season May to July. The pitches on the School sports field adjoining, were insufficient for requirements having regard to revised sports arrangements and if the Council acceded to the request it would be of assistance. They would be pre-pared for their groundsman to undertake all necessary marking out, rolling and maintenance. RESOLVED, That the application be granted and that in view of the maintenance to be provided, no charge be made.

926—Tennis—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that a large number of applications had been received from Clubs and Organisations and he asked for authority to accept bookings upon the usual terms and conditions. RESOLVED, That authority be given accordingly.

(b) Reductions- -RESOLVED, That the hire charge to the Y.M.C.A. and the Cheltenham Federation of Youth Organisations Tennis Clubs for grass courts at the Montpellier Gardens be reduced from £10 to £7 10s. 0d. for the season.

(c) Central School—The School wished to hire four grass courts for one hour during school time on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3rd May to 26th July, and the Headmistress asked for a reduction in the hire charge of 2s per hour. RESOLVED, That the application be not acceded to.

927—Parks, Recreation Grounds and Gardens—Opening Hours—RESOLVED, That in view of the operation of double summer time, the parks, gardens and recreation grounds be opened during the long evenings from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

928—Staff—(a) Foreman Propagator—The Gardens Superintendent reported that this employee was appointed in January, 1946, at a weekly wage of £5 3s. 6d. During his engagement his services had been highly satisfactory and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that his wages be increased to £5 15s. 0d. per week. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(b) Variation of Hours due to Double Summer Time—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the introduction of summer time, to be followed by double summer time, would involve a rearrangement of the working hours of the nursery staff at Pittville. This type of work was governed largely by the sun and it would, there-fore, be necessary for the same to be undertaken according to Greenwich Mean Time. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to make appropriate adjustments.

(c) Custodians, Relief Custodians and Patrolmen—In view of the Committee's decision that the parks, gardens and recreation grounds should, during the summer months, be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., it would be necessary for the hours of custodians, relief custodians and patrolmen also to be adjusted. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent make appropriate arrangements and endeavour to provide relief custodians wherever possible.

(d) Transport of Carbon Black Waste—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the extremely dirty nature of this work and recommended that the men engaged on the work be paid an additional sum of 2s 6d per day as " dirt money," particularly as the work could not be regarded as part of their normal duties. The Committee agreed therewith and also that the employees should be provided, if possible, with protective clothing. RESOLVED, That the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That efforts be made to supply protective clothing subject to surrender of any necessary clothing coupons.

929—Gale Damage—The Borough Surveyor reported Nurseries, the damage caused by the recent gale and that a consider-able quantity of glass had been destroyed at Pittville Nurseries, 8 trees uprooted in Agg Gardner Recreation Ground, the rear of the grandstand at the Victory Sports Ground demolished and tennis netting at the Montpellier Gardens blown down and damaged.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

159

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**13th March, 1947.** Present—Alderman E. L. Wald (Chairman); Alderman Trye ; Councillor Bayliss; Mrs. Atherton ; Major Shakspeare: W. Clegg.

14th March, 1947. Present Alderman E. L. Ward (Chairman): Councillors Bayliss and J. Bendall

930—Plans (a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                     | Description   | Recommendation Under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|
| 5854        | Stroud Brewery Co., Ltd. | Modified layout for conveniences, Calcutta inn, Gloucester Road | Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. | Approved.                                      |

|      |                     |   |   |   |
|------|---------------------|---|---|---|
| 6047 | W. J. Moore         | Alterations and extensions, St. Philips' Lodge, 60 Painswick Road | Approved as in Plan No. 5854  | Approved subject to windows being of similar type, design and materials as existing windows and to proposals for any further alterations to the external appearance being submitted to and approved by the Committee. |
| 6051 | H. A. Hallett       | Garage, Homeside, Pilford Road                                    | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6087 | W. H. Colton        | Conversion of No, 9 Cambray into 4 flats                          | Approved as in Plan No. 5854.   | Approved.   |
| 6089 | David Greig, Ltd.   | New shop doors,   | Approved.   | Approved.   |
| 6090 | H. Pearson          | Garage, 113 Brooklyn Road   | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6091 | R. G. Cleverly      | Detached house, Shurdington Road                                  | Approved.   | Deferred.   |
| 6092 | Thos. Bugbird & Son | Conversion of Belle Vue House, High Street, into 3 flats          | Approved as in Plan No. 5854.   | Approved as in Plan No. 6047.   |
| 6093 | Rotol, Ltd.         | Garage, 86 Evesham Road   | Disapproved.  | Deferred.   |
| 6094 | Ladies' College     | Alterations and extensions, Sanatorium, Leckhampton Road          | Approved as in Plan No. 5854, and to the roof water of the recreation but being carried to the existing drainage ; also that the building be licensed as a temporary building | Approved.   |
| 6095 | F. J. Artus         | New Bathroom. 28 St. James Street                                 | Approved as in Plan No. 5854  | Approved for a period of 15 years from date of consent as the   |

|      |                 |   |                              |   |
|------|-----------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| 6096 | H. J. Colson    | Garage.<br>47 Welland Lodge Road                        | Exempt                       | building is in a proposed redevelopment area.<br>Approved.  |
| 6097 | A. Cook         | New house.<br>Wellington Square                         | Approved.                    | Approved, subject to double-hung sash windows being substituted for steel casement windows.   |
| 6098 | Mrs. Hilda Bell | Conversion of Belroyde, St. George's Road, into 3 flats | Approved as in Plan No. 5854 | Approved as in Plan No. 6047 ; also to elevation of proposed external staircase being submitted to and approved by the Committee, and to the basement not being used for human habitation unless approved by the Public Health Committee. |

160

| No. of Plan | Name                      | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| 6099        | Stroud Brewery Co., Ltd.  | Re-election of outbuildings, Kings Arms Inn, Bath Road | Approved subject to the conditions attached to the plans on 22nd May, 1941 | Approved subject to the conditions attached to the approval of the plans on 22nd May, 1941. |
| 6100        | W. E. Lawrence            | New dairy shop and house, Hewlett Road                 | Approved.  | Approved subject to forecourt being made up to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor.    |
| 6101        | Harry Higgins, Ltd.       | New shopfront, 312 High Street                         | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6102        | F. Bloodworth & Co., Ltd. | New shopfront, 306 High Street                         | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6103        | Steels, Ltd.              | Alterations and extensions, 47-51 Albion Street        | Disapproved.   | Disapproved.  |
| 6104        | T. Ursell                 | Alterations and extensions, 50 Pilley Lane             | Approved as in Plan No. 5854   | Approved for a period of 15 years from date of consent.                                     |

|      |                      |   |   |   |
|------|----------------------|---|---|---|
| 6105 | Andy's Candies, Ltd. | Conversion of<br>The Moors,<br>Tewkesbury Road,<br>into two flats | Approved as in Plan<br>No. 5854, and to all<br>drainage being carried<br>to the existing sewer. | Approved subject to<br>the basement not<br>being used for human<br>habitation unless<br>approved by the Public<br>Health Committee. |
|------|----------------------|---|---|---|

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans-

| No. of<br>Plan | Name                            | Description  | Recommendation under Interim<br>Development Order   |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| T.P.2249       | Housing Association             | Preliminary proposals to<br>development, Two<br>Hedges Lane,<br>Bishops Cleeve | Approved in principle, subject<br>to 20ft. carriageways to all<br>through roads and 16ft.<br>carriageways to all culs-de-<br>sac, and to submission and<br>approval of detailed plans.  |
| T.P.2250       | O. Cannell                      | Conversion of dwelling house into<br>9 flats, Hill Court, Pittville            | Approved, fire-escape to be<br>placed at rear of the<br>building and all new windows<br>to be of similar type, design<br>and material as existing<br>windows. Proposals for<br>any further alterations to the<br>external appearance of the<br>building to be submitted to<br>and approved by the<br>Committee. |
| T.P.2251       | R. L. James                     | Proposed Garage,<br>8 Glebe Road, Prestbury                                    | Deferred.   |
| T.P.2252       | G. Packer                       | Garage, Pendennis,<br>Post Office Lane, Cleeve Hill                            | Disapproved.  |
| T.P.2253       | B. T. Healey                    | Cycle Shed, 3 Brymore Avenue,<br>New Barn Lane, Prestbury                      | Disapproved.  |
| T.P.2254       | E. G. Gladman                   | Greenhouse, Glengarrif,<br>The Reddings, Badgeworth                            | Approved.   |
| T.P.2255       | Messrs. Cleevely<br>and Lippatt | Pair semi-detached houses,<br>Langley Road, Winchcombe                         | Approved.   |
| T.P.2256       | W. A. White                     | Proposed house,<br>Park Estate, Prestbury                                      | Approved.   |
| T.P.2257       | H. G. Ham                       | Sterilising Room,<br>Dutch Villa Farm, Shurdington                             | Approved.   |
| T.P.2258       |                                 | Proposed classroom,  | Deferred.   |

| Seven Springs House School |              |        |   |   |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------|---|---|
| T.P.2259                   | Cheltenham   | R.D.C. | 3 pairs semi-detached houses, Gretton, Nr. Winchcombe | Approved.   |
| T.P.2260                   | H. Pritchard |        | 2 Nissen huts, The Forge, The Reddings, Badgeworth    | Approved in principle only and that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans. |

161

| No. of Plan | Name   | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| T.P.2261    | W. J. Oldacre  | New Cloakrooms, The Mill, Bishops Cleeve   | Approved.   |
| T. P.2262   | J. B. James  | Conversion of tower into living accommodation, Charlton Lawn, Copt Elm Road, Chariton Kings                        | Disapproved.  |
| T.P.2263    | Mrs. L. Wakefield  | Additions, 5 Yew Tree Cottage, Charlton Kings  | Approved.   |
| T.P.2264    | Small Holdings Committee, Gloucestershire County Council | Proposed Nissen hut for agricultural purposes and new timber and iron lean-to, Green Farm, Alma Road, Up Hatherley | Approved subject to the huts being painted green or other approved colour and to re-painting as often as is necessary, to avoid a dilapidated appearance. |

931—Development Plans (a) St. George's Place—Messrs. R. & R. Bolland Ltd. applied for permission to use a building in St. George's Place as an assembly workshop and for making cushions for hair brushes. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of 5 years from date of consent, as the building was situated in a proposed redevelopment area, and to no nuisance being caused through smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.

(b) Carrick House, Lypiatt Road—Application from Messrs. Cornelius and Boulter for permission to use Carrick House, Lypiatt Road, as offices. RESOLVED, That consent be granted subject to all signs and advertising matter and proposals for alterations to the external appearance being submitted to and approved by the Council; also that all commercial vehicles should use the rear entrance.

(c) Castle Street, Winchcombe---Application from Mr. J. L. E. Smith-Wood to erect a hut on land in Castle Street, Winchcombe, for use as Branch Headquarters of the British Legion. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(d) The Reddings, Badgeworth----Application of Messrs. A. A. Jackson Ltd. for permission to erect two houses on a plot of land fronting Reddings Road. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as there were no sewers in the area and development would involve the Local Authority in excessive and premature expenditure of public money.

(e) Cranley Lodge, Wellington Square—Letter from Mr. K. J. Fisher for approval in principle to the erection of a block of flats on land adjoining Cranley Lodge, Wellington Square, RESOLVED, That the

application be approved in principle but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(f) Priors Road—Letter from Mr. G. R. Hamlin for permission to erect a shed at 98 Priors Road for the manufacture of fishing rods. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of 5 years from the date of consent, subject to detailed plans being submitted to and approved by the Committee, and to no nuisance being caused by reason of smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.

(g) Bouncers Lane, Prestbury—Application of Messrs. Elliott Bros. for permission to erect garages and work-shops for their lorries in a disused sandpit off Bouncers Lane, Prestbury. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans ; subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, ?times or smell, and to no signs or advertisements being erected on the site without the prior consent of the Committee.

(h) Old Bath Road—Messrs. W. H. Horsley & Co., Ltd., asked if any objection would be made to the erection of a block of flats on a plot of land at the corner of Old Bath Road and Charlton Lane. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(j) Kingsditch Lane, Swindon—Messrs. L. W. Barnard and Partners requested reconsideration of the Committee's decision requiring the setting back of the proposed factory of Messrs. Alfred Miles Ltd. to the front main wall of the adjoining factory, pointing out that this condition would necessitate considerable expense in the provision of soil and surface water drains and access roads. It was proposed to retain certain trees to screen the large and ugly expanse of roof which would be visible from the highway. RESOLVED, That consent be granted to bring forward the proposed building 36ft. in front of the adjoining factory, subject to satisfactory architectural treatment of that portion of the building which would be visible from the highway.

932-220 Alstone Lane—Garage (Min. 551)—The owner attended the Committee and stated that he was not aware of the provisions of building byelaws when erecting the garage and was prepared to submit plans and resite the garage so as to comply with the requirements. RESOLVED, That subject to the submission of plans and the re-siting of the garage to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor, no further action be taken thereon.

933—Crown Factory'—Stoke Orchard [Min. 798 (ii)]—The Committee further considered- the application of the Ministry of Supply for a formal determination under the Building Restrictions (War-time Contraventions) Act, 1946, in respect of the Ministry's buildings at Stoke Orchard, which had been allocated to Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd; The Company were negotiating for a lease of 10 years with an option for a further period of 50 years. The Town Clerk reported that notice of the application had been published and that notices. had been served on all persons who appeared to be specially affected. Two letters were submitted indicating no objection. A letter was also submitted from the Solicitors to Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. stating that the Company was formed in May, 1945, for the purposes of designing, developing and manufacturing power plant and a post-war motor-car, and had received strong support from the Ministry of Aircraft Production. Subsequently the Company received a contract from the Ministry of Supply for the design and development of a gas turbine for passenger-carrying civil aircraft, an order from America to design and produce an engine for taxi-planes, and encouragement from the Board of Trade to design and produce a special type of motor-car for export trade. It

had been necessary, therefore, for the Company to acquire factory premises as quickly as possible and after considerable efforts and inspection of some 29 buildings, the Board of Trade found the Company the factory at Stoke Orchard at the end of 1945. The choice of the factory, which was by no means ideal, and had previously been rejected by the Company, was ultimately forced upon them by circumstances under which they had no option but to accept. It was emphasised that the factory was designed purely for experimental and development purposes and would be used in future by the Company solely for such purposes and not for production work. It was an essential part of the Company's work that they should have adjoining the factory testing sheds for experimental engines. It was pointed out that these sheds could have been erected on property belonging to the Crown, but it was considered that in all the circumstances a site further from Stoke Orchard village would be more appropriate.

The Company's work was regarded as important and in the national interest, and it was essential to them to have security of tenure on the lines already agreed by them. with the Ministry of Supply. The Company hoped, therefore, that the Council would take the view that the factory was a national asset and that permission would be granted for the continued existence of the factory, at least for the period of the lease, or subject to such conditions as would enable the Company to conclude their negotiations with the Minister of Supply as to the terms of the lease to be granted. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the works fail to comply with the planning proposals, in that the land on which the works were erected was proposed to be scheduled for agricultural purposes only, hereby determine that having regard to all the relevant circumstances, the works shall, notwithstanding the failure to comply with planning control, be deemed so to comply subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) That the works shall be used for the purposes of aero-engine and motor-car research and development only and not for production work of any kind;
- (b) That the application be granted for the period of the lease as referred to in the Ministry of Supply letter dated 4th February, 1947, that is 10 years with an option to continue in occupation under a new lease for a further period of 50 years.

934—Town and Country Planning Bill—The Town Clerk reported on the progress of this Bill and that he had been in touch with the Borough Member and various Local Government Associations in regard to certain amendments.

935—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—Signs— The Committee considered the proposal of the Town Improvement Committee to provide a suitable sign to the main entrance and café at the Swimming Pool and that four frames at the town's main approaches be dismantled and re-erected in suitable positions adjacent to the Pool. RESOLVED, That no objection be made to the proposal, provided that the proposed signs are erected in positions approved by the Borough Surveyor and Planning Officer and to the subject matter of the signs being previously approved by this Committee.

936—Vittoria Walk/Oriel Road Junction (Min. 1981/46) The Committee considered a recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee that a building line of 5 feet be provided in the planning scheme for Oriel Road. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

937—Planning Officer—Salary (Min. 163)----The Town Clerk reported that the County Council were not prepared to vary their decision that the Planning Officer be paid the same scale of salary as that for the time being in force for the Deputy County Planning Officer (£600 per annum x £25 to £720 per annum plus 10% temporary increase) as from 1st September, 1946. RESOLVED, That having regard to the duties carried out by the Planning Officer, this Committee were still of the opinion that



his salary should be increased to £800 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, and that the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve payment by the Council of the difference between the County scale and the salary recommended above with effect from the 1st September, 1946.

938—Overton House, St. George's Road—It was reported that the deepening of a dormer window at Overton House had not been carried out in accordance with plans approved by the Committee. Steel casement windows had been used in the new work instead of sash windows, so that the new work did not harmonise with the existing building. RESOLVED, That the owners be required to comply with the plans as approved.

939—South Midland Garages and Engineering Co., Ltd., Gloucester Road—The Planning Officer reported that the Regional Controller had intimated he was not prepared to grant the application of this company for permission to carry out heavy engineering work at their proposed new garage in Gloucester Road. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken thereon.

940—Preservation of Trees, Queens, Stutfield and Thrift Woods—The Planning Officer reported upon the importance of the woods at Southam (known as Queens, Stutfield and Thrift Woods), The Committee gave careful consideration to the desirability of the retention of these features. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that it is expedient to make provision for the preservation of the above-mentioned woods, an Order be made in pursuance of Section 8 of the Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943, for the interim protection of the above woods and that the Common Seal be affixed to such Order. ALSO RESOLVED, That such Order be submitted to the Minister of Town and Country Planning for approval.

1—School Site, Bishop's Cleeve—Letter was submitted from the County Education Committee asking for an assurance that the site of the new school at Bishop's Cleeve would be reserved for that purpose in the planning scheme. RESOLVED, That the assurance be given.

2—Ward's Road—Garage (Min. 808)—Letter was submitted from Mr. Goodridge asking for reconsideration of the condition requiring him to set back the garage erected by him in Wards Road behind the building line. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the garage remaining in its present position for a period of 12 months from the date of consent and that Min. 808 be varied accordingly.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

163

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**18th March, 1947.** Present- The Mayor (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Strickland and Yeend.

943—National Building Programme--4th Zonal Conference (Min. 2169)—The Town Clerk reported on the 4th Zonal Conference held at Cheltenham on 5th March, 1947. The Vice-Chairman, Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor attended as representatives of the Council. The object of the Conference was to apportion the amount of building permitted under the Government's White Paper as between the various local authorities.

As was anticipated, there is no appreciable increase in the building industry either in the Zone or Region, and as the Prisoner-of-War labour is rapidly diminishing owing to repatriation, local authorities were urged to push ahead with the preparation of housing sites in order to avail themselves of such labour while it is available.

With regard to licensing. In future two ceilings were being given to local authorities, namely one for housing work, and the other for other work up to the £100 limit. The Essential Works Order would cease at the end of March, so that the only means of directing labour to work on which it was most needed, was careful and stringent licensing. The position in regard to the supply of materials was acute, and in particular oil, paint and timber. The shortage of timber would be serious throughout 1947, and was already holding up the erection of many houses ; therefore licences for maintenance work requiring the use of timber should not be issued unless a very real case of emergency was made out.

The licensing ceilings for Cheltenham Borough were allocated at £1,100 a week for housing work (excluding conversions and new houses) and £400 a week for other work up to the £100 limit.

With regard to new houses, the Principal Housing Officer gave details of the Government's programme as contained in the White Paper. The programme was entirely governed by the estimates of the supply of materials and of the output of the building labour force, and had been based on the experience gained in 1946 before the present fuel crisis, which was bound to have a serious long term effect on the building programme, and would be felt throughout 1947. The essence of the 1947 programme was the capacity of the building industry, and therefore other commitments must be avoided. The programme must proceed with greater equality as between local authorities. He gave details of the national figures, and stated that the allocation to this Region was a total of 15,000 houses to be completed or started in 1947.

This was nearly equal to the number of houses actually under construction ; therefore very little scope was left. The maximum number of houses under construction at any one time had been fixed at 11,000, and the maximum number which could be erected on approved tenders or licences but not started was 5,200. Local authorities must therefore restrict their commitments, and it was desirable that the labour force should be concentrated on a smaller number of houses instead of being thinned out over too many contracts.

With regard to the licensing of houses for erection by private enterprise, the number which could be permitted was bound to be very small because of the commitments of licences already issued. Even so, when considering the issue of licences, local authorities should bear in mind that hardship did not only exist in cases where an applicant was waiting to rent a Council house, but might equally well exist where the applicant was desirous of buying a house. The figures quoted in the programme were the absolute maximum and nothing was held in reserve. Even for this programme there was not an assured supply of timber for even 75% of the houses.

So far as the Borough is concerned the allocation for 1947 was as follows:—

Houses under construction at 31st December, 1946:—

|                           |           |     |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----|
| By Local Authority ... .. | 87        |     |
| By Private Enterprise     | <u>31</u> |     |
|                           |           | 118 |

No. of non-traditional allocated or agreed before January, 1947 :—

|            |            |     |
|------------|------------|-----|
| B.I.S.F.   | 50         |     |
| Wimpey ... | <u>250</u> |     |
|            |            | 300 |

|  |           |    |
|--|-----------|----|
| New houses approved or licensed in 1946 but not commenced :— |           |    |
| Council  | 70        |    |
| Private Enterprise .. .                                      | <u>24</u> |    |
|  |           | 94 |
| War damaged to be re-built in 1947.                          |           | 6  |

Balance of 1947 programme:—

Further traditional houses to be approved during 1947:—

|                      |          |           |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Up to June 30th      | 60       |           |
| Up to September 30th | 6        |           |
| Up to December 30th  | <u>6</u> |           |
|                      |          | <u>72</u> |

590

Of these 72 the Council may, if they wish, issue during each of the three periods, licences for six houses by private enterprise, making a total of 18, but these are included in the Council's above allocation of 72.

944—Control of Civil Building—(a) Circular 34/47—Read Circular 34/47 from the Ministry of Health stating that houses in respect of which licences were issued by local authorities during 1947 would form part of the housing programme, it being left to the discretion of the local authority to decide to what extent they should allow private building. It was considered important that houses so built should be of good standard in construction and amenity and that a condition to this end should be attached to licences issued in future. It had been decided to increase the ceiling from £1,200 to £1,300 per house. A model form of condition to ensure good workmanship and a good standard of construction was set out in the circular for addition to building issued in future. It was suggested that the general specification and the amount of supervision exercised should be equivalent to those laid down in the scheme operated by the National House-Builders' Registration Council.

164

(b) Consideration of Applications—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association stating that complaints had been received by them of delays in dealing with applications for licences and urging expedition in their consideration in future. It was also alleged that there was a good deal of un-employment in the local building trade, particularly amongst painters.

The Borough Surveyor pointed out that such licences were granted along lines set out by the Ministries of Works and Health within a fixed ceiling level which included general maintenance, repairs and other building works, including that necessitated by statutory notices.

He reminded the Committee that in January, as soon as it was apparent that there was unemployment amongst local painters, he had made application to the Ministry of Works for authority to issue further licences to absorb these unemployed men and had received permission to issue licences amounting to £1,000 in the next 6 weeks for painting and decorating to provide work for them (Min. 532). He had been informed recently by the Ministry of Labour that the number of

unemployed painters in the town was 21, and he proposed to apply for authority to issue further licences to absorb these men.

The Borough Surveyor stressed the fact that over a 100 applications were received each month and the number inspected but still awaiting issue was 230. The average number issued per month was 125 and with the 230 awaiting issue it meant that the present volume would have to be increased by 50 per month to reduce arrears spread over a period of seven months. This would necessitate doubling the present ceiling. Applications already in hand inspected but awaiting the issue of licences were as follows :—

|                                 |     |               |
|---------------------------------|-----|---------------|
| (a) General repairs ...         | 125 | value £10,278 |
| (b) Painting and decorating ... | 75  | value £2,681  |
| (c) Miscellaneous ...           | 30  | value £1,959  |

apart from which there were 120 applications (all types) in hand still to be inspected to the value of £15,332. It was impossible to expedite consideration of applications in the first instance because of shortage of staff and in the second instance owing to the ceiling of £1,100 per week permitted by the Ministry of Works. With regard to damage done in the recent gale the Borough Surveyor reported that in cases of extreme emergency he had given permission for the necessary work to be put in hand. RESOLVED, (a) That the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association be informed that while the Council were restricted as to the value of licences which they could issue in any one week to £1,100, there is owing to the large accumulation of applicants bound to be delay in dealing with the applications, which are dealt with in date order, due regard being had to urgent works and statutory notices.

(b) That the, Borough Surveyor make application to the Ministry of Works for permission to grant additional licences in order to absorb the painters at present unemployed in the Borough.

945—Compulsory Purchase Orders—Rowanfield Road and Heaters Way—Notice had been received from the Ministry of Health that it was intended to hold a Public Inquiry into the Council's application for confirmation of the above-mentioned compulsory purchase orders on the 16th April, 1947, at 10 a.m.

946-18 Hope Street—Read letter from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green asking for an assurance that the business of ice-cream manufacture along with the tenancy of the house would be transferred to the present tenant's son upon her determining her tenancy. A statutory notice had been served requiring either the construction of a permanent building for the manufacture of ice-cream or erection of a temporary asbestos shed for the sale only of ice-cream and in either case, if the necessary works were carried out, their client, who was the son of the present tenant, wished to be assured that he would be able to effect the transfer of the tenancy when necessary. The Estate Management Sub-Committee had approved the proposal for the erection of the building subject to it being removed at the end of the tenancy and to the Council being under no obligation to pay compensation in respect thereof. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances the present tenant's son be given an assurance that he will be granted a transfer of the tenancy on the termination of his mother's tenancy, but that the Council cannot guarantee to grant a further tenancy of the house to any other assignee of the business.

947—Change of User—New Court Hotel—The Town Clerk submitted formal application for permission to use these premises for the purpose of carrying on a school. RESOLVED, That in

pursuance of the Defence Regulation 68CA the Committee consent to the use of these premises for purposes other than residential purposes.

948—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Feeding Building Operatives [Min. 863 (c)]—The Town Clerk submitted a copy notice given to the Contractors by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Factory Department, recommending that consideration should be given to the provision of food in the canteen on this building estate in accordance with one of the schemes set out in the Ministry of Food circulars.

The Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed at the last meeting he had consulted the Contractors, who stated that only 14 building operatives on the whole site had expressed any interest in the scheme. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the British Restaurant Committee in order that they may consider whether it is practicable to provide meals for such a small number of men.

(b) B.I.S.F. Houses [Min. 592 (a)]—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health with regard to the extra costs which would be incurred by the fixing of power sockets in fire resisting boxes. The Ministry stated that as these conditions were likely to apply to both traditional and non-traditional houses and in fact were necessitated by local special conditions, the cost incurred in complying with them would not rank for capital grant under Section 177 Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946.

The Borough Surveyor pointed out that this was not merely a local condition but was insisted upon by the Institution of Electrical Engineers. It appeared that efforts were being made to reduce the costs of these non-traditional houses so that the difference between their cost and that of traditional houses which would be reimbursed by the Ministry would be kept as low as possible. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk make representations to the Association of Municipal Corporations with a view to the correction of this anomaly.

(c) Plasterers—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Cheltenham Branch of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives with regard to the shortage of plasterers on this estate. They alleged that there were plenty of plasterers available for employment but that Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell had refused to employ them unless they were prepared to work on a piece-work basis, which was contrary to the " Fair Wages Clause."

165

The Town Clerk had approached Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell with regard to this matter and had received an assurance from them that piecework had never been instituted on this estate, and that plasterers who had been dismissed were not capable in their opinion of doing a fair days work. They intimated that they had now arranged for two registered sub-contractors to do the plastering work on this estate and this would be commenced as soon as possible.

The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health, as reported last month, in Circular 19/47, had urged sub-contracting to be extended to the furthest possible limits and that every effort should be made to bring small sub-contracting firms into contact with main contractors, and that the fullest possible use should be made of such small firms as sub-contractors. Sub-contractors were under the contract bound to observe the " Fair Wages Clause." RESOLVED, That the local branch be informed of the position and also that the Borough Surveyor arrange for an inspection of the wages books of Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell Ltd. in order to ensure that the " Fair Wages Clause " is being observed and that no piece work is being worked.

(d) Erection of Houses by Small Builders—(i) The Borough Surveyor reported that he had prepared an addendum Bill of Quantities which had been issued to each builder and which had been priced and returned to him. This addendum included various savings by means of which it was hoped to reduce the estimates received to figures which would be acceptable to the Ministry. This entailed a further reduction in the standard of the houses' and even so only one builder out of 19 was able to reduce his tender to the required figure, this being Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons Ltd., who had tendered for a block of 4 houses. Messrs. Collins and Godfrey and Mr. E. L. Squire, while not being able to get down to the Ministry's price on the basis of the Addendum Bill of Quantities had, however, agreed to undertake two blocks of 4 houses each and a pair respectively at the figure approved by the Ministry.

Mr. Squire had made a condition that in offering to build the pair of houses he should not be put to the expense of providing a bond and Messrs. A. C. Billings and Messrs. Collins & Godfrey had also raised this point.

Messrs. A. C. Billings had intimated that they would be prepared to take on 3 blocks of four houses at the Ministry's price and if this were agreed it would result in a total of 22 houses being provided under this scheme. RESOLVED, (a) That the following revised tenders be accepted subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, namely :—

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons-3 blocks of 4 houses ... | £ 14,456 6s 9d |
| Messrs. Collins & Godfrey-2 blocks of 4 houses         | £9,637 11s 4d  |
| Mr. E. L. Squire—1 pair of houses ... ..               | £2,327 10s 0d  |

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to these contracts being entered into.

(c) That the Common Seal be affixed to contracts prepared by the 1 own Clerk and that bonds for the due performance be not required.

(ii) Read letter of the 5th March from Messrs. J. A. Pye Ltd. enquiring if there had been any further development in respect of the proposal submitted by them under Circular 92/46 for the erection for the Council of their houses on their land at Hesters Way. The Town Clerk reported that he had informed Messrs. Pye Ltd. that as a result of the Zonal Conference the Council were only being allowed to build an additional 72 traditional houses in 1947 which would include any houses in respect of which the Council might decide to grant licences, and that as the Council were already committed to the erection of a number of their own houses by small builders they would not be able to entertain other proposals under Circular 92/46. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's reply be approved.

949—Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946—(a) The Town Clerk reported that intimation had been received that the Borough of Droitwich and the Rural District of Stroud were included in the area served by the local Rent Tribunal as from 6th March, 1947.

(b) Twelve decisions on applications for reduction in rent had been received from the Rent Tribunal and registered by the Town Clerk since the last report, making a total of 23.

950--Small Dwellings Acquisitions Acts—Read letter from the Cheltenham and District Trades Council urging the Council to expedite the implementing of these Acts in every possible way. The Town Clerk was preparing a joint report with the Borough Treasurer on this matter which would be submitted to the Committee in the near future.

951—National Housing and Town Planning Council—Intimation was received from the National Housing and Town Planning Council that it had been found necessary to increase the annual subscriptions from local authorities, which had remained unaltered for 25 years, owing to the general rise in costs. So far as the Borough was concerned the increased subscription would be £7 7s. 0d. per annum. RESOLVED, That the increased annual subscription be paid.

952—Conversions of Requisitioned Properties—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that difficulty was being encountered in obtaining the Ministry's approval to the conversion of houses into flats especially in connection with four houses, plans and tenders for which were submitted between November, 1946, and January, 1947. Further a requests had been received for alterations to plans and amended estimates and such requests had been dealt with as expeditiously as possible. Despite these efforts approval was still required to four conversions as follows.

(i) 36 Lansdown Crescent—This was originally submitted in November, 1946, and revised tenders providing for flats to be self-contained were submitted in February, 1947. Further alterations were then requested and a new price submitted on the 6th March.

(ii) 3 Sydenham Villas Road—Original plans were submitted on 7th December, 1946. At the Ministry's request one flat was re-designed and revised tenders submitted on the 4th February. Enquiries had been received with regard to the basement which was condemned but approval was still awaited.

166

(iii) 1 and 2 Moorend Villas—Plans were submitted on the 31st January, 1947. The Ministry raised queries with regard to the size of the single bedrooms which were answered on the 6th March.

(iv) Clayton—Original plans submitted on the 31st January, 1947. The Ministry had requested certain alterations and a revised tender was submitted on the 11th March. (b) With regard to conversions generally the Borough Surveyor pointed out that the Ministry were revising their policy and were now insisting that conversions should be carried out on a much higher standard than before, including the provision that each flat should be self-contained. Accordingly he proposed that plans should be submitted to the Ministry for approval before tenders were obtained in order to avoid the necessity of obtaining revised prices.

RESOLVED, (a) That if no reply is received at an early date the Town Clerk be instructed to communicate with the Principal Housing Officer on the matter. (b) That the procedure now proposed by the Borough Surveyor be approved and that in cases where it appears difficult to convert a house satisfactorily into self-contained flats the Borough Surveyor submit the plans for prior approval by the Estate Management. Sub-Committee.

953—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) No Fines" Houses—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health approving in principle the Council entering into a contract with Messrs. George Wimpey & Co. for the erection of 500 Wimpey " No Fines " Houses. It was considered that a break clause " should be included in the contract providing that the price per house for the second instalment of 220 houses should be subject to the Ministry's approval at a later date.

It was requested that endeavours should be made to secure plans for additional types of houses which would facilitate the issue of approval to layouts and it was understood that fresh designs had been submitted by the firm. With regard to the offer made by Messrs. Wimpey to reduce the overhaul price by £20 per house for sites containing 200 or more houses, the Ministry thought that the reduction should be made applicable to all 500 houses in view of the fact that the proposed sites

were in reasonable proximity to one another. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the Contract with Messrs. Wimpey on the lines now approved by the Ministry of Health, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract and bond.

(b) Wimpey " No Fines" Houses—In view of the fact that the number of houses to be erected by small builders was likely to be reduced to 22 instead of 60, the Borough Surveyor submitted an amended layout showing 110 " No Fines " houses on Lynworth Farm Estate instead of the original 80. The extra 30 houses were made up of new designs to be produced by Messrs. Wimpey. Advanced copies of these new designs had been received and it was understood that the Ministry of Health's architect in London had suggested amendments, and the Regional Architect also had observations to make thereon. RESOLVED, That the layout for the erection of 110 houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate as now submitted by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(c) Rowanfield Estate—The Borough Surveyor also submitted amended layout of Rowanfield Estate showing 430 houses of which 390 were " No Fines' type. The layout was substantially the same as that previously submitted, but had now been brought into line with suggestions made by the Regional Architect. It had been found that the new designs submitted by Messrs. Wimpey required more than the average road frontage and it had been suggested that the outbuildings could be re-designed to save 6 feet on a pair of houses. The layout now submitted was based on the assumption that such a reduction would be made. Designs for roads and sewers were well advanced and Specification and Quantities for the purpose of inviting tenders were in hand.

954—Housing Capital Works—A memorandum was submitted from the Borough Treasurer in regard to a proposal to charge a proportion of the salaries of architectural and engineering staff to housing contracts and to apply for loan sanction in respect thereof. It was pointed out that as a general rule the salaries of permanent officers could not be charged to loan, but since this ruling was at present causing considerable difficulty owing to the reluctance of Engineering and Architectural Assistants to accept temporary appointments, it was understood that the Ministry might be prepared to allow a reasonable charge in respect of permanent officers' salaries to be met from loan, provided such officers were more or less fully engaged on works of a capital nature and the charge was provided for in the loan sanction.

The names of six officers entirely engaged on this work were submitted and of two others partly engaged on this work and the Borough Treasurer. considered that it would be equitable for some of these salaries to be charged against loan. RESOLVED, That in future housing contracts, provision be made in the application for loan sanction for a proportion of the salaries of such permanent officers as are engaged on housing works to be included therein.

955-22 Kipling Road—Five tenders were received for the demolition and re-building of 22 Kipling Road The Borough Surveyor reported that the house would be re-built to conform to its original design and provision had been made for hot water installations, a dresser and extra power points which were not in the original house and could not therefore, be charged to the War Damage Commission. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. E. L. Squire amounting to £1,139, being the lowest, be accepted, subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.



## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**21st March, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Carter, Fildes and Yeend.

956—Superintendent's Report—During the period 1st to 28th February, 1947, there were 105 interments and 61 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 1 ; 2nd position, 1 ; 3rd position, nil ; 4th position, 20; New memorials erected, nil ; Additional inscriptions, nil.

957—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,465 to 11,486 inclusive.

958—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4,345 to 4,350 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman, be approved.

959—Re-Purchase of Grave Spaces—No. 1565, Section D.1 and No. 11067, Section T—The Purchasers of the exclusive right of burial in these graves wished to dispose of same, as they had decided on cremation. RESOLVED, That the Council re-purchase the spaces at the price of £2 each, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary Deeds of Assignment.

960—Staff—(a) Gardener/Propagator—The Superintendent suggested that the appointment of Head Gardener/ Propagator be deferred, and that in the meantime one of the present members of the gardening staff, Mr. B. Waite, who had shown particular ability in plant propagation, and who was capable with assistance of dealing with the output of the present greenhouse, should be appointed Gardener/Propagator at a wage of £4 13s. 6d. per week. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(b) Crematorium Attendants—Read, letter from District Organiser, National Union of General & Municipal Workers requesting consideration be given to increasing the wage of £4 13s. 6d. per week at present paid to Mr. G. F. Bennett, Crematorium Attendant. He stated that from the information obtained from other authorities, the rate of pay for this particular occupation was much higher. In this connection the Superintendent pointed out the volume of cremation services at such other authorities was between 1,000 and 2,000 per annum as compared with between 500 and 600 at Cheltenham, and in the circumstances he recommended Mr. Bennett's wages be increased by 5s. per week to £4 18s. 6d. per week, and that the wages of Mr. E. Phelps, who assisted Mr. Bennett be increased by 2s. 6d. a week to £4 13s. 6d. a week. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved.

(c) Foreman Gravedigger—E. G. F. Pitts—Since the Council had undertaken the turfing, tidying and upkeep of graves, this man had additional responsibility, and the Superintendent recommended that his present wage of £4 14s. 0d. be increased to £4 16s. 0d. per week. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

961—Federation of British Cremation Authorities—Conference—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Superintendent be authorised to attend the Cremation Conference to be held at Cardiff on September 15, 16 and 17, 1947.

962—Use of Bicycles in Cemetery—A request had been received to allow persons visiting the Cemetery on Saturday afternoons, to ride their bicycles in the Cemetery. The Superintendent reported that many of the roads and junctions were obscured by shrubs and trees, and he thought that there would be a risk of accidents to pedestrians. RESOLVED, That the request be not granted.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

## ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

**18th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Aldermen Waite and Smith; Councillors S. Bendall, Carter, Fildes, Midwinter, Readings and Thompson.

963—Supply to Birdlip—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Electricity Commissioners of a copy of their Fringe Order under Section 6 of the Electric Lighting Act, 1909, to permit the Corporation to supply electricity to certain premises at Birdlip.

964—Consents to Loan—(a) (Min. 311) New Sub-Station, Hewlett Road—The Town Clerk reported that application had been made for consent to the borrowing of £4,441 in connection with provision of equipment and new sub-station in Hewlett Road.

Formal consent had now been received from the Commissioners to the borrowing of £3,001, the outstanding balance of the application being made up of £240 for land and £1,200 for a sub-station building. The balance was deferred pending receipt of the District Valuer's report of the land, together with plan and elevation drawings of the building. The District Valuer's report had now been received but owing to the fact that the land was used as allotments which it was decided to disturb as little as possible, the Borough Electrical Engineer now proposed to instal a temporary kiosk to be replaced by a permanent building at a future date.

He therefore recommended that application should be made for consent to a loan of £560 in respect of the kiosk instead of £1,200 for the sub-station building. RESOLVED, That this course be approved and adopted and that the former application be amended accordingly.

168

(b) Change-over, Prestbury Area—The Town Clerk reported receipt of consent to the borrowing of £7,473 for a sub-station and equipment, together with the necessary mains in connection with the change-over from single to 3-phase in the Prestbury area. The outstanding balance of £400 was deferred pending receipt of reports by the District Valuer in respect of the two sub-station sites.

(c) Replacement of Switchgear—Consent had been received from the Electricity Commissioners to the borrowing of £34,690 for replacement or modification of the 11 Kv switchgear installed on the Council's electricity distribution system.

(d) Meter Testing Equipment—With regard to the loan sanction which had been received for £1,202 for the purchase of meter testing equipment, the Borough Electrical Engineer now reported that in view of the length of time which had elapsed between the submission of tenders for the supply of this equipment and the issue of the loan sanction, prices had now risen and the tender which it was proposed to accept had increased by £449.

If it was still desired to accept this tender it would be necessary to make application for supplementary loan, but the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the firm who submitted the next lowest tender be approached with a view to ascertaining if their original quotation still stood. as in this case it would be lower than the amended price of the accepted tender. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners if necessary for consent to a supplementary loan in respect of the increased cost of this equipment owing to the rise in prices.

965—Street Lighting (Min. 784)—(a) Thirlestaine Road—RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £866 for the cost of the proposed new scheme of street lighting in this road and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

(b) Car Parks—The Transport Committee of the Cheltenham Chamber of Commerce urged that more adequate lighting should be provided at the Imperial Square and Crescent Place parking places in order that the Chief Constable might be in a position to issue a certificate to permit parking without lights. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the Autumn when no doubt the Government's policy in regard to street lighting for next winter would be known.

(c) Damaged Lamp Posts—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that one lamp post was damaged during the month. Seven lamp posts had been re-erected but were not ready for putting into commission as the service connections had not yet been made owing to an acute shortage of underground joint boxes. In addition, a further lamp post was being repaired.

966-Southwood—(i) Telephones-- The Borough Electrical Engineer pointed out that it would be necessary to instal Post Office telephones with a private branch exchange and certain extensions at Southwood. He suggested that three external lines should be provided and 12 extensions to the various offices. With regard to internal telephones, he recommended that a 50 line extensible Telematic private automatic exchange should be in-stalled with 25 instruments to be connected in the first instance, and that provision should be made for at least two tie lines for intercommunication between Southwood and the Municipal Offices and future showrooms. It would also be desirable for a Post Office line to be rented to serve as a tie line.

The estimated cost of the exchange and instruments was approximately £750. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £750 for the cost of the internal telephone system and that subject to consent being obtained, the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the necessary contract. RESOLVED ALSO, That the proposal in regard to the Post Office line be approved and that agreements be entered into accordingly.

(ii) Office Equipment—RESOLVED, That in consultation with the Chairman, the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to expend up to £200 for office equipment and furnishings, and that the cost of any second-hand articles be charged to revenue, and new articles to the Appropriation Fund.

(iii) Printing Machine—The Borough Electrical Engineer pointed out that the machine on which prints of drawings were made was used jointly with the Borough Engineer's Department and it would be necessary in order to avoid inconvenience to purchase a new machine for use at Southwood. He recommended that a new wall type arc lamp printing machine should be purchased at a cost of £68 plus £15 for accessories, to be charged to the Appropriation Account. It was also recommended that the appropriate financial adjustments be made between the Borough Engineer's Department and the Borough Electrical Engineer's Department's accounts when the existing machine ceased to be used by the Electricity Department. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

967—Electrical Development Association--Area Meeting—The Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer attended the annual meeting of the Electrical Development Association for South-West England at Bristol. The Borough Electrical Engineer had been re-elected Chairman of the Area Executive Committee and the Area Co-operation Committee for the year.

968—Electrical Research Association—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had been co-opted on the Council of this Association. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve of the Borough Electrical Engineer accepting this honorary appointment.

969----Hire of Immersion Heaters—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that in lieu of the scheme whereby these heaters were installed in houses under the 5 point scheme embodying the

rental for the apparatus in addition to the unit charge of ¼ d. per unit a number of consumers wished to hire this type of heater at a normal quarter, which included free maintenance, should be hire charge. He suggested that a charge of 5s. per made and that the wiring for the heater if not carried out under the 5 point scheme would be the responsibility of the tenant, the Undertaking making the usual allowance towards the cost of wiring up to a maximum of £1. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

169

970 Staff—(a) Service and Development Engineer—Five candidates for this position had been interviewed by the Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer and Mr. H. Davies, A.M.I.E.E., of Bedford, had been selected for the position, and would take up his duties on April 8th.

(b) Technical Assistant—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. J. Billcliff, Technical Assistant had been appointed Deputy Engineer for Nuneaton Electricity Department and had, therefore, submitted his resignation. In order to fill the vacancy, the applications received when the position was recently advertised had been re-examined and four candidates had been invited for interview. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to make an appointment.

(c) Tracer—Miss J. Everall, who had been employed as a tracer had now obtained other employment. The Borough Electrical Engineer now proposed to fill the vacancy by a boy with school certificate qualifications straight from school to be trained as a draughtsman under indentures. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be adopted.

(d) Cable Ganger--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. Cooper was appointed some time ago as foreman, but had actually been carrying out the duties of a cable ganger. There was a difference in the rates of pay between these two appointments as a cable ganger under the new agreement would get 2d. an hour over the highest paid man under him but a foreman would get 4d. an hour increase. He recommended that Mr. Cooper be designated as a cable ganger but that a merit increase of 2d. per hour be paid to him. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

(e) Deputy Borough Electrical Engineer—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. Finch took up his duties on the 3rd March, 1947. It was desirable that the telephone should be provided at his house. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

971—Electricity Supply Industry Whitley Councils—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the annual meetings of the District Joint Industrial Council, the District Joint Board, and the District Joint Committee were held on 8th January. It was decided to allocate the cost of running these organisations between the affiliated members on the basis of a fixed charge, plus a balance according to the number of employees for the District Joint Board and District Joint Industrial Council, whilst the costs for the District Joint Committee were to be shared equally. The amounts due to each Organisation from this Undertaking for the current year on the revised basis were as follows :—

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| District Joint Industrial Council | £21 0s. 0d. |
| District Joint Board .,           | £4 0s. 0d.  |
| District Joint Committee          | £6 10s. 0d. |

RESOLVED, That payment of these charges be approved.

972—Street Lighting Estimates—The Borough Surveyor submitted estimates for street lighting for the year 1947/48-RESOLVED, That the Electricity Manager's estimates for street lighting costs be approved but that charges for overhead expenses and salaries included in the estimates be waived if during the ensuing year the total amount to be charged is found to exceed the sum of £6,184, which was the amount the Finance Committee had included in the next year's estimates,

973—Rebate to Electricity Consumers (Min. 780)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that after consultation with the Borough Treasurer he estimated that a net surplus of approximately £10,000 would be available for rebate to electricity consumers. It had not yet been possible to decide on a specific method for allocating this among the various classes of consumers. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree in principle to the sum of approximately £10,000 being returned as rebate to electricity consumers in the year ended 31st March, 1947, RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Treasurer and Borough Electrical Engineer consult together and submit definite proposals for allocating this amount among consumers.

974—Additional Feeder from Alstone Lane to Montpellier Terrace Sub-Station—The Borough Electrical Engineer, re-ported that the existing 3 core 11 kv feeder from Rowanfield Sub-Station to Westal Green Sub-Station was considerably overloaded and to reduce this before next winter he recommended that an additional 3 core 11 kv cable should be laid between Alstone Lane Sub-Station and Montpellier Terrace Sub-Station at an estimated cost of £5,642. RESOLVED, That the above works be approved and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to the scheme and for consent to a loan of £5,642. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and tlio.t t! Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

975—Temporary Bungalows—The Knole—A supply would be required for 50 temporary bungalows which it was proposed to erect at The Knole. To afford this supply it would be necessary to extend the low voltage network from the Granleys Sub-station with a four core low voltage distributor at a total cost of £687. The cost of the service, amounting to £730, would be met by the Ministry of Health. RESOLVED, That the necessary work be carried out and that the cost of the mains extension of £687 be charged to Unspecified Works Loan Account.

976—Application for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported two applications for supply and the term' on which he had agreed to afford a supply.

977—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported six interruptions of supply during the month,

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman

170

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**21st March, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman); Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

978—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee--The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 4th March (report circulated herewith together with report of treatments administered at the Spa Baths during the month of February). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

979—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 18th February and 12th March (reports circulated herewith together with reports of the Music Festivals Advisory Committee held on 27th February and 21st March). RESOLVED,

(i) That with the exception of Item 6 of the report of the Music Festivals Advisory Committee of their meeting on 21st March, the reports be approved and adopted.

(ii) That with regard to Item 6 referred to, the suggestion for the arrangement of receptions at the conclusion of the four Festival concerts be approved, in principle, but that the Sub-Committee give further consideration to the venue and that the Town Clerk report upon the question of a licence for these occasions.

980—Advertising Sub-Committee—The Advertising Sub-Committee met on 7th March (report circulated herewith) RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

981—Playhouse Sub-Committee—The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 10th March (report circulated herewith) RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

982—Town Hall—(a) Bar—Justices' Licence The Town Clerk reported that at the Adjourned Sessions on 13th March an annual licence had been granted subject to the approval of the Confirming Authority. Following negotiations between the Town Clerk and the Licensing Valuer the Magistrates had now determined a monopoly value at £4,250 payable in five annual instalments of £850 each.

(b) Morning Quartet—The Entertainments Manager reported that the Contract with Mr. Arthur Cole for the provision of a morning quartet would terminate after Easter. The Committee were of opinion that in view of the necessity to reduce expenditure during the coming financial year and bearing in mind the limited patronage extended to the morning concerts, that during the interim period prior to the commencement of the Summer Season, namely 7th April to 27th June, a trio to perform in the Drawing Room each week day morning would suffice. RESOLVED, That Mr. Cole's quotation of £10 per week for a trio in which he himself would take part for the period mentioned be accepted.

(c) Sunday Evening Concerts—The Entertainments Manager also stated that Mr. Cole's contract for the provision of an Orchestra for the Sunday Evening Concerts would terminate on Easter Sunday, 6th April. In this instance the Committee were also of opinion that the revised policy for Sunday Evening Concerts referred to in Item 8 of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee of 5th February should commence on 13th April instead of 29th June, the date previously in mind being the first Sunday of the summer season. RESOLVED, That Mr. Cole's quotation of £23 for the provision of an orchestra of ten performers, plus himself as Conductor, to give concerts of the Palm Court Orchestra type on Sunday evenings during the period 13th April to 22nd June inclusive, be accepted.

(d) Floral Decorations [Min. 824 (b)]—The Council had referred back to this Committee for further consideration their recommendation that for Mayoral functions, conferences and the like, the cost of floral decorations be borne by the Parks Committee. The Borough Treasurer reported upon the financial adjustments when it appeared to the Committee that the matter was not worth pursuing. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be not proceeded with.

983—Alstone Baths—(a) Re-opening—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the fuel position and that he was now experimenting in the use of carbon black. He anticipated that with necessary economies it would be possible to re-open the Baths on 7th April and he hoped that the fuel position would enable the water to continue to be heated throughout the summer months. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor arrange for the Baths to re-open accordingly.

(b) Cheltenham School Swimming Association—Application was made for 164 full and 79 half season tickets for pupils who had obtained the bronze medallion and the intermediate certificate of the Royal Life Saving Society. Whilst the Committee had every wish to assist and foster the interest of children in swimming, they were of opinion that the time had now come when the Education Committee should approach the County Council for such assistance. RESOLVED, That, for this year the application be granted but that in future years the Education Committee be recommended to adopt the lines suggested.

984—Sandford Swimming Pool—The Borough Surveyor recommended that the Pool open on Saturday 17th May, but should the weather prove unfavourable, he asked authority to defer the opening until a later date. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised accordingly.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

171

### WATER COMMITTEE.

18th March, 1947. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman): the Mayor ; Alderman Trye and Waite; Councillors Addis, Green, Midwinter and Strickland

985—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of February was read:—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Springs            | For month ended<br>28th February, 1947 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during past 3 years |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Hewletts Spring .. | 241,000                                | 259,000  |
| Dowdeswell         | 1,359,000                              | 1,774,000  |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 102,000,000 gallons

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 2nd March ...         | 45,380,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 4 weeks ended 2nd March ...          | 11,837,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1/4/46 | 608,030,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury area ...                            | 149,929,000 |
| Average daily consumption for February                             | 3,443,000   |

986—Supply to Cleeve Station (Min. 771)—The Rural District Council now stated that as the Borough Council understood the L.M.S. Railway Company's scheme was not likely to materialise for many years, there would be no useful purpose served by a meeting of representatives of the two authorities. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

987-6" Main Between Cheltenham and The Newlands, Evesham Road—The Cheltenham Rural District Council had included in their post-war programme of water schemes a proposal to lay a 6" main from the Council's system near the Newlands.

The main was required to augment the Rural District Council's supply, as and when required, to Bishops Cleeve, Southam, Woodmancote, Gotherington, etc., and the District Council were prepared

to bear the whole cost of the main, subject to any grants received from the Ministry of Health and the County Council. They therefore asked if the Borough Council would signify their approval, in principle, to the suggestion and also to their application for a bulk supply at or near the boundary of the two water areas and enquired the charges therefor. The Borough Engineer reported on the application, a supply for which would be taken from the new 6" main laid in New Barn Lane and terminating at the Evesham Road junction. He stated that recent tests had been made to ascertain the surplus capacity and also pointed out that at the time of main laying, enquiries had been made of the Rural District Council as to their possible needs for a secondary supply when a negative reply had been received.

Whilst the supply could be given at the point suggested, some restriction should be placed upon the quantity of water to be demanded and more particularly the rate at which it can be taken and he recommended a limit of 50 gallons per minute which would leave a reasonable margin as spare capacity for future needs. Any quantity of water over 50 gallons per minute should be regarded as available only if not needed for the Council's statutory water area.

To give this supply it would be necessary to lay 1,680 yards of 6" main, including a crossing over the Great Western Railway, at an estimated cost of £2,550. Such a main would form a further section in the northern ring main which the Borough Engineer had in mind should eventually be laid as far as Swindon to link up with a similar main in Tewkesbury Road.

If the bulk supply was in excess of the figures suggested it would then be necessary to consider a duplication of the mains from the foot of Harp Hill and the junction of New Barn Lane with Evesham Road.

With regard to charge for bulk supply the Borough Engineer recommended that negotiations be deferred until the current year's accounts were completed as it was possible that the Committee would find it necessary to charge an amount in excess of the present rates to meet increased expenditure. RESOLVED, That negotiations be entered into with the Rural District Council on the lines now indicated.

988—Housing Sites [Min. 772 (d)]---The Knole, St. Mark's—At the last meeting the Borough Engineer was authorised to proceed with the laying of mains to supply the 50 prefabricated houses. The Borough Engineer submitted lay-out plan showing a 4" main to be laid to connect to the existing mains in Libertus Road, and a 3" main to be laid around three sides of the perimeter. It was proposed to supply direct from the main to as many houses as possible. The remainder would be supplied from 1 ¼ " diameter master services.

To improve supplies generally in this area a 4" main connecting Libertus Road with the existing main near St. Mark's Church had been included. The total cost of the whole scheme amounted to £1,085.

The Borough Engineer drew attention to the position of supplies to the Council's housing estates as distinct from private estates and those of other Councils. For the two latter mains were laid in the footpaths which involved the developer in the cost of house services. In the case of the Council's housing estates, however, the mains were laid as near as possible to the front or rear of the houses thus reducing effect of this was to increase the capital costs to this Committee, and, whilst capital cost had risen considerably, the revenue derived on an assessment basis was little higher than pre-war.



The Committee felt that in these circumstances the Housing Committee should be asked to make a contribution towards the cost of the 1 ¼ " master services, estimated at £285.

(b) Rowanfield Estate—The Borough Engineer also submitted plan showing proposed lay-out of mains for this site which included a 9" main across the site from west to east with the intention of coupling eventually with the 9" main in Brooklyn Road to the area around Malvern Road Station. In this instance also, the mains would be laid as near to the houses as possible. The total estimated cost amounted to £8,436, being £2,056 for the 9" main from Brooklyn Road to Rowanfield Road and £6,380 for the mains on the Estate. RESOLVED, (i) That the Borough Engineer's proposals for the two Estates be approved.

(ii) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £9,521 for the cost of the work.

(ii) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £9,521, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order and Receipt.

(iv) That the Borough Engineer discuss with the Borough Treasurer as to the proportion of the expenditure which might reasonably be charged to Housing.

989—Dowdeswell Court—Lower Lodge—A recent inspection had shown that repairs were urgently required to this Lodge to make it habitable. Serious deterioration was now occurring due to numerous defects in the roof, etc., and the Borough Engineer recommended that work be carried out forthwith at an estimated cost of £90. RESOLVED, That authority be given.

990—Main Finder and Flow Gauge—These instruments were for locating mains and for measuring the discharge from hydrants and mains and at present were either borrowed from the National Fire Service at Swindon or improvised arrangements made. The Borough Engineer recommended the purchase of a main finder at a cost of £32 15s. 3d. and a flow gauge with adjustment at £43 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the purchases be authorised.

991-- Proposed Improvement, Gloucester/Andoversford Road—The Boroughs Engineer submitted letter and plan from the County Surveyor with regard to this improvement. The County Council enquired if the Council would surrender the necessary land from Fields 193 and 196 without cost which would enable road widening to be undertaken and embankments formed.

The Boroughs Engineer recommended that the application be granted on the understanding that stone walls be re-erected on the new boundary lines. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendations be approved and the necessary transfer of land effected. ALSO RESOLVED, That an opportunity be taken of urging the County Council to proceed with the vital improvements required to the London Road in the vicinity of Dowdeswell Reservoir.

992—Gale Damage—The Borough Engineer reported that during the recent gale, large areas of slates had been blown off the cow sheds at Home Farm ; shed blown into trees, roof of house and barn seriously damaged and large areas of slates blown off at Woodlands Farm ; two short lengths of stone wall blown down near the lower lodge and opposite the Alms houses at Dowdeswell Court.

993—Supply to Gloucester—The Borough Engineer reported upon the proposals he had in mind for providing water supply to Gloucester City Council should flood damage be caused to the works of the Joint Board at Tewkesbury, RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Engineer be approved.

994—South Midlands Joint Industrial Council—The Employers' side of this Joint Industrial Council had, due to increased work, authorised the Secretary to engage a Clerk at a salary not exceeding

£400 per annum. This would result in an increased contribution from constituent members which, in the case of the Boroughs, would amount to £3 instead of £1 10s. Od. per annum. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

995—Works Completed during the Month—The Boroughs Engineer reported that during February 610 inspections had been undertaken when the Inspectors found 8 defective flush boxes, 20 leaking taps, 8 defective stop taps and 15 burst pipes repairs had been undertaken to 50 draw taps, 27 notices had been served upon owners ; 60 houses were connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 46 supplies disconnected, and 13 meters fixed or changed. With regard to general maintenance work, 620 yards of new main had been laid at Kingsditch Lane and Priors Park Estate ; a number of new sluice valves and hydrants fixed or repaired : mains repaired in 7 roads and 9 services transferred from the 1" lead service mails to the new 4" main in Kingsditch Lane. General work had included pumping meter cleaning and repairing at Sandford ; burst pipes had also been repaired for the Housing Department.

996—Analyses—The Medical Officer of Health submitted satisfactory analyses upon the Tewkesbury and Dowdeswell supplies.

997—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

173

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**17th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman), Alderman Waite, Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton and Gardner.

998—Housing Act, 1936--(i) Basements, 3 Belle Vue Place, 4 Belle Vue Place, 14 Portland Street—Further consideration was given to the making of closing orders in respect of the above basements. A representative of the owner of 3 Belle Vue Place attended and letters from the owner of 4 Belle Vue Place were read. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal of the Council in pursuance of Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than domestic purpose; in the case of Nos. 3 and 4 Belle Vue Place, and storage purposes for No. 14 Portland Terrace.

(ii) Commercial Cottage, Commercial Street.—Min. 360 (iii) The Committee further considered making a demolition order in respect of this house. Correspondence was submitted from the Solicitors to the owner. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the premises are occupied or are of a type suitable for-occupation by persons of the working classes, and are unfit for human habitation and are not capable, at reasonable expense, of being rendered so fit, a Demolition Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.

(iii) Basements-20 Evesham Road and 4 Lypiatt Terrace (Min. 1449 (v)/46)—Notice of intention to make a Closing order in respect of the basement at 20 Evesham Road was withdrawn subject to the owner entering into an undertaking to recondition the basement and letting it in conjunction with the ground floor flat. The owner had failed to enter into an undertaking and had re-let the

basement. The Standing Sub-Committee and Chief Sanitary Inspector also reported on their inspection of the basement, 4 Lypiatt Terrace.

RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the above-mentioned parts of the said buildings are occupied or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said buildings and the mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said parts of the said buildings, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works or the future use thereof, will be considered at a meeting of the Committee to be held on the 14th April, 1947.

(iv) Unfit Houses----- (a) RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of 3 Bubb's Cottages be renewed for a further period of six months from the 6th April, 1947.

(v) Basement-3 Oxford Parade (Min. 78)—Application was submitted for permission to use the basement of these premises in respect of which a closing order had been made, for periodical meetings of Toc H. RESOLVED, That no objection be made to the owner letting the basement for this purpose.

999—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported defects at the following properties :—Wellington House, Wellington Street ; 5 Clare Street ; 10 Victoria Place ; 34 Elm Street ; 18 Malvern Street ; 13 Pittville Street ; 56 Sun Street ; 57 Sun Street ; 6 Sun Street ; 1 Cleevemount Road ; Kingscote, Wards Road, Hatherley. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owner of Kingscote, Wards Road, under Sections 39 and 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and upon the owners of the remaining properties under Section 93 of the Act, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days of such notice, and that, failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dustbins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of 18 Hanover Street ; Blandford Villa, Andover Road ; Wellington House, Wellington Street ; 57 Naunton Lane ; 43 Naunton Lane ; Kingscote, Wards Road (2 bins) requiring them to provide regulation dustbins.

(iii) Smoke Abatement—(a) The Education Officer had complained of smoke nuisance from Spirax Factory, St. George's Road, and observation had been kept. The Chief Sanitary Inspector did not consider that a statutory nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health Act existed at the present time, but further inspections would be made.

(b) Gas Works, Tewkesbury Road—Mr. Prude, Alstone, Arle Avenue, also complained of smoke nuisance at the Gas Works and inspections had been made. The house was within 200 yards of the coke screens and bunkers at the Gas Works but Mr. Prude had intimated that there had been no recurrence of the nuisance since the inspection. Further inspections would be made with a view to obviating any nuisance.

(iv) 5 Tewkesbury Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that the repairs to the sewer running beneath Nos. 1-6 Tewkesbury Road, had now been carried out at a cost of £121 18s. 11d. but the owner was only prepared to accept responsibility for a new flush and over-flow amounting to £4 5s. 2d. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Surveyor be authorised to negotiate a settlement.

1000--Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon samples Nos. 857-875 (savory, curry powder, milk and other commodities) all of which were genuine.

(ii) Bread—Complaint—It was reported that a nail was found in a loaf purchased from a bakery in the town. The nail was in such a position as to render insertion after manufacture impossible, The Town Clerk reported dial action be approved. That under present legislation it would be difficult to sustain a prosecution against the bakery. RESOLVED, the Town Clerk communicate with the bakery concerned calling attention to the matter and that the Association of Municipal Corporations be urged to make representations for stronger legislative power in this connection.

1001—Sewage Works—(a) Approach Road—The Chairman had authorised acceptance of tender of Mr. repairs to the Approach Road at Hayden Sewage Works amounting to £65. RESOLVED, That

174

(b) Filter Beds—The Borough Surveyor recommended that filter beds be constructed on the site of the temporary lagoons in view of the increased sludge disposal difficulties. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to invite tenders for the carrying out of this work.

(c) Rotary Distributors--The Borough Surveyor reported that the manufacturers had not yet been able to give delivery of the four distributors already ordered, and he considered that it was advisable in view of delays in supply to invite tenders for the replacement of the remaining 6 distributors. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to invite tenders for the replacement of the remaining 6 distributors.

1002--Proposed Sewer, Leckhampton —The Borough Surveyor reported that the Cheltenham Rural District Council were proposing to lay a sewer from Kidnapper's Lane, Leckhampton, to Chargrove, Shurdington Road, to serve houses in that area. He had discussed with the Consultant of the Cheltenham Rural District Council an alternative scheme which he considered more satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to prepare the necessary details, and that the Standing Sub-Committee be requested to inspect the area of the proposed new sewer.

1003—Diphtheria Immunisation--The Medical Officer of Health reported upon Diphtheria Immunisation for the month of February as follows :—

|  |      |
|--|------|
| No. of new cases (Immunisation commenced) ..                               | . 60 |
| No. of injections given ... ..   | 170  |
| No. of cases in which treatment was completed during the month :--Total 40 |      |
| (a), Under 5 years of age ...  | 39   |
| (b), Aged 5-15 years ....  | 1    |
| No. of Schick Tests  | —    |
| Clinics were held at follows :—  |      |
| School Clinic ...  | 2    |
| Clarence Square Day Nursery  | 1    |

1004-- Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936- -1938—The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms, one of which was satisfactory, the other being slightly unsatisfactory and a further sample was being taken.

1005—Rat Infestation—Rodent Control—Financial Assistance—Circular N.S.15 Ministry of Food was submitted indicating the financial assistance which would be available in certain instances to Local Authorities carrying out rodent control schemes during the fiscal year 1947/48, in respect of treatments to private dwelling-houses and sewers. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that

application had already been made on behalf of this Authority for further financial assistance under this scheme to the 30th September next. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

C. NV. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**24th March, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Green, Midwinter, Readings, and Strickland.

1006—Vittoria Walk/Oriel Road Junction, (Min. 1981/46)—The Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor reported upon recent discussions with a representative of the Ministry of Works in regard to the Council's suggestion that the Ministry should surrender a portion of Wolseley Terrace Garden to enable the western junction of these roads to be improved in a manner similar to the eastern junction adjoining Farnley Lodge.

The Ministry had agreed to surrender the required area subject to their not being called upon to set back more than 5 feet behind the widening line. The Borough Surveyor stated that this would enable a 72 ft. road to be provided, approximately the width of the road opposite Farnley Lodge. The Planning Committee had now agreed to the proposals. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Works be informed accordingly, and asked to arrange for the transfer of the land.

1007—Nos. 3 and 6, Queen's Street (Min. 216)—The Town Clerk reported upon negotiations for the acquisition of these properties for road improvement purposes. One property had been re-conditioned and the weekly rentals were 13s 8d and 7s 0 ½ d. inclusive. The District Valuer's valuation amounted to £460 for both properties plus Surveyor's fees and legal costs. RESOLVED, That subject to loan sanction being obtained the properties be purchased and the Common Seal be affixed to the Conveyance. ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £493 for purchase money, stamp duty, legal and surveyor's costs.

1008—Nos. 5 and 7 Sherborne Street (Min. 651)—The District Valuer had been unable to agree terms for the acquisition of these premises for street improvement purposes, and he suggested that the Council might consider whether compulsory powers should be used. RESOLVED, That the proposal to purchase these properties be not proceeded with at present.

1009—Nos. 149 and 156 High Street—The Town Clerk reported upon his negotiations for the acquisition of these properties for road improvement purposes, No. 149 being needed for widening the junction of Bennington Street with High Street. The owners were willing to consider the sale of No. 156, but were not favourably inclined to dispose High No. 149. RESOLVED, That as the widening of High Street is not likely to be undertaken for some considerable time the acquisition of No. 156 be not proceeded with at present, but that the Town Clerk pursue his negotiations for the purchase of No. 149. ALSO RESOLVED, That should negotiations prove unsuccessful, the Council be recommended to acquire the property by compulsory purchase,

175

1010—Gloucester Road (Min. 422).

The Borough Surveyor had recently drawn attention to the deterioration of the wide verge known as "The Ride" in the ownership of the Unwin Trustees, and for the use of which the Council made a nominal annual payment of 1s. To enable improved maintenance to be undertaken including road widening, the Town Clerk had been asked to negotiate for its acquisition and reported that the

owners' solicitors were agreeable to extinguish the annual payment for £1 5s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve of these terms.

1011—Land adjoining Full Moon Hotel (Min. 839)—At the last meeting this Committee had decided to defer, for the time being, the suggested acquisition of this site for a car park. The owners Solicitors urged re-consideration as the Council's decision to keep the matter in abeyance would interfere with future development. Having regard to all the circumstances, the Committee decided that they had no further interest in the property, but possibly the Planning Committee might wish to indicate their interests, if any, therein. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Planning Committee accordingly.

1012—Hatherley Road (Min. 421)—The Solicitors acting for Messrs. Marshalls (Charlton Kings) Ltd., stated that their clients were dissatisfied with the Council's decision to provide a tar macadam footpath with grass verge (excluding footpath crossings), leaving the Company with a continuing liability for paving, kerbing and channelling, The properties had been set back and 1850 square yards surrendered for road improvements and in return they asked to be relieved of all future liabilities for footpaths and also enquired as to compensation for 33 trees on the surrendered land.

The Committee were reminded that the Public Health Committee had agreed to contribute £75 towards the cost of extending the sewer which would largely offset any benefit to the Council from the surrender of land. Again, the Council were providing a tar macadam footpath without cost and in these circumstances the Borough Surveyor could not recommend that the Company be relieved of their future liabilities for paving, kerbing and channelling. With regard to trees, the Borough Surveyor recommended that the trees situate on what would eventually become the verges of the new highway, be retained. The Company could, however, remove the remainder if they so desire. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed accordingly.

1013—Pilley Bridge—Reconstruction (Min. 206 (b) )—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. le Grand Sutcliffe & Gell had now sunk four trial holes on the site of the new abutments and had also undertaken other work at his request, the latter resulting in an increase of £14 11s. 9d. over the original quotation of £427. The reports submitted by the Company were satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the excess expenditure be approved, the cost to be charged against the Bridge Reconstruction Scheme.

1014—Alstone Lane—Private Improvement Expenses (Min. 1682/46)—The Borough Surveyor reported that the making up of this road had now been completed at a cost of £2,362 19s. 11d. as compared with his pre-war estimate of £1,436. He reminded the Committee that as the work had been deferred owing to the outbreak of war the Council had agreed to accept responsibility for the difference in cost, and his apportionments against frontages had been made on this basis. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1015—The Knole Housing Estate—The Borough Surveyor submitted, for the information of the Committee, as the High-way Authority, layout plan for this site and stated that the roads would be of reinforced concrete construction with concrete slabbed footpaths. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

1016—Promenade—Telephone Kiosks (Min. 210)—As requested, the Post Office Telephones had re-considered their previous application for two additional kiosks on the slabbery and, to meet the Council, they had agreed to add a third kiosk to the existing double kiosks as shown on the plan submitted. The Borough Surveyor was not entirely satisfied therewith and suggested that . possibly the additional kiosks or even four kiosks might be better placed in the curves of the ornamental

gardens near the Post Office entrance. This would meet the increasing demand for telephone facilities. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for view, and that, in the meantime, the Borough Surveyor discuss his suggestion with a representative of the Post Office Telephones.

1017—Imperial Square—Parking (Min. 195)—The Black & White Motorways had discussed with the Police Superintendent their suggestion that tours connected with Conferences might start in the vicinity of the Town Hall. The Superintendent recommended that the Company contact him upon each occasion they wished to make such an arrangement and if traffic conditions permitted he would endeavour to meet them and permit a limited number of coaches to pick up. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Superintendent be approved.

1018-Omnibus Shelters-The Cheltenham District Traction Company had, some months ago, agreed to provide shelters at Pike House and Swindon Road and sites had been agreed with the Company. RESOLVED, That the Company be pressed to proceed with the provision of shelters without further delay.

1019—Institute of Public Cleansing, Conference, Blackpool, 9th to 13th June—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to arrange for a member of his staff to attend this Conference.

1020—Annual Tenders, 1947/48—Price Increases. (a) Street Galleys—The tender of Messrs. Thomas Wragg & Sons had been accepted but they now stated that their quotation was for plain gulleys and not for gully's fitted with inspection eyes and stoppers. If the latter were required this would increase their quotation by 3s 4 1/2 d. each gully plus 27 1/2 % less 2 1/2 % for monthly payment. The Borough Surveyor reported that with this increase, the Company's quotation was still the lowest received. RESOLVED, That the price increase be accepted.

(b) Cement-The tender of Messrs. George Bence & Sons for cement had been accepted but they stated that cement manufacturers had now notified that a limited number of jute sacks had been put into circulation and, where used a charge of 1s 9 3/10d. per sack would be made with a credit of 1s 6d. for returns within two weeks, subject to the sacks being in good condition. This would increase the price of cement where sacks were used by 5s 6d. per ton. RESOLVED, That the increase be accepted.

1021-Highways Department. (a) Snow Clearance-The Borough Surveyor reported that for 7 weeks and 2 days constructional work had been undertaken, the whole of the labour force being concentrated on snow clearance and gritting. The employees had worked six week-ends and on occasions all the labour and transport from the refuse collection section had been included. He was not able to give total costs of the work, but to the 9th March, this amounted to £2,793.

176

The Borough Surveyor expressed his appreciation of the loyal services rendered by the employees of the Departments concerned and the Committee congratulated both the Borough Surveyor and the employees upon the excellent way in which the work had been carried out and services reinstated. RESOLVED, That this Committee place on record their appreciation of the efforts of the Council's employees during the difficult winter weather and congratulate them upon the results achieved.

b) Gale Damage—As a result of the gale on 19th March, trees, fences, walls, hoardings, etc., were blown down, 12 trees falling across highways. Every road, however, was partially cleared by 1 a.m. RESOLVED, That the Committee's appreciation be recorded of the efforts of the Highways Department.

(c) Polish Labour (Min. 846)—The Borough Surveyor had, on the advice of the Ministry of Labour, written to the Western District J.I.C. for Non-Trading Services to ascertain whether the Trade Unions represented thereon approved the employment by local authorities of Polish labour for civil engineering works. In the Meantime he had obtained four recruits, one of whom had commenced work, and the remainder would commence in the near future. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(d) Equipment—The Borough Surveyor reported that a few small tools were required for the garage at a cost of £34 7s. 6d. He would also like to purchase an H.F. Jack Crane at a cost of £78. This would avoid the present difficulties and improvisation necessary for removing engines from vehicles and as the Council's transport was likely to increase, the acquisition of this apparatus would become a necessity in the future.

The Committee were informed that there was a possibility of second-hand cranes being available from surplus Government stores. RESOLVED, That the purchase of small tools be authorised and that the Borough Surveyor report to the next meeting in regard to the purchase of a second-hand crane.

1022—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon Works completed during the month which had been considerably hampered by weather conditions. Kerbing and channelling in College Road was in hand ; entrance crossings laid ; blocked sewers cleared at Arle and Hatherley outfall ; repairs and connections made to sewers ; street gulleys emptied ; street name plates painted and signs repaired and painted ; transport and plant repaired and painted ; new Belisha crossing fixed; and trees blown down by the gale cleared and others pruned. 1706 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,752 for the month of February.

1023--Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents—Safe Driving Certificates—The certificates awarded to drivers had now been received, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor distribute the same to the employees concerned, accompanied by a letter conveying to them the Council's congratulations.

1024—Huts—The Borough Surveyor-had recently inspected two sectional timber huts at Driffield and the Chairman had authorised him to submit an offer to the Ministry of Works of £60 for each hut and this had been accepted. It was intended that the huts should be used either at the Sewage Works or in connection with housing development at Hester's Way. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1025—Borough Surveyor's Department—Staff (a) Engineering Assistants—(i) Re-grading—The Borough Engineer reported upon the difficulties in obtaining qualified staff and recommended that the following appointments, included in his establishment, should be re-graded and his establishment also adjusted as indicated :—

|   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Senior Engineering Assistant                                    | from A.P.T. Div. Grade V, (£460-£510)         | to Grade VII (£575—£650)            |
| 1st Engineering Assistants (to be increased from one to two)    |   | A.P.T. Div. Grade III<br>£390-£435  |
| Junior Engineering Assistants (to be reduced from three to two) | from Miscellaneous Div., Grade II (£315-£360) | to A P.T. Div., Grade I (£330-£375) |
| Senior Water Engineering Assistant                              | from A.P.T. Div., Grade V (£460—£510)         | to Grade VI (£535-£600)             |
| Building Works Supervisor (Increase in establishment)           |   | A.P.T. Div., Grade I (£330—£375)    |



SOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved and referred to the Establishment Sub-Committee accordingly.

(ii) Appointments—Advertisements had again been issued inviting applications for the vacant appointments and three applications were received for the post of First Engineering Assistant ; two (one of which was withdrawn) for the Second Engineering Assistant; and five (one of which was withdrawn) for the Junior Engineering Assistant. The Chairman had interviewed applicants and the following recommendations were now submitted :—

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1st Engineering Assistant  | Mr. G. E. Corry (a Member of the Borough Engineer's Department and recently demobilised).                                  | A.P.T. Div., Grade III (£390-£135) plus cost-of-living bonus.                      |
| 1st Engineering Assistant.<br>(If Establishment Sub-Committee approve increase in establishment as recommended in preceding minute). | Mr. J. Verney (upon demobilisation).   | Ditto  |
| 2nd Engineering Assistant  | Mr. Neville Weaver, Inter M.C.E., Student of Institute of Civil Engineers. (Engineering Assistant Redcar Borough Council). | A.P.T Div., Grade I (£330-£375i plus cost of living bonus. Commencing salary £345. |
| Junior Engineering Assistant<br>Temporary Junior Engineering Assistant   | Mr. Vicker (upon demobilisation)   | Ditto  |

Mr. R. H. Barrs, Student of Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (Engineering Assistant Bromyard U.D.C.)

For interim period. Grade A, Class I, Temporary Officers' Scales (£275—£300), plus cost-of-living bonus and temporary salary adjustment.

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved.

177

(b) Building Works Supervisor—The Borough Surveyor recommended that should the Establishment Sub-Committee approve the appointment of a Building Works Supervisor (A.P.T. Division, Grade I, £330—£375 per annum) being included in his establishment, that Mr. F. R. Hughes, now engaged as Temporary Clerk of Works, be appointed the position at the maximum of the Grade, plus cost-of-living bonus. RESOLVED, That the recommendation he approved.

(c) Chief Clerk—The Borough Surveyor reported that his Chief Clerk was unable to find housing accommodation in Cheltenham during the period 11th November, 1946, to 28th February, 1947, and in addition to his living costs he had to maintain his family in another town. Added to this his removal expenses had amounted to £39 RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to contribute £20 towards the latter.

(d) Highways Superintendent. Living Accommodation—When the Highways Superintendent was appointed the valuation of his house was not revised and remained at £26 which could not now be regarded as its present day value. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to increase the value to £52 which sum should be regarded as emoluments for superannuation purposes.

1026—Salvage—Termination of Assistant Honorary Advisers Scheme—The Borough Surveyor reported that the final meeting of District Advisers was held on 20th March and he expressed his thanks to the Committee for permitting him to serve thereon during the war years.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**25th March, 1947.** Present--The Mayor (Chairman), Alderman Ward, Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Readings and Thompson.

1027—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on the 5th March, 1947, (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1028—Establishment Sub-Committee—The Establishment Sub-Committee met on the 6th March, 1947 (report circulated) RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1029—Sunday Opening of Cinemas (Min. 677)—The Town Clerk reported the voting at the public meeting held as the 10th March, 1947, seas 312 for, and 199 against, the Sunday opening of cinemas and that subsequently a requisition had been delivered to the Mayor for a poll which had been fixed for 31st March, 1947.

1030—War Memorial—The Town Clerk reported that a public meeting was held on the 28th February at the Town Hall to obtain the views of the townspeople upon the form of memorial to be adopted commemorating those who fell in the last war, including those civilians in Cheltenham killed by enemy action. A number of suggestions were put forward and it was finally decided that an appeal should be launched for subscriptions, that the names of those who fell should be inscribed on, or nearby, the present memorial in the Promenade and that a Joint Committee consisting of representatives of the Council, various Service Associations, the Mayor's Victory Fund Committee, and a representative of the relatives of persons killed in Cheltenham by enemy action should be appointed to carry out the proposal including the disposal of any balance remaining after inscribing the names on the memorial. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to concur in the proposal, that the Joint Committee consist of three Council representatives, three representatives of the Victory Fund Committee, and one representative of each Association, the Mayor being an ex-officio member. ALSO RESOLVED, That Councillors Readings, Strickland and Tucker Brown be appointed the Council's representatives and that it be left to the Mayor to select a representative in respect of the civilians who were killed.

1031—Fire Services Bill—Letters were submitted from the Non-County Boroughs Association and the Association of Municipal Corporations calling attention to the provisions of the Fire Services Bill and the steps to be taken to secure certain amendments in the Bill in the interests of local authorities such as Cheltenham. Both Associations had made representations to the appropriate Minister and asked local authorities to communicate with their respective Members of Parliament with a view to the amendments being supported on the second reading of the Bill. One of the amendments proposed was the making of provision for the delegation by a County Council of all, or any, of its functions under the Bill to a county district, or a combination of county districts. The Borough Member had been asked to support these views and this he had said he was prepared to do.

1032—South Western Provincial Council for Staffs of Hospitals—The Town Clerk referred to this Council's nomination of Councillor Lt -Col Biggs as one of two representatives of Non-County

Boroughs on the above Council and to a letter from the Provincial Council intimating that the nominations had been forwarded to the Non-County Borough Association to arrange for the election of two representatives. A subsequent letter from the Non-County Boroughs Association intimated that the matter had now been referred to the South Western branch of the Association and as this did not cover the same area as the Joint Council and excluded Gloucestershire, the Town Clerk had called the attention of the Hon. Secretary, Employers' side of the Provincial Council to this matter with the result that, the Hon. Secretary of the Branch had now been directed to invite nominations from all the non-county boroughs in the Provincial Council's area when making arrangements for election of two representatives and a further communication would be received in due course.

178

1033—Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee (Min. 2203/46—The Town Clerk informed the Committee that a nomination should be made within a period of 28 days to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Councillor Grimwade a consumer member. RESOLVED, That Councillor Miss F. L. Carter be nominated to fill the vacancy.

1034—Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals. RESOLVED, That Mr. Alderman Lipson and Mr. Councillor Compton be nominated this Council's representatives on the Board of Management for the ensuing year.

1035—Association of British Market Authorities—A letter was submitted from the Association asking for nominations for the Executive Council for the years 1947-50. RESOLVED, That the Council accept nomination and that in the event of their being successful, Mr. Councillor Bettridge be appointed a representative.

1036—Cheltenham Municipal Officers' Guild—Public Relations Committee—Letter was submitted from the above branch stating that a Public Relations Committee had been set up and inviting the Council to appoint two representatives. RESOLVED, That Councillors Fisher and Readings be asked to serve on this Committee.

1037—Government Evacuation Scheme—Circular 42/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted, indicating that with the winding up of the above Scheme it was necessary to end war-time billeting organisations of local authorities, and the present charges in respect of such organisations would cease to be borne by the Exchequer on the 31st March, 1947. The circular outlined the steps to be taken for the disbandment of the organisation. Insofar as this Council was concerned, the billeting organisation ceased as from the 31st March 1946, with the exception of certain minor matters relating to evacuees.

1038—Education Act, 1944 (a) Amendment to Scheme of Divisional Administration (Min. 2025(ii)/46)—The Town Clerk reported that a draft Scheme of Divisional Administration varying the existing Scheme made by the Minister of Education on the 26th January, 1945, had been submitted to the Ministry of Education so as to permit of the appointment of two teachers to serve on the Education Committee and that approval had been given to the amending Scheme subject to slight modification. The necessary steps were now being taken to obtain final and formal approval to the amending Scheme.

(b) Further Education (Min. 2025(i)/46)—A letter, dated 12th March, 1947, was submitted from the Ministry of Education forwarding copy of the observations of the Local Education Authority on the proposed terms of the Direction to be made to this Council in connection with further education. The Ministry intimated that they were prepared to receive representatives to discuss the matter.

The observations of the County Council arose from a proposed decision of the Minister to give certain further education powers to this Council, which were set out in the above Min. and in respect of which the Minister had awaited the observations of the Local Education Authority since August last. In their observations the County Council take strong objection to the delegation of these further powers to Cheltenham.

RESOLVED, That the views previously expressed by the Borough Council be reaffirmed and further that the Minister be informed that the Council would be dissatisfied with any delegation less than that proposed by the Minister and that the matter be pursued by the Town Clerk on these lines in consultation with the Mayor and Chairman of the Education Committee.

1039--Flooded Areas-The Mayor reported upon the steps taken to help adjoining areas in the distress during, and following the recent floods. The Town Clerk also reported that it might prove that some of the steps taken would involve unauthorised expenditure and as a matter of precaution and to regularise the position he had made application to the Minister of Health under Sec. 288 of the Local Government Act, 1933, for approval of any such expenditure. RESOLVED, that the steps taken, including the application to the Minister of Health, be approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**6th March, 1947.** Present-The Mayor (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Gardner, Morris, Strickland and Yeend

1040—Use of Timber for Building Work—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 51/47 from the Ministry of Health dealing with the necessity for observing economy in the use of timber and building work and employing substitutes wherever possible. Since timber must be almost entirely imported the supply was largely outside the control of this country. Stocks had fallen to a dangerous level and timber must therefore be conserved for essential requirement, only. Memorandum P. I. 80 set out recommendations for economy in the use of timber and suggested alternatives. In certain circumstances use should be made of second hand timber, and if this was not available, home grown hard-wood should be used, With regard to non-housing services for which the Ministry were responsible local authorities were asked to ensure that timber requirements of contractors employed by them as submitted for licensing on Form T.C. 3/8/CPL in relation to any particular project were correct. This form should therefore, be first examined by a technical officer of the local authority before being submitted by the contractor to the Ministry for the granting of the licence, and the application would be endorsed accordingly.

Housing Authorities had already been advised of the necessity for reducing the softwood content of new houses and the dimensions of timber given in Appendix A to the memorandum, having been prepared after the most careful examination, could be safely adopted by local authorities, even when they differed from their published tables, The Borough Surveyor reported that the amount of timber at present allowed for new houses was in his opinion the absolute minimum unless the Committee are prepared to contemplate drastic changes such as that roofs or concrete first floors.

179

1041—Domestic Fuel Policy—Read Circular 52/47 from the Ministry of Health containing recommendations as to improved solid fuel heating for installation in new houses.

1042—Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society, Ltd.—Read, letter from the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society stating that the Society had purchased Northerwood, Pittville Circus Road, to convert into a home for about 23 residents and asking the Council to make the contribution of £200 which was promised. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that they had agreed to subscribe £200 towards the share capital of the Society when they were ready to proceed with their project.

Under the Housing Act, 1936, the Council were empowered to subscribe towards the share capital and the Ministry had approved this in principle but required to be furnished with an appropriate resolution of the Council. **SOLVED**, That, in pursuance of Section 93 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936; the Council, for the assistance of the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society Ltd. do subscribe £200 towards the share capital of the Association at interest at the rate of not less than 2 ½ % per annum. **RESOLVED ALSO**, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to this subscription to share capital being made.

1043—Control of Civil Building—Timber Licences—Circular 56/47 from the Ministry of Health was submitted with regard to the issue of timber licences referring to the present arrangement whereby timber licences were issued by the Ministry of Works for private housing work costing over £100 and by the Ministry of Health for local authorities housing work. Since local authorities were now responsible for the issue of building licences for all classes of housing work it had been decided that the Ministry of Health should in future be responsible for the release of timber for housing work licenced by local authorities in instances where the Ministry of Works had previously been the issuing authority. As from the 1st April, 1947, timber licences would accordingly be issued by the Principal Housing Officers instead of Regional Licensing Officers with regard to all licensed housing work, including war damage repairs and re-building, the estimated cost of which exceeded £100. The Borough Surveyor reported that the necessary instructions for carrying out the terms of the circular had been given.

1044—Change of User-57 Promenade—The Town Clerk reported that consent would be required under the Defence Regulations 68CA for the use of certain accommodation at 57 Promenade, which was at present used as living accommodation, to be used as offices. When the Council purchased 59 Promenade for a similar purpose only one flat was occupied as living accommodation, and, in order to compensate for the living accommodation which was thus lost, the Council had provided 3 flats at 119 Promenade which had previously been used entirely for office purposes. If, therefore, 57 Promenade were now purchased and used as office accommodation the net result would be an addition to the housing accommodation in the Borough of one flat. **RESOLVED**, That consent be given under Defence Regulation 68CA for that portion of 57 Promenade now used as living accommodation to be used as office accommodation.

1045—Brooklyn Gardens—The Town Clerk submitted letter of 25th March, from Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., with regard to the recent decision of the Ministry of Health to permit an increase in the maximum selling price of new houses built by private builders to £1,300 which applied to houses licensed after the 25th February, 1947. Messrs. Western Estates were of the opinion that a decision to apply this condition only to houses licensed after this date was unfair to builders who like themselves had licenses issued a short time before this date and they understood that it was left to the discretion of local authorities to apply this condition to licences issued before this date if they thought fit. The Town Clerk reported that the Circular 34/47 gave the Council no discretion and only authorised the increase in respect of houses licensed after 25th February, 1947. The licences for the houses in Brooklyn Gardens were granted on the 14th September, 1945, and 4th December, 1945, but W.B A Priority was only granted in respect of the remaining 30 houses on the 24th December,

1946, and 23rd January, 1947. Their application was to be allowed to charge the increased price for these 30 houses. RESOLVED That consideration be adjourned until the next meeting and that the Borough Surveyor report on the application with a view to seeing whether any case can be made out to the Ministry for approval to the Council applying the increase to the houses Estates Ltd. in course of erection by Messrs. Western Estates Ltd.

1046--Lynworth Farm Estate (a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported that work was recommenced on Scheme 1 after the recent bad weather on the 13th March and all the men were now being employed. The handing over of houses on this scheme would be delayed and while it was hoped to hand over four more at the end of next month it was feared that at least two months would elapse before any further houses would be ready for occupation.

(b) Gas Appliances— (Min. 441 (b) (ii))—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Cheltenham Gas Company asking the Committee to reconsider their decision not to allow water heaters to be erected over the sinks in these houses. The Committee had recently decided that no further gas appliances or pipe runs could be installed in these houses without the consent of the Committee as adequate appliances had been provided for heating water. Prior to this decision being taken several of the tenants had already placed orders with the Gas Company for sink water heaters. The Committee felt that whilst it was desirable that tenants should be given as free a choice as possible between gas and electricity it was undesirable that too many additional pipe runs and fittings should be installed in the houses after completion. RESOLVED, That permission be given for the installation of water heaters over the sinks only in the 62 houses in Scheme 1.

(c) Sub-Contractors—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell wished to employ sub-contractors in accordance with the terms of the Ministry of Health circular 19/47 on certain trades on the second scheme as Lynworth. They had nominated a sub-contractor for foundation work, concrete floors and drainage and another for bricklaying.

The Borough Surveyor had pointed out to Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell that they would be responsible for carrying out terms of the contract by the sub-contractors and that should any of the sub-contractors work be unsatisfactory they would be required to make it good. It was provided in the contract that no sub-contractor should be employed by the main contractor without the written consent of the Council and further that sub-letting, other than that which might be customary in the trade concerned, should be prohibited.

180

The "Fair Wages Clause" applied to every man employed on the site, whether by the main contractor or sub-contractor. The Sub-Contractor nominated for the foundation work, etc., was known to and had carried out work for the Council but nothing was known of the other sub-contractor. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to consent to the employment of the first mentioned sub-contractor but that consent be not given to the employment of the other sub-contractor owing to the lack of information and experience as to his work.

(d) Church Site—The Town Clerk reported on an interview which he had had with the Chairman and Secretary of the Diocesan Reconstruction Committee. The position at present was that the Church Authorities had now decided that it would be desirable to exchange their present site for the new site which was earmarked for them on Lynworth Farm Estate and they intended to remove the present temporary church of St. Michael's from its present position to the new site when the exchange of land had been effected. The exchange would take place in accordance with the

valuation of the District Valuer of the two sites and the present site of the temporary church would then become available for erection of houses.

1049—Temporary Housing Site—The Knole—The Borough Surveyor reported that agreement had now been reached with the Ministry of Works as to the amount of drainage for which the Council would be responsible. Eighteen prisoners of war were now engaged on the site and satisfactory progress was being made with the work.

With regard to the allocation of the bungalows between gas appliances and electric appliances the Gas Company had pointed out that in temporary bungalows previously erected the allocation had not worked out equally between gas and electricity owing to the fact that certain bungalows in which it was proposed to install gas appliances had been deleted from the programme. They now asked in the circumstances that consideration should be given to arranging the allocation on the Knole so that the total temporary bungalows in the Borough supplied by gas should be equal to the total temporary bungalows supplied by electricity, but the Borough Surveyor reported that since arrangements were in hand on an equal share basis he would prefer not to change at this stage. He suggested that the request of the Gas Company should be borne in mind and an adjustment made on any future housing site. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1048—Brooklyn Road Houses—The Borough Surveyor submitted application from the contractor for the release of the sum of £400 of the £1,100 which he had deposited with the Council in lieu of a Bond. The Borough Surveyor reported fully on the matter. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances the sum of £400 be released to the Contractor from the amount of £1,100 held on the joint account.

1049—Houses—Chelt Road—Three tenders were submitted for the electrical installation and two for the hot water installations for the second pair of apprenticeship houses in Chelt Road. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd., amounting to £54 10s. 0d. for hot water installations and £74 1s. 6d. for electricity installation being the lowest be accepted.

1050—43 Waterloo Street—Two tenders were received for carrying out the necessary works to this house. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. C. Savage amounting to £46 13s. 0d. being the lowest be accepted.

1051—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 21st and 28th February were submitted. The following matters (inter alia) were dealt with.

(i) Fifteen applicants were interviewed and 30 applications considered.

(ii) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversions of various requisitioned and other properties.

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Lauriston                | Work in hand.   |
| 36 Lansdown Crescent ... | Amended tenders with the Ministry of Health.                    |
| 3 Sydenham Villas Road   | Amended scheme at Ministry of Health (Approval since received). |
| Oldfield Court           | In hand.  |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas   | With Ministry of Health (Approval since received).              |
| Clayton House            | ditto   |
| 13 Lansdown Crescent ..  | ditto   |
| 11 Evesham Road          | Completed.  |
| 16 Gt. Norwood Street    | Work in hand.   |

(iii) Various applications from tenants for rent rebates were considered and dealt with.

(iv) Innsworth Estate—The Town Clerk was instructed to make application to the Ministry for an increase to 7% in the commission payable to the Council as from May, 1946, in view of the fact that rents had recently been reduced from that date while costs of management and collection of rents had risen. RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

1052—Requisition Sub-Committee—A report of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 21st March was submitted.

(i) Four properties were requisitioned of which three were released.

(ii) One further property was de-requisitioned.

(iii) One application for de-requisitioning was refused.

(iv) Park Grange, Moorend Road—A proposal to allocate two of the flats at this house to Gloucester employees of Messrs. Denton was disapproved by the Sub-Committee, and Messrs. Denton were asked to submit alternative suggestions for accommodating members of their Cheltenham staff at present living in unsatisfactory accommodation.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

181

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**24th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman), The Mayor, Councillors Fillies, Gardner and Mann.

1053—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee

1054—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

1055—Defaulters—(Min 875)—(a) The Rating and Valuation Officer submitted list of applicants for remission of the General Rate on account of poverty which had been considered by the Chairman and granted RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Committee also interviewed and dealt with nine other applicants for a reduction or remission of rates on grounds of poverty.

1056—Incorporated Association of Rating and Valuation Officers—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and the Rating and Valuation Officer be authorised to attend the annual meeting of the Association in London on 27th and 28th June, 1947.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**28th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Mann and Moms

1057—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £188,141 ; amount outstanding £2,950.



1058—Water Rate and Charges—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £32,771 ; amount outstanding £208.

1059—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £30,607 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £459 for re-chargeable works carried out and £338 for electricity supplied.

1060—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that loans amounting to [16,120 had been repaid since the last meeting and that loans amounting to £21,960 would fall due for repayment during March, April and May.

1061--Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date.           | Proposal.   | Amount. | Term   |
|-----------------|---|---------|--|
| 3rd March, 1947 | Purchase of Nos. 1 and 2 Spa Place                                  | £2,741  | 60 years   |
| 7th “           | Purchase of plant, substation equipment and switch gear             | £34,690 | 20 years in respect of £27,997, 7 years in respect of £6,693 |
| 17th “          | Provision of children's playground equipment, Priors Farm           | £296    | 10 years.  |
| 17th “          | Purchase and conversion of Oldfield Court into flats                | £5,198  | 60 years   |
| 26th “          | Purchase of land at Douro Road and Lansdown Road, public open space | £774    | 60 years.  |
| 27th “          | Purchase of Southwood House   | £10,205 | 20 years   |

1062—Hayden Sewage Farm and Works—The Council had power to borrow on security of sewage lands and plant for certain purposes without loan sanction. In 1935, the Council gave authority to borrow from Lloyds Bank, up to a limit of £8,500, and negotiations had now been concluded with the Bank to increase the borrowing amount to £14,000, which was necessary to cover the cost in connection with the acquisition of Whitehall Farm The period for which a loan was obtainable on this basis had also been increased from 7 years to 30 years which would give a saving of £1,218 per annum on the current estimates. RESOLVED, That facilities by way of loan tip to a principal sum of £14,000 at any one time outstanding, be arranged with the Corporation's Banker's, Lloyds Bank Ltd., and the Corporation hereby acknowledge liability for the said loan and interest thereon. RESOLVED, ALSO, That an Equitable Mortgage over the Corporation's land and Sewage Works known as Hayden Sewage Farm near Cheltenham, be created in favour of the Bank to secure repayment to the Rank of all moneys and liabilities at any time due or incurred by the Corporation to the Bank, and that the Borough Treasurer be authorised to make the necessary arrangements with the Bank and that the Town Clerk be authorised to sign On behalf of the Corporation such charge form as the Bank may require

182

1063—Interim Payments—(Min. 702). The Council in February, 1947, agreed to increase the interim payments figure from £50,000 to £75,000 in view of the financial commitments for housing. Lloyds Bank Ltd. now asked for an indemnity in connection with this amount, in view of the fact that weekly bank orders covering such payments could only be sent to the Bank at the conclusion of the week during which the cheques were drawn, The request was a normal one and did not remove any of the normally resting on the Bankers in relation to payment of customers' cheques, and in the event of

the sum of £5,000 being exceeded, it would continue to be reported to the Committee as at present. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to give an indemnity in accordance with the form now submitted.

1064—County Council Precept--Precept was submitted from the County Council in respect of the half-year commencing 1st April, 1947, requiring a total payment of £171,480.

1065—Police Act, 1946--(Min. 699). A letter was submitted from the Home Office, dated 17th March, 1947, forwarding an Order made by the Secretary of State directing that the provisions of the First Schedule to the Police Act, 1946, shall apply to the County of Gloucestershire. The result of the Order will be that for a period of 3 years as from the 1st April, 1947, an adjustment will be made in the rates in respect of the police.

1066—Local Government Acts, 1929-46—Exchequer Grants—Letter, dated 19th February, was submitted from the Ministry of Health indicating the interim supplementary exchequer grant, payable in respect of the year, 1947, based on the population of 51,390 would be £6,424.

1067—Superannuation—(i) The Borough Treasurer reported refunds of contributions on termination of appointments as follows

Miss J. I. Pritchard (Borough Treasurer's Department) £26 12s. 6d.

Miss J. Everall (Electricity Department) ... £15 11s. 7d.

(ii) Transfer values had been paid as follows:—

Middlesex L.A. Superannuation Joint Committee

(K. F. Lewis, Borough Surveyor's Department) ... £37 0s. 4d.

Surbiton Corporation (D. P. Creese, Borough Surveyor's Dept.) £115 18s. 3d.

(iii) Transfer value had been received from the Gosport Corporation in respect of A. T. Wellings, Town Planning Department, amounting to £449 16s. 4d.

(iv) Highways Superintendent—Value of Emoluments—RESOLVED, That the value of the emolument (house) in respect of the Highways Superintendent, be increased from £26 to £52 per annum, for superannuation purposes.

1069—Variation of Rates of Interest—Circular 50/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted intimating that in view of prevailing rates of interest, the Minister, in consultation with H.M. Treasury, had decided that rates of interest for certain purposes should be reduced and enclosing Orders and Regulations prescribing a rate of 2 per cent as follows :

|   | Present Rate |
|---|--------------|
| (i) Housing (Rate of Interest) Amendment Order, 1947  | 4 per cent.  |
| (ii) Local Government (Sinking Funds, Rate of Accumulation) Regulations, 1947               | 3 per cent,  |
| (iii) Private Improvement Expenses (Rate of Interest) Amendment Order, 1947                 | 5 per cent.  |
| (iv) Public Health (Rate of Interest) Order, 1947 ...                                       | 5 per cent.  |
| (v) Local Authorities Stock (Sinking Funds, Amendment of Rate of Accumulations) Order, 1947 | 3 per cent.  |

In regard to the Regulations mentioned in (ii) above, application could be made to the minister of Health for the pre-scribing of a different rate of interest if circumstances justified such a course. In the view of the Borough Treasurer, with the operation of the loans pool system operated by this Council, under which the average interest payable on loans was in the region of 3 per cent. it was impracticable to agree to the reduced rate of 2 ½ per cent and he recommended that application should be made to the Minister for a retention of the present rate. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer's recommendation be approved.

1070—Pensions Increase Act, 1947—Circular 41/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted calling attention to the increases payable under the above Act which received Royal Assent on the 18th February, 1947. Provisions of the Act were retrospective to 1st December, 1946, and this would probably result in the figure of £3,800 included in the estimate being insufficient.

1071—Insurances—(i) The Borough Treasurer reported on certain major insurances on Corporation property and suggested that they should be revalued. RESOLVED, That consideration be referred to the next meeting to enable the Chief Officers to discuss the matter and submit a report to the next meeting. ALSO RESOLVED, That in the meantime the insurance on the Town Hall Organ be increased from £6,000 to £10,000.

(ii) B.I.S.F. Houses—The Borough Treasurer submitted tenders for insurance of 50 houses. RESOLVED, That the tender of the County Fire Office Ltd., at a net annual premium of £9 0s. 8d. be accepted.

1072—Staff—The Borough Treasurer reported that Mr. W. Axtell had been successful in passing the final examination of the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants, RESOLVED, That Mr. Axtell be congratulated upon his success.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

183

### **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 Wednesday, 9th April, 1947. Present :**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Green, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Capt. Trye, Councillors Fildes and Waite.

1073—Minutes of Previous Meetings—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 3rd and 26th March, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1074—Death of Alderman P. P. Taylor—The Mayor referred to the death of Alderman P. P. Taylor on the 27th March, 1947. Alderman Taylor was elected a member of the Board of Guardians in 1910, a Borough Councillor in October, 1913, and an Alderman in 1917, and was Mayor of the borough during 1930-32. Alderman Taylor had taken a prominent part in the public life of the town for the past 37 years and his knowledge of financial matters and of property values in the Borough had been

of considerable importance to the rate payers. He would also be remembered for his devotion to his wife during her long illness. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their deep sense of the loss sustained in the death of Alderman P. P. Taylor, and that the Town Clerk convey to the members of his family their deep sympathy.

1075—Election of Alderman—In connection with the election of an Alderman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman P. P. Taylor, 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 his name :—

Bush, Horace Trinley Claremont Lodge, Montpellier Spa Road      Company Director 1

Compton, George Britt 4 Christ Church Villas, Malvern Road      Railway Clerk (retd.) 3

Green, William James 14 Spa Buildings      Manager, Bristol Tramways Co. 17

The Mayor accordingly declared William James Green to be elected an Alderman, who thereupon made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1076—Election of Returning Officer—All Saints' Ward—RESOLVED, That Alderman William James Green be appointed Returning Officer for the All Saints' Ward for the purpose of Ward elections, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman P. P. Taylor.

1077—Junior Entrants Examination—The Mayor presented certificates to Miss A. Cook and Miss E. Anthony (Junior Entrants in the Borough Electrical Engineer's Department), who had passed the intermediate examination of the National Association of Local Government Officers and tendered the Council's congratulations upon their success.

1078—National Savings—The final figures in the National Savings Campaign for the year 1st April, 1946-31st March, 1947, in respect of the Borough of Cheltenham was £1,042,626 as against the target of £1,000,000. RESOLVED, That the Local Savings Committee be congratulated upon their success, in particular Alderman Waite and Councillor Readings and the other ladies and gentlemen responsible for the work involved.

185

1079—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      March 7

Public Library      March 7

Allotments ...      March 17

Min. 906 (Temporary Allotments, Alstone Lane)—The Chairman accepted a suggestion of Mr. Alderman Lipson that the Town Clerk pursue with the Gloucestershire Territorial Association a proposal that the tenants should remain in occupation until it was possible to commence the erection of the proposed drill hall and that the Committee should consider paying compensation for any loss.

Parks and Recreation Grounds      March 17

Planning      March 13 & 14

On consideration of Min. 937, IT WAS RESOLVED, That the Council go into Committee.

Thereupon an amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Biggs, "That Min. 937 be referred back for further consideration" was carried.

Upon resuming in open Council, The proceedings of the Planning Committee were approved, subject to the amendment mentioned above.

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Housing                  | March 18 & 26 |
| Cemetery and Crematorium | March 21      |
| Electricity and Lighting | March 18      |
| Public Health            | March 17      |
| Town Improvement and Spa | March 21      |

An amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. (c) of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee (appointment of a Catering Supervisor) referred to in Min. 978 of the Committee, be referred back for further consideration " was lost.

An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Councillor Compton "That Mins. (a) (Admission Charges, Municipal Dances) and (b) (iv) (Bar—Prices) of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee and referred to in \_Min. 979 of the above Committee be referred back for further consideration" was lost.

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Water                      | March 18 |
| Street and Highway ...     | March 24 |
| General Purposes and Watch | March 25 |

MIN. 1039—FLOODED AREAS---The Mayor reported that a sum exceeding £400 had been received by him up to that time towards the relief of distress in flooded areas.

MIN 1029—The Mayor reported that at the poll of Local Government Electors held on 31st March, the voting in respect of the Sunday opening of cinemas was as follows :—

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| In favour of the proposal | 6,893        |
| Against the proposal      | <u>3,963</u> |
| Majority in favour        | 2,930        |

Rating            March 24

Finance            March 28

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.

1080--Memorials, Applications, Complaints, etc.—The Town Clerk reported receipt of the following memorials, and IT WAS RESOLVED, That they be referred to the appropriate Committees for consideration and report:—

(i) Proposed Car Park. Bayshill Road—Protesting against the Council's proposals for parking of private vehicles in this road.

(ii) Victoria Cabinet Works, Larput Place—Protesting against the annoyance caused by the use of these premises.

T. BUSH, Mayor.

186

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**14th April, 1947.** Present--Councillor Addis (Chairman); Aldermen Green and Smith ; Councillors Compton, Fildes and Yeend; Messrs. Ball, Barlow, Roe and Whittall.

1081—Temporary Allotments. Alstone Lane (Min. 906)—The Ministry of Agriculture, following representations from the Council, had communicated with the War Department, but the latter were unable to continue to lease this land as the decision to re-constitute the Territorial Army necessitated the provision of temporary headquarters in an easily accessible part of the town with sufficient space for training facilities and essential guns and vehicles. A number of alternative sites had been examined but none satisfied essential requirements.

The Ministry regretted the War Department's decision but were unable to intervene further in the matter. The Town Clerk had also communicated with the Territorial Association but they replied to the same effect and stated they proposed to commence erection of huts at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Weaver, the tenant, understood that the contractors would take possession of the site within the next week or two. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances the Council have no alternative but to accept the decision of the Government Departments concerned. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk request the Territorial Association to allow former tenants to cultivate the land until required.

1082—Brighton Gardens, Arle Road (Min. 908)—At the last meeting the Committee considered a letter from the owner stating that she was unwilling to sell or lease this site as her two sons were dependent upon the land for their living. The land had not been well-cultivated for some time and it was decided to keep it under observation and to consider the position again at this meeting. A recent inspection showed that although some attempt had been made to cultivate the land it was not sufficient to produce the results necessary for present-day needs.

The Committee were of opinion that further endeavours should be made to obtain possession of this site to provide alternative accommodation for displaced tenants in Alstone Lane and also to meet the growing demand for allotments. If compulsory powers were exercised it was unlikely that the land would be available until the autumn but the owner might be willing to lease the same. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Parks Superintendent interview the owner and that the Chairman be given power to act.

1083—Retention of Land for Allotments—Read, Circular of 9th April, from the Ministry of Agriculture stating that the exceptionally severe weather, followed by devastating floods had brought a position where every contribution, however small, to the Country's larder must be regarded as of prime national importance. Allotment cultivators had an important part to play in this emergency but the Minister felt that if they were to give of their best they must have a sense of security of tenure—albeit limited. The enthusiasm of a plot holder under notice fell away during his last season and his new plot was unlikely to be fully productive in its first year.

In the present situation the Minister felt justified in asking local authorities to forbear from giving plot holders notice this coming season and to arrange for the minimum number of plot holders to vacate in 1948. War-time allotments on recreation grounds and parks should be retained in view of the over-riding importance of food production. RESOLVED, That the contents of the Circular be noted and that every effort be made to comply with the suggestions of the Ministry.

1084—Land Between Nos. 202 and 208 Hewlett Road—The owner's solicitors stated that their client had recently received approval from the Council for the erection of a dairy and dwellinghouse and was now awaiting the necessary building licences. Application was, therefore, made for de-requisitioning, particularly as it was alleged the land had not previously been cultivated. The Gardens Superintendent reported that two plots were concerned and both had been well maintained. In view of the communication from the Ministry of Agriculture upon the urgent necessity for continued food production and bearing in mind the uncertainty of the period which must elapse before a building licence is issued, the Committee felt unable to accede to the request until such time as the owner was in a position actually to commence building. RESOLVED, That the owner's Solicitors be informed accordingly.

1085—Greenhills Road Allotments (Min. 909)—The owner's solicitors had been informed that the Council were unable to de-requisition the building plot adjoining Woodstock until a building licence had been obtained and operations could commence. The owner, however, asked that when the nine plots concerned became vacant she be granted the tenancy thereof. The Gardens Superintendent stated that three plots were now vacant and the Committee saw no objection to the owner being permitted to use the same for food production purposes. With regard to the remaining plots, subject to there being no applicants on the waiting list when these become vacant and to the owner being willing also to use the same for food production, a similar arrangement might be made. RESOLVED, That the owner be informed accordingly and that the compensation rental be adjusted.

1086--Marsh Lane Allotments,—(a) No. 216—The tenant of this allotment, situate near the entrance gate, renewed his application for fencing around a portion of the plot to prevent trespass. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

(b) Roads—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inspect and report on the work required for essential road repairs.

1087—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting 74 tenancies had been terminated and 92 allotments let. He stated that there was a considerable demand for allotments at the present time and he anticipated that within a short time all the allotments available would be let and there would be a waiting list. For this reason he proposed to postpone advertising vacant plots as previously authorised.

187

1088—Rebates in Rent—RESOLVED, That the following tenants be granted three months' rent free period in view of the bad condition of the Plots on the commencement of their tenancies, the tenant of No. 43 Brooklyn Road being granted six months' rent free period— 10 Severn Road, 10 Shelley Road, 25 Severn Road, 64 Shelley Road, 55 Shelley Road, 26 Elmfield Avenue, 16 Shelley Road and 43 Charlton Park Gate.

1089—Arrears—The Committee considered the lists of arrears of allotment rents together with reports thereon of the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and Parks Superintendent, and gave instructions as to writing off certain arrears and as to the recovery of others.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**14th April, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Green (Chairman) and Smith, Councillors Addis, Compton and Fildes.

1090--Visitors' Quarterly Report—The Visitors reported upon their quarterly inspection of parks and recreation grounds.

The Victory Sports Ground required frequent rolling, which the Gardens Superintendent was now undertaking. The Borough Surveyor was also about to erect concrete posts and guard rails and would inspect the fences and but blown down by the recent gale.

The visitor to St. Peter's Recreation Ground suggested that the paddling pool for the children be restored before the summer. By Min. 324, however, having regard to the extensive reinstatement work to be under-taken to the ground and paddling pool, it was decided to close the ground during the time this was in hand. The work would be commenced within the next few weeks and extend for a considerable period.

1091—Athletic Ground—(a) Gloucester County Amateur. Athletic Association--At the request of the Association the Entertainments Sub-Committee were promoting the fixture on 26th July. It was also proposed to arrange a small athletic meeting on 24th May in preparation for the larger event and the Entertainments Sub-Committee would again undertake promotion. RESOLVED, That the use of the ground be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions, including payment of a rental of £5.

(b) Motor Cycle Football [Min. 919 (b)]—The Cheltenham Motor Club have adjusted their fixture from 23rd to 30th July to enable the ground to be prepared for the athletic fixture on 26th July.

(c) August Holiday Festival—The Entertainments Sub-Committee asked for the use of the ground on August Monday for a motor cycle gymkhana and also during the week for the promotion of other events. The Committee considered that as the Motor Club were arranging a motor cycle football match on 30th July it was un-desirable that a similar event should be arranged in such close proximity. If, however, the Club liked to transfer their fixture to August Monday, there would be no objection. RESOLVED, That the Entertainments Sub-Committee be informed accordingly, and that their application for the ground for events during August Holiday week be granted subject to the programme being first submitted to and approved by this Committee; to no undue damage being caused ; and to payment of any expenses incurred.

(d) National Fire Service Benevolent Fund—Application was made for the use of the ground during August Week for a motor cycle rodeo in aid of this Fund. The Committee had in mind that the Cheltenham Motor Club, whose events were usually organised in aid of charities, had been granted the ground on eight occasions, and they considered that the National Fire Service should approach the Club for the proceeds of one of their events to be donated to the Fund.

(e) Cheltenham and County Harriers, and St. Gregory's Athletic Club—These Clubs asked for the usual facilities for training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 1st May to 31st August. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the Clubs agreeing to relinquish the ground when required for other purposes.

(f) Cheltenham and County Cycling Club—This Club possessed no facilities for grass track training and asked for the use of the ground. The Gardens Superintendent reported that to prepare it for the



purpose heavy rolling would be required, necessitating the hire of a roller at 10s per hour. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for one evening in alternate weeks (other than Tuesdays and Thursdays) subject to no interference being caused to the use of the ground by children and to payment of a rent of 15s per evening to cover out-of-pocket expenses.

(g) Dowty's annual Sports and Cycling Meeting---Application was made for the use of the ground on Saturday, 21st June. RESOLVED, That the application be granted at a hire charge of £10 10s. 0d., the Club to be responsible for the cost of making good any damage incurred.

1092—Sports Area—Pittville—At the last meeting the Gardens Superintendent had submitted layout for this area which provided for an approach golf course immediately below Marle Hill House, 2 Bowling Greens, a central court for professional tennis, and 8 hard courts. Consideration was deferred to enable an estimate of the cost, excluding pavilions and seating accommodation, to be submitted.

In the meantime the Entertainments Sub-Committee who had asked this Committee to provide a tennis court suitable for professional play, had given consideration to the scheme and submitted recommendations thereon. Briefly these were that, in addition to the central court, 4 of the adjacent hard courts should be of en-tout-cas construction to enable to the same to be used for semi-finals of championships; that efforts be made to obtain a loan for the complete scheme, failing which the central tennis court and 4 en-tout-cas courts be provided soon as possible, together with one bowling green and a 9-hole approach golf course. They considered latter would be a considerable source of revenue and that an effort should be made to complete 9 holes before next summer.

188

The Gardens Superintendent's estimate, excluding pavilion and seating, amounted to £11,310 made up as follows:-

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1 Championship en-tout-cas court with stop netting ... | £650       |
| 4 en-tout-cas courts with stop netting — ...           | 1940       |
| 4 non-maintenance courts with stop netting ...         | 2000       |
| 2 bowling greens laid with sea-washed turf ...         | 2600       |
| 18-hole approach golf course ... .                     | 2600       |
| General excavation and levelling of site               | 550        |
| Walling and paving . ...                               | 320        |
| Footpaths  | 400        |
| Shrubberies, avenues and lawns                         | <u>250</u> |
|  | £11,310    |

Terracing could be provided around the championship court to accommodate approximately 2,500 spectators and this could be increased, if necessary, by the provision of staging on the upper terrace. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Ministry of Health to ascertain whether they are prepared to issue loan sanction for the carrying out of the complete scheme, excluding for the time being the erection of the necessary pavilions, but that if the Ministry are not prepared to approve the whole scheme being earned out at the present time, they be urged to issue loan sanction for the construction of the nine tennis courts, one bowling green and nine-hole approach golf course.

1093—Montpellier Gardens—Putting---The Gardens Superintendent recommended that the charges be increased from 3d. to 6d. per person. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1094—Pittville Gardens—Telephone Extension to Nurseries—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the difficulty in obtaining information of the sunshine recordings at Pittville in time for transmission to the Air Ministry. It was also difficult for him to get in touch with his employees, particularly during the summer months when emergency supplies of produce were required at the Town Hall and other places. He, therefore, recommended a telephone extension to the nursery. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1095—Sandford Park—Sale of Ice Cream—The Cotswold Dairy, 265 High Street, asked permission to sell ice cream in Sandford Park during the summer season. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for the months of May and June subject to payment of £12 10s. 0d. for such rights ; to the vehicle standing upon a site near College Road to be allocated by the Gardens Superintendent, and to no nuisance being caused. ALSO RESOLVED, That with regard to the remainder of the summer season, the position be reviewed at the June meeting.

1096--Naunton Park Recreation Ground—Read, Memorial from owners of 7 properties in this road complaining of trees in the recreation ground overhanging their gardens and preventing food production. The Vice-Chairman had made an inspection and agreed that the trees extended considerably beyond the boundary of the recreation ground. RESOLVED, That the trees be felled and replaced with others of a more suitable character and that offers be invited for the timber.

1097—Marle Hill Annexe--Boating---(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that the season commenced on 7th April. (b) Additional Craft-3 craft had been purchased from Mr. J. Sanders, of Pershore, namely, 2 new 10ft. flat-bottom canoes complete with floor boards, paddles, etc., at £32 10s. 0d. each ; one reconditioned 14ft. mahogany skiff complete with spruce oars and fittings at £45 ; and a pair of varnished canoe paddles at £2 5s. 0d., making a total of £112 5s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the purchases be approved and that the Gardens Superintendent endeavour to purchase additional craft, particularly children's paddle boats, at a cost not exceeding the amount provided in the estimates.

1098—Circus—The Big Top Circus applied for a ground for 3 days commencing 9th June. RESOLVED, That as no suitable ground is available the application be not entertained.

1099—Cricket Season, 1947—(a) Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—RESOLVED, That permission be granted for the Y.M.C.A (Baker Street Boys' Club) to play cricket on this ground every Saturday during the coming season subject to compliance with the usual terms and conditions, but in this instance. the preparation charge of 3s be waived.

(b) Brooklyn Road Playing Field—RESOLVED, That the St. Mark's Community Association (Junior Section'. be granted the free use of a pitch every Saturday at this ground during the coming season.

(c) Alstone Croft Playing Field—(i) RESOLVED, That permission be granted for the 2nd Cheltenham Company Boys Brigade to play cricket at this ground every Saturday during the coming season with the exception of 7th June, subject to compliance with the usual terms and conditions, the preparation charge of 5s also to be waived in this instance.

(ii) RESOLVED, That the Education Committee be granted the use of the ground on Saturday. 7th June, for the Annual Sports of the County Life Boys Teams.

(d) Y.M.C.A. Cricket Club—The General Secretary expressed thanks for the use of a pitch on alternate Saturdays at the Agg Gardner Recreation Ground but asked if the 5s preparation charge might be waived, both for Saturday and mid-week matches. Whilst the Committee were prepared to waive the preparation (-ham:- for the Baker Street Boys Club, they considered that members of the Senior Club were in a position to meet small expenditure. RESOLVED, That the Secretary be informed accordingly.

1100—Tennis (Min. 926)—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the lettings of tennis courts which were approved.

189

1101—Deck Chairs—Last season the Entertainments Sub-Committee recommended, and the Council approved, an increase in the hire charge of deck chairs from 2d. to 3d. Experience had shown that in the parks and gardens, particularly where music was not provided, a charge of 3d. was unpopular and many more chairs would be hired at 2d. RESOLVED, That in the Parks and Gardens under the control of this Committee (excluding Imperial Gardens) the charge be reduced to 2d.

1102—Horse Show, 6th August—The Horse Show Committee had now obtained a ground at Uckington in the vicinity of the Tewkesbury Road Playing Field. They asked for the Council's co-operation as in previous years, in the provision of conveniences and a water supply. RESOLVED, That as the Show forms part of the attractions of August week, the application be referred to the Town Improvement Committee with a recommendation that the same receive favourable consideration.

1103-56 St. Paul's Road—The Town Clerk had reported upon completion of the purchase of this property acquired for an employee of the Parks Department. The premises were at present occupied by the former Custodian of Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground, recently resigned. The Borough Surveyor required vacant possession to enable essential repairs and decorations to be undertaken and the Gardens Superintendent urgently needed the house for one of his employees. The Borough Treasurer also drew attention to the difficult position which had arisen as the house was intended to be let on a service tenancy and the present occupier had paid neither rent nor rates and a rate demand must soon be made. The Town Clerk had urged Mr. Mansell to vacate the premises but no reply had been received. RESOLVED, That if necessary the Town Clerk institute proceedings for possession.

1104—Functions and Duties of Gardens Superintendent—The Committee referred to the Minute of the General Purposes Committee of 22nd March, 1938, defining the respective duties of the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent. The Gardens Superintendent was the officer directly responsible to the Parks Committee on all matters associated with layout and maintenance of parks and recreation grounds except as concerns the erection and maintenance of structures, roads and railings for which the Borough Surveyor was the responsible officer. RESOLVED, That for better clarification the Gardens Superintendent be the officer responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of boats, the painting and repair of seats and chairs and the maintenance and construction of paths.

1105—Land Lying Between Lansdown Road, Douro Road and Lansdown. Crescent— (Min. 36)—In connection with the acquisition of this land from the Ladies' College, the Council had undertaken to provide alternative accommodation for the botanical specimens and also to dismantle and re-erect the pavilion. The College had themselves found an alternative site and the Gardens Superintendent reported upon the College's requirements, particularly for the botanical specimens. These requirements were in excess of those in existence on the present site. The Borough Surveyor also reported that 60 yards of fencing had been blown down during the recent gale. RESOLVED, That the

College be informed that the Council can only undertake the work agreed upon, and that anything in excess thereof must be carried out at the College's expense. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor effect the necessary repairs to the fencing.

1106—King George V Playing Field—Four quotations had been received for the supply of one ton of grass seed, and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that 10 cwts. be purchased from Messrs. W. S. Birch & Co., of Hull, and 10 cwts. from Messrs. Sutton & Sons, of Reading, at the price of £13 15s. 0d. per cwt., being the lowest quotations. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

GREEN, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**15th April, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Alderman Waite ; Councillors S. Bendall, Carter, Fildes, Midwinter, Readings and Smith.

1107—Supply to Highclere, Birdlip (Min. 512)—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Electricity of copy of an Order under the Electricity (Supply) Acts, 1882-1936, authorising a supply of electricity to Highclere, Cirencester Road, Birdlip, situate in the Rural District of Cirencester.

1108—Emergency Electricity Restrictions—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Electricity Commissioners had instructed all undertakings to reduce by 5% the actual voltage of supply to all consumers for economic reasons. A further circular was later issued withdrawing this direction. The restrictions on the use of electricity for domestic purposes between 9 a.m. and noon and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. still applied and representation had been made by the I.M.E.A. and the E.D.A. to the Ministry of Fuel and Power against the continuance of what they considered was unjust discrimination between gas and electricity.

1109—Power Tariff (Min. 794)—The Town Clerk submitted a letter, from the Electricity Commissioners consenting to the Council's proposals to change the power tariff on the understanding that the proposals would include the introduction of a flat rate of 1 ½ d. per unit for motive power to be available for consumers with over 30 h.p. of installed motors.

190

1110—Lynworth Farm Estate—Wiring of Houses (Min. 793)—The Town Clerk reported that the Borough Electrical Engineer had interviewed the Housing Committee in order to clarify the position with regard to the 5-point scheme and wiring of houses erected by the Council.

It had been found that the average cost of providing the service to each house was approximately £11 which was only payable if the tenant of the house did not cook or heat water by electricity. The Housing Committee had suggested that a charge of £5 10s. 0d., in respect of each house for which the Council had entered into contracts, including the first 250 Wimpey " No Fines " houses, should be made for installation of service, irrespective of whether the tenants adopted electricity for cooking and water heating. From the point of view of the Housing Committee this simplified matters insofar as a definite sum could then be included in applications for loan sanctions. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that this suggestion be adopted. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1111—Civic Playhouse—Electric Wiring—The Town Clerk reported that an account amounting to £186 4s. 5d. had been received by the Playhouse Sub-Committee for wiring and electricity work in connection with the play-house, The Sub-Committee were under the impression that the Electricity Undertaking would carry out certain wiring work free of charge, and they asked that the Undertaking

should forego the charges for the original wiring and alterations amounting to £161 17s. 3d. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to a reduction by the sum of £161 17s. 3d.

1112—E.D.A. Sales Management Conference—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the annual Sales Management Conference of this Association would take place on May 7th to the 9th, and suggested that Mr. Davis, Service and Development Engineer, and himself should attend. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Borough Electrical Engineer report on this Conference to the Committee.

1113—Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association—The I.M.E.A. Council had issued a list of nominations for-vacancies on the Council for the ensuing year, and if further nominations were to be made they should reach the Secretary before the 7th May, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be nominated as an Engineer representative on the Council and that the necessary steps be taken to secure the support of other local authority undertakings for this nomination.

1114—Southwood—Five tenders were received for the carrying out of essential repairs to the roof of this property. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. H. J. Trigg amounting to £428 (being the lowest) be accepted, subject to contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk being entered into. RESOLVED ALSO, That the cost be charged to Revenue Account.

1115—Sub-Station Transformer Loads—It had been found during the winter that 21 sub-stations had loads in excess of 90% of their installed transformer capacity. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it was necessary to replace these overloaded transformers or instal additional plant during the next two summers and he recommended that eight 500 kvA transformers should be purchased. Since the manufacture of new trans-formers was very slow he recommended that an order should be placed for these transformers to be used when delivered where they were most urgently required and at the same time that four 50 kvA pole type and three 100 kvA outdoor type transformers should be ordered for stock to enable any new supplies that would be authorised to be given with the minimum of delay. He recommended that these transformers should be bought from the British Electric Transformer Co., who normally supplied such transformers to the Undertaking at the following prices :—

|         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| 500 kvA | £662 3s. 3d. each. |
| 100 kvA | £263 14s. 6d. “    |
| 50 kvA  | £193 8s. 7d. “     |

The prices of these articles were controlled by trade organisations and there would not be any genuine competition if tenders were invited for their supply. RESOLVED, That the transformers as specified by the Borough Electrical Engineer be purchased from the British Electric Transformer Company and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £6,870 for their purchase. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

1116—Bath and West Show—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported further on the proposal to make a contribution from the undertaking to the Show Fund. The total cost of providing the distribution station and mains would amount to £750, of which £500 would be recoverable on salvaged materials, leaving £250, part of which would be offset by service charges. Seventeen applications had so far been received for supply from which a total revenue of £47 would be

obtained, but since it did not appear that the revenue from service charges was likely to reach £100, the net cost of distribution to be met by the Undertaking would, therefore, be over £150. The Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Co. had agreed to make either no charge for the units consumed on the showground or a substantial provision towards the cost and were also co-operating in arranging the electrical exhibit at the show. The Town Clerk recommended that the Committee should agree in principle to meet this remaining cost of distribution as the Undertaking's contribution towards the show fund but that the matter should be further considered when the amount of the local show fund and accounts had been ascertained. RESOLVED, That this course be approved and adopted.

1117-Street Lighting—(a) Damaged Lamp Posts—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that 2 lamp posts had been damaged during the month and 5 replacement lamp posts had been erected.

(b) Min. 507 (c)—Prestbury Road Lighting—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that a sample 25' concrete lamp post of the type which it was proposed to use on the Prestbury Road Scheme had now been erected opposite the junction of Cromwell road. As this sample lamp post appeared to be satisfactory he recommended that the scheme for the installation of sodium lamps from Pittville Circus to the existing borough boundary, by converting the existing lamps and erecting new columns with an average spacing of 135' and a mounting height of 25', as submitted to the January meeting of the Committee, should be proceeded with at a cost of £890. RESOLVED, (a) That the scheme as recommended by the Borough Electrical Engineer be carried out subject to the consent of the Ministry of Transport. (b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £890. (c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt,

191

1118—Tariff for Hotels—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted suggestions for an alternative tariff to be made available to hotels. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned until such time as the Borough Electrical Engineer is in a position to submit a scheme for comparable alternative tariffs for business and commercial premises.

1119—Staff--(a) Deputy Mains Engineer—Five candidates had been interviewed by the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer for this position and Mr. E. Mills, of Ealing, had been appointed. He proposed to take up duties on 21st April and as he had secured accommodation in Cheltenham it was desired to arrange for phone to be installed. RESOLVED, That this be approved and confirmed.

(b) Technical Assistant—Three candidates had been interviewed for this position by the Chairman and Borough Electrical Engineer, and Mr. H. Taylor, A.M.I.E.E., of Stalybridge, had been appointed. It was proposed that should commence his duties on 18th May. RESOLVED, That this appointment be approved and con. firmed.

(c) Service and Development Engineer—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. H. Davis had taken up his appointment as from the 8th April.

(d) Miss Anthony and Miss Cook—Miss E. M. Anthony and Miss A. E. Cook, Junior Entrants in the Electricity Department, had been successful in passing the Intermediate Stage of the National Association of UM; Government Officers' Examination. Under the conditions of service adopted by the Council they would be entitled to a grant of £15 each. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to make a monetary grant of £15 each to Miss E. M. Anthony and Miss A. E. Cook on their gaining the Inter-mediate Examination of the National Association of Local

Government Officers in accordance with Clause 29 of the Scheme of Conditions of Service adopted by the Council.

1120—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported 12 interruptions of supply during the month.

1121—Association of Public Lighting Engineers—The Borough Electrical Engineer had been invited by the Association to write and read a paper before the Conference at Southport in the Autumn. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve of the Borough Electrical Engineer accepting this invitation.

1122—Shropshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire Electrical Power Company—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that during the recent floods the Company had, with very great difficulty, maintained a constant supply of electricity to the borough. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer convey to the Company the Council's appreciation of their efforts during the recent difficult conditions.

A. J. BETTERIDGE, Chairman.

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

15th April, 1947. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; the Mayor ; Alderman Green ; Councillors Addis, Mid-winter and Strickland.

1123---Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of February was read—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Springs.        | For month ended<br>31st March, 1947. | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during last 3 years. |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Hewletts Spring | 398,000                              | 264,000   |
| Dowdeswell      | 4,110,000                            | 1,905,000   |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 104,000,000 gallons.

Quantity drawn from Churchdown, 4 weeks ended 1st April .. 47,585,000  
Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury, 4 weeks ended 1st April .. 14,139,000

Total purchased from joint Water Board from Churchdown for year ended 31st March, 1947. 655,615,000

Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area . ... 164,282,000\*  
Includes 214,000 estimated loss on burst 6" Pershore main

Average daily consumption for March 3,602,000

| Rainfall for March during month. | Average monthly rainfall. |       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| Sandford ... ..                  | 5.22"                     | 1.57" |
| Hewletts                         | 4.35"                     | 1.63" |
| Dowdeswell                       | 5.66"                     | 1.80" |
| Tewkesbury                       | 4.49"                     | 1.40" |

192

1124-Home or Lower Farm (Min. 1946/46)—The Council's tenants had complained of the drainage to this farm and the Northleach R.D.C. had also called attention thereto. The Borough Engineer had submitted a scheme for connecting the drain to the sewer at Dowdeswell Court at an estimated cost of £475, and recommended that the scheme be adopted as the only satisfactory method of dealing with the problem. It was also intended to provide a water closet and bath at the farmhouse. The Committee had approved the proposal and tenders were accordingly invited, the two tenders received being now submitted and opened. RESOLVED, That the same be referred to the Borough Engineer for consideration and that the Chairman be authorised to accept the most suitable.

1125-Bath and West Show—At the last meeting the Borough Engineer had reported upon the work involved in complying with the Council's undertaking to the Show Committee to provide, free of cost, a water supply to the Show site and also to lay necessary services.

When the original undertaking was given, the suggested site was in the Borough but the site eventually selected was in the water supply area of the Cheltenham R.D. Arrangements had, therefore, been made for the necessary connection from the Rural District Council's mains, the cost of water to be charged to the Borough Council. The Borough Engineer submitted to the last meeting his recommendations for overcoming difficulties in pipe laying and in obtaining necessary supplies of pipes. Transport costs for conveying pipes to the site would be involved and he considered that this should be borne by the Society, together with the cost of replacement of damaged pipes.

With regard to service pipes, he had been in touch with Messrs. Ambrose, Ltd., of Bath, who had before the war, undertaken main laying for the Shows for many years, and this firm was thoroughly conversant with the work. The Company's quotation amounted to £630 16s. 8d. subject to variation after measurement of actual work involved, and the Borough Engineer recommended acceptance thereof. RESOLVED, That the quotation be accepted subject to Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk, transport and replacement of damaged pipes being charged to the Show Committee.

1126-Staff—(a) Sick Pay—During the three weeks ended 30th March, 3 employees had received sick pay amounting to £17 3s. 1d.

(b) Extensions of Service—(i) General Fitter— This employee (Mr. H. M. Butler) would attain the age of 68 on 7th May next. In addition to his normal duties he was also in charge of the filtration plant at Sandford Pool during the summer season. In view of present labour difficulties, the Borough Engineer recommended that his services be extended, and he also pointed out that in the event of his retirement his pension would only amount to 9s 1d per week. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to agree to the employee's services being extended for a further period of 12 months.

(ii) W. G. Dodwell, Hewletts Reservoir—This employee, who had been with the Council in a temporary capacity for several years, would attain the age of 71 on 31st May, and as he was not included in the Superannuation Scheme, no pension would be payable to him upon retirement. He was willing to continue working for the Council, and the Borough Engineer recommended that as he



was capable of carrying out his duties, his services be extended. He possessed a most useful knowledge of the Springs and working of valves and would be of considerable assistance to the new Custodian, RESOLVED, That the employee's services be extended for a further period of 12 months, when the matter be reviewed.

(c) Additional Inspector [Min. 597 (c)] --The Borough Engineer reported that in response to advertisements, 9 applications were received for this appointment and 3 applicants interviewed. He had appointed Mr. L. J. Ayres, R.P.C., at the approved wage of £4 15s. 0d. per week, rising by 2 annual increments of 5s per week, plus war wage increase, uniform and cycle allowances. Mr. Ayres would commence duty on 21st April. RESOLVED, That the appointment be confirmed.

1127—Sectional Huts—The Borough Engineer reported upon the necessity of acquiring sectional lock-up huts which could be dismantled and re-erected on various sites and used for storage of materials. In the first instance he suggested that one but be purchased from the Commercial Steel Works, of Suffolk Road, Cheltenham, at the Price of £31 11s. 4d., and if this proved satisfactory, additional huts might also be acquired when necessary. RESOLVED, That the purchase be authorised.

1128-Works Completed During the Month—The Borough Engineer reported that during March 494 inspections had been undertaken when the Inspectors found 5 defective flush boxes, 34 leaking taps, 11 defective stop taps and 11 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 66 draw taps ; 28 notices had been served on owners ; 22 houses were connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 51 supplies disconnected and 16 meters changed or fixed. With regard to general maintenance work, 220 yards of new main had been laid in Kingsditch Lane. the Knole and Priors Park, Tewkesbury ; mains repaired at Tewkesbury and Charlton Kings ; new sluice valves fixed at Charlton Lane, the Knole and Kingsditch Lane ; sluice valves and hydrants repaired. Other work had included pumping, meter cleaning, repairing and testing at Sandford ; washing out of mains and fixing markers on new mains in New Barn Lane.

1129-----Analyses—The Medical Officer submitted satisfactory analyses upon the Tewkesbury and Dowdeswell supplies.

1130—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

193

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**10th April, 1947.** Present--Alderman E. L. Ward (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss and Morris; Mrs. Atherton; Majors Beale-Brown and Shakspeare.

11th April, 1947. Present—Alderman E. L. Ward (Chairman); Councillors Bayliss and J. Bendall.

1131—Plans--(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1164/46 the Committee have approved or other-wise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No.<br>of Plan | Name | Description | Recommendation<br>under Byelaws | Recommendation<br>under Interim<br>Development<br>Order |
|----------------|------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|
|----------------|------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|

|      |                                   |  |   |   |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 5805 | F. J. Malyon                      | Rearrangement of bathroom and W.C.,<br>8 Haywards Road   | Approved subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector   | Approved  |
| 5185 | Dentons Ltd.                      | Closing off of ground floor and basement stairways, Park Grange,<br>Moorend Park Road                                  | Approved  | Approved  |
| 6050 | Sir Roger Hulton, Bart.           | Conversion of stables into living accommodation, Caynham,<br>Lansdown Road   | Approved subject to work in connection with the floor and the ceiling of the bedroom above garage being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor | Approved  |
| 6075 | B. Rees                           | Alterations and extensions, 15 Windsor Street  | Approved as in Plan No. 5085  | Approved  |
| 6107 | Cotswold & District Hotels Ltd.   | Installation of new fascia board and extensions to front. Construction of Saloon Bar. Plough Hotel and 386 High Street | Approved subject to modification of drainage and sanitary accommodation in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Act                | Approved  |
| 6108 | Hadsphaltic Construction Co. Ltd. | Temporary office.<br>83 Prestbury Road   | Exempt  | Approved for a period of 12 months from date of consent   |
| 6109 | F. R. Brown                       | Coal house and conservatory, 117 Tanners Road  | Exempt  | Deferred  |
| 6110 | P. F. Edwards                     | Garage, 5 St. Margarets Parade, Bennington Street  | Exempt  | Approved for a period of 10 years from date of consent, as the site is in a proposed redevelopment area |
| 6111 | H. E. Stevens                     | Garden and store shed,<br>9 Lypiatt Street   | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6112 | Mead Bros.                        | Installation of display window, Devonshire Street  | Approved  | Approved  |
| 6113 | J. H. Basson                      | Rebuilding of sanitary wing in compliance with   | Approved as in Plan No. 5085  | Deferred  |

| No. of Plan | Name                             | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6114        | W. Barnett                       | Health Department<br>Statutory Notice.<br>44 Bath Road<br>Rebuilding of conservatory and garage,<br>68 Marle Hill Parade | Disapproved                  | Disapproved  |
| 6115        | W. Davis                         | Alterations and extensions, 90 Winchcombe Street   | Approved as in Plan No. 5085 | Approved   |
| 6116        | F. Breininger and W. Lloyd Jones | Conversion of Ashleworth, Sydenham Villas Road, into 2 flats   | Approved as in Plan No. 5085 | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building                                    |
| 6117        | Lockes Bakeries Ltd.             | Alterations. 63 and 64 Winchcombe Street   | Approved as in Plan No. 5085 | Approved   |
| 6118        | C. A. Stancombe                  | Greenhouse and store shed, Victoria Place  | Exempt                       | Approved for a period of 15 years from the date of consent as the site is in a proposed redevelopment area |

194

| No. of Plan | Name                             | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6119        | Misses Norris                    | Conversion of Romsey House, Gloucester Road, into 3 flats        | Approved as in Plan No. 5085 | Deferred pending the observations of the Ministry of Transport under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935 |
| 6120        | E. T. Stinchcombe and Son        | 2 pairs semi-detached houses, All Saints Road and Selkirk Street | Deferred                     | Deferred   |
| 6121        | W. H. Roff                       | Greenhouse, 83 London Road                                       | Exempt                       | Approved   |
| 6122        | F. Breininger and W. Lloyd Jones | Garage, Ashleworth, Sydenham Villas Road                         | Exempt                       | Approved   |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name                                | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| T.P.2258    | Miss E. Wills Brown                 | Proposed classroom, Seven Springs House School   | Approved  |
| T.P.2265    | Housing Association, Bishops Cleeve | Proposed layout of 226 houses, shops, flats, Community Centre and Free Church, Two Hedges Lane, Bishops Cleeve | Approved  |
| T.P.2266    | F. P. Parry                         | Conversion of outbuildings into living accommodation and new garage, Green Acres, Crippetts Road, Leckhampton  | Approved  |
| T.P.2217    | C. R. Black                         | Proposed additions to bungalow, Crippetts Road, Leckhampton  | Approved  |
| T.P.2268    | A. D. Power                         | Proposed fish and chip shop, Chandos Street, Winchcombe  | Approved for a period of 5 years from the date of consent, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, smell or fumes and to the frying installations being to the satisfaction of the Rural District Council |
| T.P.2269    | A. Greenhow                         | Proposed dairy, Manor Farm, Gretton, Winchcombe  | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2270    | R. Smith                            | Proposed garage, Langley Cottages, Winchcombe  | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2271    | Dr. A. J. Martin                    | Conversion of Treen, Cleeve Hill, into 2 flats   | Approved  |
| T.P.2272    | H. Jarvis                           | Cycle and tool shed, 4 Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury  | Approved for a period of 2 years from the date of consent   |
| T.P.2273    | A. Mitchell                         | Conversion of farmhouse into 2 dwelling houses, near Whittington   | Approved subject to all new windows being of the same type, design and materials as the existing windows and to the new brick work being finished off to match the existing building                            |
| T.P.2274    | County Architect                    | Canteen kitchen, Swindon Church of England School, Swindon   | Approved  |
| T.P.2275    | S. W. Jenkins                       | Conversion of stables into cottage,  | Approved subject to the   |

|          |                        |  |  |
|----------|------------------------|--|--|
|          |                        | Little Hetton, Cudnall Street,<br>Charlton Kings   | facings to the door and<br>window openings being in<br>stone ; that the chimneys be<br>finished a colour to match the<br>existing stone work and that<br>all new work harmonises with<br>the existing building |
| T.P.2276 | E. E. Built-Leonard    | Proposed house, Greenhills Road.<br>Charlton Kings | Deferred   |
| T.P.2277 | Electricity Department | O.H.M.V. Line to<br>Swindon Farm, Uckington        | Approved subject to the<br>portion of the overhead line<br>crossing the proposed by-pass<br>being laid underground when<br>the by-pass is constructed  |

195

| No.<br>of Plan | Name              | Description   | Recommendation under Interim<br>Development Order  |
|----------------|-------------------|---|--|
| T.P.2278       | H. Pritchard,     | Proposed Nissen Huts, The Forge,<br>The Reddings      | Approved   |
| T.P.2279       | Mrs. B. T. Healey | Proposed garden shed, 3a<br>Brymore Avenue, Prestbury | Approved subject to the<br>building being effectively<br>screened from the road with<br>trees and shrubs |
| T.P.2280       | B. Glassman       | Proposed food store, Appledore Poultry<br>Farm, Greet | Approved   |

1132—Development Plans (a) Seven Springs House—RESOLVED, That consent be granted to Miss E. Wills Brown to use Seven Springs House as a school.

(b) Church Street, Charlton Kings--Application was submitted from Mr. J. Peacey to erect signs at Woodbine Cottage, Church Street, Charlton Kings. The premises were being used for business purposes without consent of the Committee. RESOLVED, That consent be refused and that he be required to submit formal application for consent to change of use.

(c) Northerwood. Pittville Circus Road—RESOLVED, That consent be granted to use Northerwood. Pittville Circus Road, as an Old People's Home.

(d) Corinth House, Bath Road—Consent was given on the 14th August, 1946, for these premises to be used for light engineering purposes for a period of 10 years. Application was now submitted from J. Allen & Co. for an extension of this period to 21 years, and for consent to the premises being used for the manufacture of various products from rubber latex. The premises were in a proposed redevelopment area, and other premises in the area have been approved for a period of 15 years.

RESOLVED, That the change of use be approved, and the period of consent be extended to 15 years, and Min. 1769/46 varied accordingly.

(e) The Reddings, Badgeworth—Application from Messrs. Liddiard Ltd., Finchley, to use two huts on the former camp site at No Gains Field, The Reddings, for oil storage and a distribution depot. The site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of 2 years from the date of consent.

(f) Little Witcombe—Application from Messrs. Madge, Lloyd and Gibson on behalf of Miss A. Whithard for permission to continue the use of a caravan for occasional occupation at weekends and half days. There was no sanitary accommodation or water supply on the site. RESOLVED, That consent be refused, and the owners required to remove the caravan forthwith.

(g) Shurdington—Application from Mr. J. Fint for permission to erect petrol pumps at the junction of Leckhampton Road and Painswick Road at Shurdington. The County Council and the Ministry of Transport have approved the application under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, subject to the pumps being covered by a well-designed building, constructed of materials approved by the Committee, and the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(h) Warwick Place, Winchcombe Street—Application from the Consolidated Equipment Co. for permission to use the premises of the Cotswold Glove Co. for the establishment of a wholesale business and for industry. The Planning Officer reported that the use of the premises as a single industrial unit would not conform to Planning requirements as there was insufficient air space, and there was a risk of this area developing into a factory slum. RESOLVED, That consent be refused for the use of the premises as a single industrial unit.

(i) Southam-de-la-Bore RESOLVED, That consent be granted to Miss Bellamy to use Southam-de-la-Bore as a school.

1133—War-time Erections (Min. 536)—The Committee gave further consideration to applications received in respect of war-time erections, or where there had been change of use of buildings, for extension of the period of consent. The Planning Officer reported thereon. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended as follows:—

| Name   | Description   |
|--|---|
| Cheltenham Agricultural Traders<br>Recommendation  | Temporary storage accommodation, Park Street<br>Extended until the 31st March, 1955 |
| Uckington Baptist Chanel<br>Recommendation         | Uckington Baptist Chapel<br>Extended until the 31st March, 1955                     |
| Cheltenham Shopfitting Co., Ltd.<br>Recommendation | Temporary Store, Synagogue Lane<br>Extended until the 31st March, 1955              |
| A. B. Fincken & Co.<br>Recommendation              | Keynsham Priors, High Street<br>Extended until the 31st March, 1955                 |
| T. Bugbird & Son<br>Recommendation                 | Treaford, Lansdown Road<br>Extended until the 31st March, 1950                      |

Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters 2 garages, 86 Gloucester Road  
Recommendation Extended until the 31st March, 1952

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Westbourne House, Pittville Circus Road  
Recommendation Extended until the 31st March, 1948

Dr. H. Ainscow Waiting-room, Sundridge, London Road  
Recommendation Unconditional approval

Messrs. H. O. Lloyd (Cheltenham) Ltd. Temporary Store, Montpellier Villas  
Recommendation Extended until the 31st March, 1957

Gloster Aircraft, Ltd. Uckington Works  
Recommendation That application for a determination under the Building Restrictions (War-time Contravention) Act, 1946, be requested

Gloucestershire County Council War-time Nursery; Back Lane, Winchcombe  
Recommendation Extended until the 31st March, 1957

Miss M. M. B. Cains Extension to Kitchen, Ormond Restaurant, Little Promenade  
Recommendation Extended until the 31st Dec., 1950

196

| Name                                | Description   | Recommendation  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Messrs. Ebdons Automobiles Ltd.     | Lavatory accommodation, Bath Road                                   | Unconditional approval  |
| Cheltenham General and Eye Hospital | Out-Patients' Hut, Sandford Road                                    | Extended until the 31st March, 1952   |
| Mr. J. E. Rowe                      | Whalley Farm, Whittington   | Extended until the 31st March, 1955   |
| Dowty Equipment, Ltd.               | Patrol Hut, Hatherley Lane  | Extended until the 31st March, 1950   |
| Tungum Sales Co., Ltd.              | Factory, New Street   | Extended until the 31st March, 1955   |
| S. Hanson & Sons, Ltd.              | Conversion of shop into dwelling-house, 19 North Street, Winchcombe | Approved for use as a dwelling house  |
| Cheltenham Ladies' College          | Huts, Playing Field, Christchurch Road                              | Approval be given for their continued use as a Games Pavilion   |
| Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd.          | Huts, Thirlestaine House  | Deferred  |
| Mr. P. James Ralph                  | Shed, 1 Hudson Street   | Subject to no objection being made by the Housing Committee, the condition requiring the removal of the shed be now removed |
| Cheltenham R.D.C.                   | Temporary but and additions to temporary hut, 14 Imperial Square    | Period of consent be extended until the 31st April, 1948  |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Cheltenham R.D.C.   | Conversion of shed to garage,<br>rear of Pittville Crescent  | Extended until the 31st April, 1950       |
| General Eye hospital  | Hut approved for use as a<br>Decontamination Unit            | Removal be requested                      |
| Messrs. Marks & Spencer, Ltd.   | Air Raid Shelter, 117-119 High<br>Street                     | No objection be made to use as a<br>store |
| Plough Hotel  | Conversion of open shed, Plough Yard                         | Deferred                                  |
| Cheltenham Original Brewery Co., Ltd. Temporary bar and sanitary accommodation, Newlands Inn,<br>Bishops Cleeve |  |   |
|   | Period of consent be extended until the 31st April, 1950     |   |
| Heston Rubber Co.   | Air Raid Shelter, extension to<br>work shop, Portland Street | Deferred                                  |

1134---Land. White's Barn, Prestbury—The Planning Officer reported that a shed on this land previously used for storing fodder, had been converted into living accommodation without consent. A caravan had also been placed on the site, but the owner stated that this had been sold, although owing to the inclement weather the purchaser has been unable to remove it. He was, however, of the opinion that the caravan was still occupied. RESOLVED, That failing removal of the caravan and reversion of the shed to its original use within one month, legal proceedings be instituted against the owner in pursuance of Section 5 of the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Act, 1943.

1135-34 and 34a North Place—Letter was submitted on behalf of Messrs. Costello and Kemple stating that weather conditions had delayed the transfer to their new premises in Prestbury Road, but the transfer would be carried out within the next week or so. RESOLVED, That failing removal of the temporary buildings by the 30th April, 1947, the firm be required to comply with the undertaking given by Mr. J. Costello on the 3rd March, 1945.

1136—Signs—Promenade--A meeting was held on the 14th March, 1947, of owners and occupiers of properties in the Municipal Offices block of buildings, on the Committee's proposal for uniform signs, which was approved in principle. The Planning Officer was now carrying out a survey of the Terrace and discussing the proposal with each individual owner or occupier, after which a general scheme and estimate of the cost would be prepared, for submission to a further joint meeting.

1137—Alma House, Rodney Road, and Mersea House, Bath Road—Letter was submitted from the Georgian Group, drawing attention to the dilapidated condition of these properties. Neglect to carry out the necessary repairs to Alma House had caused the stucco to strip from the pilasters, whilst the building generally suffered deterioration. In the case of Mersea House, the whole of the porches except for the columns had been removed. Both buildings were included in Appendix 2 of the Group's report on Cheltenham.

The Borough Surveyor reported that although small particles of the stucco had fallen, and some of the paint work had deteriorated at Alma House, the issue of a licence except for the minimum repairs to the stucco, was not justified at the present time.

The porch at Mersea House together with the adjoining one had been removed as a result of a dangerous structure notice (Min. 1347/46). The owner had been requested to reconstruct the porch on the lines suggested by him, but had stated that he was unable to meet the cost of this reinstatement. The Planning Officer also reported thereon. RESOLVED, That the Georgian Group be



informed that whilst the Committee were anxious that the Georgian architecture of the town should be retained, they were unable to take any action in respect of these properties owing to the difficulty in obtaining licences for this work at the present time, and the inability of one of the owners to meet the cost.

1138—Use of Timber for Building Work—The Borough Surveyor reported upon an economy memorandum regarding the use of timber for building work issued by the Ministry of Works. The memorandum provided for considerable reduction in the scantling of timber roofs and joists in floors. The Ministry of Health hoped that authorities would accept the proposals although these showed divergence from the tables contained in the Schedule to the Byelaws. RESOLVED, That having regard to the present timber shortage, no objection be made to work carried out in accordance with the Memorandum for a period of 12 months, the matter to be then reviewed.

197

1139—Planning Officer--Salary (Min. 937)—The Committee considered further the salary of the Planning Officer, referred back at the last meeting of the Council, RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Count); Council that the Planning Officer be paid the same scale of salary as that applicable for the time to the Deputy County Planning Officer (£600 per annum x £25 to £720 per annum, plus, 10% temporary increase) as from the 1st September, 1946, be accepted but that having regard to Mr. Streater's long service and experience the County Council be asked to approve of the Planning Officer being placed as from 1st September last, midway in the scale, namely £650 per annum plus the 10% temporary increase and cost of living bonus.

1140--Exhibition—Foreign Planning--Arrangements have been made by the various institutes interested in planning, for an exhibition of examples of planning in foreign countries to be held in London during May, 1947, and the Council were invited to send representatives to the Exhibition on the 9th May, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer be authorised to attend.

1141--Air Raid Shelter—Application was submitted from Mr. G. Gregory, for the retention, and use by him as a store of the communal air raid shelter on his property in Great Western Road. RESOLVED, That subject to an undertaking being given by him to remove the shelter at his own expense when required by the Council, and to the approval of the Emergency Committee, approval be given for a period of 10 years from the date of approval.

1142--Stoke Orchard—Temporary Huts----Letter was submitted from the Regional Planning Officer suggesting that the huts at The Park, Stoke Orchard, now used as temporary housing accommodation, be approved for a period of 10 years. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1143---Bishop's Cleeve Shopping Centre--Letter was submitted from Messrs. T. P. Bennett & Sons asking that the Committee should not provide for a shopping centre in the proposed scheme within one mile of the centre proposed by the Housing Association. RESOLVED, That this be not agreed to, but that provision be made in the scheme that no other shopping centre be scheduled within half a mile of the one proposed by the Housing Association.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**14th April, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman), Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton and Strickland.

1144—Housing Act 1936—(i) Basements-4 Lypiatt Terrace, 14 Suffolk Parade, 436 High Street, 19 Rotunda Terrace, 3 Evesham Road—Further consideration was given to making closing orders in respect of the above basements. The owners of 4 Lypiatt Terrace and 14 Suffolk Parade attended and letters from the owners of 19 Rotunda Terrace and 3 Evesham Road were read. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so that Orders be made under the Common Seal of the Council in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting in the case of 3 Evesham Road the use of the basement for any purpose other than domestic purposes, and in the remaining cases for any purpose other than storage.

(ii) Basement-73 Hewlett Road--The Standing Sub-Committee reported on their inspection of the above basement and report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector was submitted. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above mentioned part of the said building which was or occupied, or was of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and was unfit for human habitation, was not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notice be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said parts of the said building, and the mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said part of the said building, and offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of this Committee on the 9th June, 1947.

(iii) 11 Grosvenor Street—The solicitors to the owners of this property requested cancellation of the undertaking given on the 30th February, 1939, to use these premises for stores and lock-up shop only. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the premises had been re-occupied in contravention of the undertaking. RESOLVED, That legal proceedings be instituted in pursuance of Section 14 of the Housing Act, 1936, against the owners of the premises for permitting the use of the premises in contravention of such undertaking.

(iv) Unfit Houses—RESOLVED, That the licences for the re-occupation of the undermentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months after the date set opposite the premises.

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 56 Albion Street  | Expires 12th May, 1947 |
| 12 Witcombe Place | Expires 12th May, 1947 |
| 4 Edward Terrace  | Expires 18th May, 1947 |

1145—Food Standards (Mustard) No. 2 Order, 1944—Circular F.SL./27/47, Ministry of Food. was submitted intimating that owing to the difficulties of obtaining adequate supplies of home grown and imported brown mustard the Minister proposed to amend this Order forthwith and to reduce the minimum allylthiocyanate from 0.35% to 0.28%.

198

1146—Public Health Act, 1936---(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon defects at 19 Glenfall Street, and Ormond Restaurant, Regent Street. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of such notice, and that failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dust Bins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of the following properties requiring them to provide regulation dust bins for such premises.

19 Fairfield Parade  
5 Asquith Road  
9 Hermitage Street  
20 and 21 Exmouth Street  
43 Charlton Lane  
1 Sandford Terrace  
Priory Lodge (Basement)  
Priory Street

1147—Sewage Works—Manager and Chemist--The Borough Surveyor submitted sketch plan of the suggested accommodation for the Sewage Works Manager and Chemist. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Borough Surveyor prepare detailed plans and estimate for submission to the Ministry of Health.

1148—Institute of Sewerage Purification—Invitation was submitted to appoint delegates to attend the Annual Summer Conference at Glasgow from the 1st to the 3rd July, 1947, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor or his representative be authorised to attend.

1149—Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947—Circular 69/47, Ministry of Health was submitted indicating that these Regulations, with the exception of the requirement relating to thermometers, would come into operation on the 1st May, 1947. The Regulations required that the ingredients of ice-cream should be heat treated after being mixed and that the mixture should be cooled until the freezing process was begun. After freezing, the ice-cream must not be sold unless it has been kept at a temperature of not more than 28° F. or, if its temperature had risen above 28° F. unless it had again been heat treated and afterwards kept at not more than 28° F. after having been frozen. The Regulations also provided that when a complete cold mix was used the product when reconstituted for manufacture should be converted into ice-cream within one hour of reconstitution.

The apparatus used must be installed, maintained and operated to the satisfaction of the local authority, and a general requirement had been made to the effect that ice-cream during its manufacture, storage and distribution should at all times be protected from contamination.

1150—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) Ice-cream Licences-18 Hope Street [Min. 361 (ii)];—The Housing Committee (Min. 946) had agreed that the present tenant's son be given an assurance that he would be granted the transfer of the tenancy on the termination of his mother's tenancy. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the son was now carrying out the work necessary to make these premises fit for the manufacture of ice-cream.

(ii) Slaughter House—RESOLVED, That the application for renewal of the licence of Mr. Thomas James, of Commercial Street for the year ending 31st March, 1948, be granted.

1151—Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-1938--The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms, one of which was satisfactory, the other being slightly unsatisfactory and a further sample was being taken.

1152—Standing Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bishop be appointed to this Sub-Committee.

1153—Rat Infestation—Rodent Control—Transport—RESOLVED, That a Bedford 5-6 cwt. van be purchased, to re-place the existing converted 14 h.p. Vauxhall car at a price of £270 complete for which provision was made in the estimates.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**15th April, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Alderman Green ; Councillors Addis, Bishop, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Compton, Fisher, Strickland and Yeend.

1154—News Cottages—Alstone Lane—The Town Clerk submitted letter from Mr. J. R. Flint giving notice to terminate his tenancy of the old buildings known as News Cottages, which he had been using as a store, on the 30th April. The Borough Surveyor recommended that in view of the bad state of the buildings they should be demolished. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to demolish these cottages and to salvage any usable material.

1155—Old People's Welfare—Read letter from the Gloucestershire Community Council enclosing memorandum setting out the Council's proposals for the establishment of a department for dealing with old people's welfare. The composition of the Committee was divided into four groups, viz., Housing Authorities, Voluntary Bodies, Individual Membership, Honorary Membership and as a Housing Authority the Council were invited to nominate one representative to serve on the County Committee. RESOLVED, That Councillor Yeend be nominated represent the Council on the County Committee

199

1156—Shelter—St. Mark's Community Centre (Min. 1332, 22/5/46)—In May last year, the Council agreed to the A. Raid Shelter at the Community Centre site at St. Mark's being retained for use by the Centre as a store for a period not exceeding 10 years but deferred the question of who would be responsible for paying for the cost of removal of the shelter. This was now one of the very few communal shelters remaining to be demolished and it was necessary to agree with the Regional Authorities as to who was to bear the cost of removal. If the shelter was allowed to remain the Regional Authorities would expect to be relieved of all financial liability in respect thereof. If the shelter were demolished now the cost would be borne by the Government but if it was allowed to remain the cost would have to be borne locally and in addition the cost would be very much greater as it would have to be demolished by hand instead of by machinery. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the St. Mark's Community Association suggesting that it would be better for the shelter to be demolished now, but if they still desire to retain this they be asked to give an undertaking to bear the cost of its demolition when required by the Council.

1157—Interim Use of Housing Sites for Food Production—Read Circular 70/47 from the Ministry of Health referring to Circular 67/46 regarding the use for agriculture of housing sites not immediately required for development. Local Authorities were urged to ensure that such land which would not be developed during the present growing season should remain in agricultural use or should be cultivated until such time as it was needed, since the need for maintaining the largest possible area of land in production was even greater in 1947. RESOLVED, That the Committee are prepared to implement the circular so far as practicable and that when the Rowanfield Road and Hesters Way Compulsory Purchase Orders are confirmed, the Borough Surveyor be asked to suggest which areas of land may remain in cultivation or be used for agricultural purposes during the present growing season with a view to the tenants and occupiers being allowed to remain in possession.

1158--Brooklyn Gardens (Min. 1045) —The Town Clerk reported further on the application from Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., for permission to increase the selling price of their remaining 30 houses at Brooklyn Gardens to £1,300. It appeared that a case of hardship might be made out in this instance owing to the long period which elapsed between the issue of the licences and the date of issue of W.B.A. Priorities. This had the effect of preventing the erection of the houses and during this period the cost of labour and materials had risen. The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that the application of Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., was a reasonable one. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for permission to allow Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., to charge the increased price for the remaining 30 houses on Brooklyn Gardens Estate.

1159—Rowanfield Road Estate-- The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that the lay-out plan for this estate was considered to be generally satisfactory.

1160—Control of Civil Building—With reference to the decisions taken at the last Zonal Conferences, the Town Clerk reported that it was now necessary for the Committee to decide on their policy as regards the 18 houses which they could permit private enterprise to erect during 1947. An assurance had already been given to Messrs. Montal Watchfittings, Ltd., that they will be allowed to build eight houses for their key workers on the Lynworth Farm Estate and it was also necessary to decide how the issue of these licences should be spread over the year. RESOLVED, (a) That the Council be recommended to agree to 18 houses being erected by private enterprise in 1947.

(b) That the Borough Surveyor submit full particulars of all applications received.

(c) That Messrs. Montal Watchfittings, Ltd., be granted licences for the erection of eight houses on the land to be leased to them at Lynworth Farm Estate:

(d) That the Estate Management Sub-Committee submit recommendations as to the issue of licences for the remaining 10 houses and as to the conditions under which the same shall be issued.

1161—M.A.P. Estate—Innsworth Grove--The Town Clerk reported that, as instructed, he had made application to the Ministry of Supply for the rate of the Council's commission for the management of this estate to be raised to 7% in view of the fact that the rents for the houses had been reduced while the costs incurred by the Council had risen. The Ministry of Supply would not agree to the commission being raised to 7% but offered to pay £2 5s. 0d. per dwelling per annum. The Borough Treasurer reported that this offer would be acceptable provided the Council continued to receive the allowance of 5% of the amount spent on repairs. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Ministry accordingly.

1162-6, 7 and 8 Kew Place--The Town Clerk reported that the Public Health Committee had recommended. that these properties should be purchased by the Council and reconditioned with a view to making them habitable for a period of five or six years. He now reported that the District Valuer had agreed with the owners a sum of £300 for the purchase of these properties. RESOLVED, That these houses be purchased at the District Valuer's valuation of £300 subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the purchase of these properties, with intimation that it is the Council's intention in due course to make application for loan sanctions for the purchase price and for the necessary reconditioning works.

1163—National Housing and Town Planning Council—Annual Conference of Local Authorities, 1947--The Town Clerk submitted notice from the Council of the Annual Conference of Local Authorities in Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire and Dorset to be held at Bath on the 29th May. The Council

were invited to appoint delegates. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to attend on behalf of the Council.

1164—St. Mark's Community Association—Read letter from the Secretary of the Association that the Chairman of the Association and himself had been nominated as representatives of the Association to the Holding Committee (Housing Sub-Committee) for the St. Mark's Community Centre. RESOLVED, That Councillors Bayliss and Compton be appointed the representatives of the Housing Committee on the Association for the ensuing year.

200

1165—Priors Farm—Fencing—The Housing Manager reported that she had received several requests from tenants for permission to cultivate the front gardens and erect fences in order to prevent damage by children and dogs. The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that if the tenants were permitted to erect fences the whole effect of the site would be spoilt and that if permission were given for the planting of hedges these would need to be of a very special nature. RESOLVED, That the erection of fences or hedges round the front gardens be not allowed but if the Gardens Superintendent is able to suggest a type of hedge which can be planted without detriment to the layout of the estate the Committee will be prepared to reconsider the matter.

1166—Disposal of Surplus Government Equipment—The Housing Manager recommended that the equipment which now remained on hand consisting chiefly of beds and blankets should be offered for sale to the general public since people in the categories previously approved by the Committee had now had ample opportunity of making purchases. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1167--Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Progress—Progress on Scheme 1 had improved and external brickwork and roofing-in of houses would be completed by the end of the month. If plastering proceeded at the same rate the houses should be completed at the rate of about one a week. Now that the majority of the brickwork on Scheme 1 was nearing completion it was hoped to push forward Scheme 2. Ten steel houses would be completed by the end of the month, after which it was hoped to hand over eight each month.

(b) Plastering Sub-Contractor--The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell, Ltd., had submitted the name of Messrs. M. J. Kelly & Sons as plastering sub-contractors. They had commenced work with six plasterers who were making good progress and the standard of work seemed quite satisfactory. As plastering had been one trade on which progress had been very poor, the Borough Surveyor recommended that this should be approved. RESOLVED, That this sub-contractor be approved.

(c) Apprenticeship Houses—(i) The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Works asking the Council to agree the normal cost of erection of two pairs of 3-bedroomed houses and two blocks of eight 1-bedroom flats at £14,900. RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor, That this be agreed to.

(ii) Damage to Materials—The Borough Surveyor reported the very serious damage which was constantly being caused by children to houses in course of erection. He had taken the matter up with the Apprentice Master and had instructed him to engage a watchman on this site. Cases had been reported where children had broken into completed houses and caused serious damage, such as turning on water which subsequently froze and burst a boiler, removing door fittings and spoiling paint and distemper. Stacked bricks were scattered over the site and many roofing tiles were broken. The Borough Surveyor had supplied sufficient 10' high fencing to surround the site at the

beginning of the contract but this had been broken down. The Town Clerk suggested that one of the completed houses should be offered to the Chief Constable in order that he could let it to a constable as the presence of a Police Officer on this estate would do much to assist in the eradication of this nuisance. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved and that the Chief Constable be offered the tenancy of one of the new houses for occupation by a Police Officer who is inadequately housed.

1168—Electric Service Cables—The Borough Electrical Engineer attended to discuss the question of cost for the electric service cables to houses erected by the Council. He pointed out that under the five point scheme the wiring for five points was provided free of charge, but the cost of laying the service cable from the main into the house would have to be borne by the Council unless the tenant elected to cook and heat water by electricity, in which case this charge would be borne by the Electricity Undertaking. The Town Clerk pointed out that considerable difficulty was encountered under this system owing to the fact that it was impossible to include a definite sum in the contract for provision of electric service cables with consequent difficulties with the Ministry of Health. As it appeared that the average cost of providing a service cable was approximately £11 per house, it was now suggested that an offer should be made to the Electricity Undertaking that the Council would pay £5 10s. 0d. for the provision of an electric service cable in respect of every house, irrespective of whether the five point scheme was adopted or not.

The Borough Surveyor reported that in conjunction with the Borough Electrical Engineer he was investigating the possibility of using an alternative wiring system in an effort to reduce the cost of the electrical wiring using tough rubber cable instead of the steel conduit system as is used in the Wimpey " No Fines " houses. It was anticipated that since this system had been approved by the Ministry for non-traditional houses it would be satisfactory for traditional type houses also. RESOLVED, That the Electricity Committee be asked to agree to accept the sum of £5 10s. 0d. for the provision of electric service cable to each house, in respect of the houses for the construction of which contracts had been entered into (including the first 250 Wimpey " No Fines " houses) irrespective of whether the five point system is adopted by the tenant or not.

1169—Priors Farm—(a) Temporary Shop—The Borough Surveyor submitted designs for a temporary shop which it was proposed to erect on the site of a former static water tank with an alternative design for two shops. He recommended that the walls should be erected in brick with an asbestos roof. RESOLVED, That the design for two shops be approved. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to invite tenders for the erection of these shops.

(b) Refrigerators—The Borough Surveyor reported that none of the all-electric bungalows had yet been fitted with refrigerators and he felt that it would be advisable to press for their fixing in view of the approach of the warm weather. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor take up this question with the Ministry of Works.

1170—Temporary Houses—The Knole—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported that 27 prisoners of war were now engaged on this site. Drainage work was proceeding satisfactorily and excavations for road works and house foundations were in hand.

(b) Clerk of Works—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had appointed Mr. T. J. Curran, Clerk of Works, at a wage of £8 per week, plus cost of living bonus, this being the same as that Paid to the other housing Clerk of Works. Two-thirds of this salary would be charged to this scheme and the remaining third to Housing Scheme. In addition Mr. J. G. Morriss had been appointed Site Clerk at the gross wage of £6 per week. RESOLVED, That the appointments be approved and confirmed.

1171-Wimpey " No Fines" Houses—Read letter of the 3rd April from the Ministry of Health schedule regarding amendments which had been agreed between the Ministry and Messrs. Wimpey as to the schedule of basic prices and stating that the national price had been agreed at £1,172 17s. 0d. per house. The Town Clerk also submitted letter of the 8th April from Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., agreeing to enter into a contract for the 500 houses with provision for the price of the last 220 houses being subject to the Minister's approval and for the reduction of £20 per house to apply to the whole of the 500 houses. Messrs. Wimpey enclosed a form put reduction of contract.

The Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor reported fully on the proposed contract from which it appeared that there would be a considerable excess expenditure over and above the contract and national price, in view of the fact that the schedule of prices and date of tender were dated as from 1st May, 1946, since when the cost of labour and materials had very much increased. The sum allowed for the installation of gas, electricity and water services was very low. No allowance had been made for the increased cost of National Health Insurance and Insurance for holidays with pay and there were onerous clauses dealing with the payment by the Council for all overtime, lodging or subsistence allowances, fares and travelling time and conveyance of labour to and from the site. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Ministry of Health on the matter with a view to seeing if it is possible for the tender to be related to current day prices, so as to keep over-expenditure to the minimum and enable sanction for loan to be obtained in the first instance for a sum approximating to the cost of the houses.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**18th April, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman); the Mayor, Aldermen Green and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Mann, Morris and Readings; and Mr. A. Palmer.

1172—Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 1st April (report circulated herewith, together with report of treatments administered at Spa Bath during the month of March). RESOLVED, (i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That in connection with the use of the lounge at the Spa Baths [Item 3(d)], the Playhouse Sub-Committee be asked to consider this suggestion again in view of the discomfort which may arise through smoking during coffee intervals in the performances. In the meantime, this Committee have no objection to the use of the room for Committee meetings.

1173—Entertainments Sub-Committee--The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 2nd April (report circulated here-with). Item 8 (Dances for young people)---The Cheltenham Youth Committee have decided to defer such dances until the Autumn.

Item 11—The Horse Show Committee have obtained a ground at Uckington in the vicinity of the Tewkesbury Road Playing Field for their Show on 6th August. They asked for the co-operation of the Council in providing conveniences and a water supply, as hitherto, and as the event formed part of the August Holiday Festival the Parks Committee had referred the application to this Committee. RESOLVED,

(i) That with the exception of Items 8 and 13 the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 8--That instead of 5th and 19th May, the Cheltenham Youth Committee be allocated two suitable dates in the Autumn subject to payment of out-of-pocket expenses, the position, including



the granting of additional dates, to be reviewed when experience has been gained of the success or otherwise of these two dances.

(iii) Item 11—That the Horse Show Committee be loaned any available temporary conveniences, the Borough Surveyor carrying out their erection and dismantling, but that the application for a water supply free of cost be not acceded to.

(iv) Item 13—That the Entertainments Sub-Committee, in the first instance, promote two boxing tournaments, the position to be reviewed after the first event, and a report submitted to this Committee.

1174—Advertising Sub-Committee—The Committee reviewed the functions and duties of the Advertising Sub-Committee which included general advertising of the town and the attraction of Conferences. With one exception the members of the Sub-Committee were also members of the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and as the latter were now interested in the town's expansion, the attraction of conferences and other matters, it appeared it was no longer necessary to have a separate Advertising Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That the functions of the Advertising Sub-Committee be transferred to the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee. ALSO RESOLVED, That Alderman Green be appointed. a member of the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee.

1175—Services Club—The Town Clerk reported to a previous meeting upon correspondence with the Ministry of Health in regard to the form of the Compulsory Purchase Order appropriate for these premises and had now settled a draft of the Order which the Council might make if they still so desired. The Town Clerk also reported upon certain correspondence between himself and Cavendish House Co Ltd in which the Company's proposals for the future use of the building, and the Council's proposals, Co. lady those relating to the proposed re-development of the area, were referred to. It was suggested that representatives of the Council meet representatives of the Company might meet for discussions. RESOLVED, That the proposal to meet representatives of the Company be approved and that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Alderman Waite Councillors Mann and Morris be appointed the Council's representatives.

(ii) That the Council defer making the Compulsory Purchase Order referred to for the time being.

1176—Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club—(a) Alstone Baths - The Club applied for the usual facilities practice and instruction of members on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Water polo practice would take place on Tuesday evenings when the exclusive use was not necessary. On Thursdays the Baths were required exclusively from 5.30 p.m. until closing time. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to similar terms and conditions as last year and to satisfactory arrangements being made with the Borough Surveyor and Baths Superintendent.

202

(b) The Club enquired if they were still permitted to send representatives to the Baths Sub-Committee and if so they nominated Mr. W. T. Tiver and Mr. R. F. Fowles. The Committee were reminded that the functions and duties formerly carried out by the Baths Sub-Committee were now undertaken by the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and that swimming facilities were but one of the many matters dealt with by that Sub-Committee. If consultation was thought desirable upon matters of major importance affecting Swimming, the Club's representatives would be invited to attend appropriate meetings in a consultative capacity. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**12th April, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Brown and Carter. 1177—Superintendent's Report—During the month of March there were 83 interments and 69 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 1 ; 2nd position, 4 ; 3rd position, nil ; 4th position, 11. New memorials erected, 10. Additional inscriptions, 6.

The Superintendent pointed out the past quarter had, owing to the very severe weather, been a particularly difficult one, and it was RESOLVED, That the Committee place on record their appreciation of the manner in which the staff carried out their duties under exceptionally difficult conditions.

1178—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,487 to 11,502 inclusive.

1179—Memorial Service (Min. 819)-- Unfortunately the arrangements which had been made to broadcast the Easter Day Service had to be cancelled owing to the cutting of the programme. The attendance, however, was good. and the Crematorium Chapel was filled, extra accommodation being arranged in the cloisters. The Superintendent suggested that if a service of this kind was held at quarterly intervals, it would be much appreciated by relatives. RESOLVED, That the Superintendent be authorised to discuss the matter with the Rector of Cheltenham and ascertain his views.

1180—Cemetery Grounds—Closing Time—The Rules provided that during the Summer, the Cemetery should close at sunset, with the result that with the introduction of Double Summer Time, this would necessitate the Patrol-man staying to a very late hour. At most Cemeteries and in the model regulations recently published the times suggested were During Winter months from 9 a.m. until sunset. During Summer months from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. RESOLVED, That the Rules be amended to provide for the closing of the Cemetery at 8 p.m. or sunset, which-ever is the earlier.

1181—Fees for Right to Erect Memorial Vases--The Table of Fees did not include a fee for the right to erect a Vase bearing an inscription, and it had been the custom to treat this as coming under the category of Head-stone, the fee for erecting which was £1 5s. 0d. Vases had been introduced omitting any reference to sur-name, date of death and age, and in the past such vases had been regarded as not being subject to a fee. If the surname and dates were included, a fee was charged. It was suggested that where a vase contained a reference to a particular person, it ceased to be merely a vase and became a Memorial subject to a fee, and the Superintendent recommended a standard fee of £1 1s. 0d. for a memorial vase on a purchased plot, and 5s. 0d. on an unpurchased plot. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

1182—Book of Remembrance—(a) Descriptive Folders—Some 3,000 descriptive folders had now been despatched, and 180 orders received. Instructions were continuing to be received at the rate of 8 to 10 daily.

(b) Standard Charges—A letter from Mr. Marshall was submitted setting out his charges for the various types of entries based on average work executed in London, and the charges made to the public by other Crematoria as follows:-

|  | Mr. Marshall's<br>Charge | Charge<br>to the Public |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Standard single entry (2 lines) ...  | 5s. 0d.                  | £1 1s. 0d.              |
| Double space entry (5 lines) ...   | 10s. 0d.                 | £2 12s. 6d.             |
| Treble entry space (8 lines) ...   | £1 0s. 0d.               | £ 4 4s. 0d.             |
| Crest and two line entry   | £1 1s. 0d.               | £3 3s. 0d.              |
| Service Badge with double space entry (5 lines)  | £2 10s. 0d.              | £5 3s. 0d.              |
| Coat of Arms, Shield only with double space entry (5 lines)  | £2 10s. 0d.              | £5 5s. 0d.              |
| Full Heraldic Device with Supporters, Mantling, Crest,<br>etc., occupying treble space (8 lines) ... | £4 15s. 0d.              | £8 8s. 0d.              |

During the preparation of the Books the charges for single and double space entries only would be 3s. 6d. and 7s. 0d. respectively, all other charges remaining the same. RESOLVED, That the charges as set out above be approved.

1183—Garden of Remembrance—Memorial Wall—The extension to the Memorial Wall had now been commended, and would provide a further 420 spaces for bronze plaques, which with the 492 spaces on the existing wall, made a total of 912. At present there were 246 plaques already erected, and 192 spaces reserved, whilst enquiries had been received in respect of a further 8 spaces, making a total of 446. The number, therefore available for sale was 466, and the rate of ordering was 40-50 per quarter, so that it was estimated all the spaces would be taken by 1948.

203

1184—Training of Future Crematorium Administrators—A letter was submitted from the National Association of Cemetery & Crematorium Superintendents stating they were resuming the holding of annual examinations, and enquiring whether the Council would be willing to give facilities for persons studying for the Association's examinations to visit the Cemetery Office for, say, seven or fourteen days in order to become familiar with the system of registration and Cemetery administration. RESOLVED, That the facilities referred to be granted.

1185—Motor Tipper (Min. 1927/46)—The original price of the Lister 1-ton Auto-truck which had been ordered in November last was £258 16s. 6d., less 15%. The Borough Surveyor submitted a letter from Messrs. Lister & Co. Ltd. indicating it had been found necessary to increase the price to £269 1s. 6d., less 15%. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to accept the increased price.

1186--Recorded Music (Min. 638/47)—A sum of £250 was included in the estimates to cover the cost of a suitable sound reproduction equipment, and the Committee accordingly further considered the tenders received for the installation thereof. After consultation with the Borough Electrical Engineer, the Borough Surveyor recommended acceptance of the tender of Messrs. E.M.I. Services Ltd., of Hayes, amounting to £198 excluding the wiring, which was estimated to cost £46 2s. 6d. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. E.M.I. Services Ltd., amounting to £198 13s. 0d., be accepted subject to Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk being entered into, but that before placing the order enquiries be made as to whether a similar installation to that proposed can be inspected, in which case the Chairman be authorised to inspect same.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

## **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**23rd April, 1947.** Present—Councillors Bettridge (Chairman), Fildes and Morris.

1187—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

1188—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

1189—Unpaid Rates—A statement of unpaid rates for the half year ended 31st March was submitted and signed by members of the Committee.

1190—Irrecoverable Rates—The Rating and Valuation Officer submitted a statement of irrecoverable rates amounting to £3,269 3s. 4d., which was inspected and signed by members of the Committee, This amount was made up as follows:-

Voids—£1,900 9s. 2d. Reduced Assessment—£912 0s. 3d.

Legally Excused-- £145 19s. 3d. Otherwise Irrecoverable—£310 14s. 8d.

1191—Rating of Hospitals—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 47/1 from the Central Valuation Committee stating that all hospitals transferred to the Minister of Health under the National Health Service Act, 1946, would be regarded as Crown property, exempt from rates, Since voluntary hospitals in some cases had been assessed on a lower basis or only nominally assessed, it appeared that some authorities proposed to increase such assessments, in order that they might not adversely affect the Crown contribution in lieu of rates. It had therefore been decided that contributions would be made in lieu of rates in respect of property transferred which was in Crown occupation, such contributions to be based on values current in March, 1946, subject to physical changes, until the next quinquennial revaluation. Thereafter contributions would be based on values emerging from the next quinquennial valuation. It was hoped that authorities would meanwhile refrain from increasing present assessments of hospitals except for physical or structural alterations which may be made to the buildings.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

## **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**21st April, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Green; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

1192—Salvage Sub-Committee--The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 1st April (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1193—Vittoria Walk/Oriel Road Junction (Min. 1006)—The Ladies' College Council. who had surrendered without cost a portion of the land adjoining Farnley Lodge for improvement to this junction, had incurred legal costs amounting to £5. RESOLVED, That these costs be borne by the Council.

1194—Nos. 37, 38, 49 and 50 Queen Street—These properties required repair and the owners' Agents stated that their clients would consider a sale to the Council at the District Valuer's valuation. It was recalled that it had been decided to purchase Nos. 3 and 6 Queen Street for road improvement purposes and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the opportunity should also be taken of purchasing additional properties, although road improvements might not be undertaken for some time. The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted specification and estimate of the cost of

minimum repairs to make the premises habitable for approximately five years amounting to £40 for Nos. 37 and 38, and £65 for Nos. 49 and 50. RESOLVED That the Town Clerk negotiate for the purchase at the District Valuer's valuation, the intention being to repair the remises for temporary occupation until required for road improvement.

204

1195—Nos. 230, 231 and 232 High Street (Min. 653)—The Borough Surveyor reported that when making an inspection of Swindon Passage, he was informed by the owner of these old shops adjacent to the Passage, that he was willing to dispose of the same and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the properties be acquired for future widening of High Street. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate accordingly.

1196-11 Winchcomb Street—The tenant (Mr. R. Harris), for health reasons, had given six months' notice to terminate his tenancy on 25th December, and ask that the tenancy be transferred to Mr. F. Bedwell, the tenant of No. 10, who wished to extend his business of a radio and electrical engineer. Pending the expiration of the notice, Mr. Harris asked permission to sub-let the premises to Mr. Bedwell. RESOLVED, That Mr. Harris be released on 24th June, and that the premises be re-let to Mr. Bedwell on a monthly basis, at an exclusive rental of £1 per week, subject to Mr. Bedwell entering into the usual tenancy agreement.

1197-3 Albion Street (Youth Centre)—The Cheltenham Youth Committee stated that the exterior of these premises was in a dilapidated condition and asked for re-painting of the outside woodwork. The Borough Surveyor did not feel justified in issuing a licence for the work and suggested that the Youth Committee should carry out the painting themselves and take advantage of the relaxation of the licensing restriction available to occupiers, where no labour is employed. RESOLVED, That the Youth Committee be informed accordingly.

1198—Sites of Nos. 23 to 26 Dunalley Parade —Read memorial from 10 occupiers in this Parade complaining of the nuisance caused by children, and others, and asking for the site to be fenced. The Town Clerk stated that the Housing Committee had, some months ago, decided to acquire the site and negotiations were in progress. No doubt when the purchase was completed, the Housing Committee would take steps to remedy the nuisance. RESOLVED, That the memorialists be informed accordingly.

1199—Brunswick Street—Waste Land (Min. 653)--Read complaint in regard to the condition and nuisance of a site formerly occupied by air-raid shelters. Councillor Addis had also, by Min. 653, drawn attention to complaints regarding another site in this Street. It appeared three vacant sites were concerned, and the Committee felt that if these were acquired and some temporary fencing provided, the adjoining occupiers could, for the time being, be permitted to cultivate the same. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit a report upon the condition of the sites and the possibility of cultivation. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk commence negotiations for the purchase.

1200—Shurdington Road and Bath Road Junction—The Borough Surveyor reported that the static water tank in the front garden of the Norwood Arms had now been removed and the site restored. Messrs. Flowers & Sons, Ltd., had agreed to surrender a portion of this garden together with a strip 2 ft. 6 ins. along Shurdington Road which would improve the junction and permit footpath widening. The Post Office Telephones were also being approached to remove the kiosk to conform with the new alignment. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved and the Council's thanks and appreciation conveyed to Messrs. Flowers.

1201-16 Portland Street—Cellar—A portion of an old coal chute had collapsed and the owners had agreed to it being filled in and included in the footpath. The approximate cost of the work was £5. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor proceed accordingly.

1202—Bayshill Road—Parking Place for Private Cars- -The Town Clerk reported that a number of objections had been received to this proposed parking place. RESOLVED, That the same, including the observations of the Borough Surveyor and Police Superintendent, be referred to the Traffic Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

1203—Imperial Square—Parking Place, East Side and Conference Tours—The Traffic Sub-Committee had also recommended the provision of a parking place on the east side of Imperial Square adjacent to the Winter Garden. The Cheltenham Rural District Council objected thereto on the ground of inconvenience both to members of their Council and their officers, who would be unable to leave cars outside the Council's Offices. With regard to Conference Tours, the Black & White Motorways Ltd. protested at the suggestion that when Conference Tours wished to pick up at the Town Hall the prior approval of the Police Superintendent must be obtained. RESOLVED, That these matters be referred to the Traffic Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

1204—Traffic Signs—(a) Halt Signs—The County Surveyor stated that representations were being made to the Ministry of Transport by the various Automobile Associations for a national survey of halt signs, with a view to reducing the number by the removal of those considered redundant ; also for inexpensive improvements to be carried out to render certain of such signs unnecessary. This Council had always been reluctant to permit halt signs except where essential for safety reasons and the Committee expressed the view that none of the existing halt signs could be regarded as unnecessary. When the Borough Surveyor was in a position to bring forward schemes for improving the junctions concerned, further consideration would be given thereto. RESOLVED, That the County Surveyor be informed accordingly.

(b) School Signs—A considerable number of school warning signs were required in various parts of the Borough and the Borough Surveyor recommended their erection at 12 schools. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(c) Level Crossing Signs, Alstone Lane—No signs were provided at this crossing and the Borough Surveyor recommended that two be erected in appropriate positions. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1205—Rodney Road Car Park—The Finance Committee had recently considered the financial position of this park upon which the annual loan charges amounted to £307. Since de-requisitioning, the receipts had fallen below expenditure and the park showed a loss. The Borough Treasurer suggested that in view of the limited day-time demands attendants should only be on duty in the evening when parking fees might be increased. Alternatively, the Finance Committee asked for consideration to be given to leasing the Park at an economic rent. The Borough Surveyor pointed out the difficulties which must arise if no attendants were provided as cars would be parked without any regard to order, and motorists would find themselves unable to extricate their vehicles. He felt it was essential for the maintenance of good order that attendants should be on duty at all times. Another point to consider was that when the new Traffic Orders became operative the demand for parking facilities would, no doubt, increase.

For many reasons the Committee were opposed to leasing the park and, in any event, they considered it doubtful if a sufficient rental could be obtained to cover expenditure. They, therefore, reviewed the present parking fees and felt that compared with the fees charged in other towns the charges of 6d. for four hours between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. and 1s. for periods over four hours, including periods after 11 p.m., were too low and should be increased; also that the season ticket charge of 15s 0d. be abandoned.

An additional source of income might be the use of the large covered shed which was now cleared, the small shed being let to the National Fire Service at £50 per annum,. RESOLVED,

(a) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to amend the Bye-laws dated 7th 1936, so far as they relate to Rodney Road Car Park to provide:-

(i) that the parking fee be 1s. 0d. for each period of 4 hours.

(ii) That the annual season ticket charge of 15s. 0d. be deleted.

(iii) That the Bye-laws include provision for a maximum of 24 season tickets to be issued at a charge of £5 per annum for parking in the covered shed.

(b) That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps to this end.

(c) That the Finance Committee be informed that it is necessary for full-time attendants to be employed.

(d) That pending the amendment of the Bye-laws, the attendants be instructed more rigidly to enforce the present charges, namely 6d. for a period of 4 hours, to be increased to 1s. 0d. for periods in excess thereof and 1s. 0d. for parking after 11 p.m.

(e) That the Parks Committee be asked to consider alternative accommodation for their vehicles and that a similar request be made to the Town Improvement Committee in respect of the mobile canteen, or, alternatively, an appropriate payment be made for the facilities provided.

1206—Classified Roads—Annual Estimates 1947/48—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the County Surveyor stating that grants from the Ministry of Transport would be so restricted as to necessitate reducing the county estimates for repair of classified roads by approximately 50%. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that this Council's original estimate totalled £19,000 and was at a level which included only most essential work which could be undertaken during the year with labour available. He had very carefully considered the proposed reduction and could only recommend the deletion of the following items, totalling £4,886, which, however, did not reach the 50% reduction required :—

1. A.435—Evesham Road and Portland Street—re-surfacing with Anglophalte—£2,389.

2. A.4019—High Street, Devonshire Street to Lower Park Street—relaying kerb and channel, etc.—£270. Tewkesbury Road L.M.S. entrance to Malvern Street, North side—relaying kerb and channel, etc. —£439.

3. B.4076—Sandford Mill Road—surface footpath with tarmacadam—£218. Sandford Mill Road, west side—surface footpath with tarmacadam—£85.

4. Class III roads—Oriel Road—surface carriageway with Anglophalte—£583.

5. B.4070—Tarspraying—Leckhampton Road—£902.

The Committee concurred therein and felt that the County Council must have regard to the important nature of the Borough roads and the extent to which they were used as compared with those in rural areas. Further, that the Borough's contribution to the County rate was approximately one-quarter and for this reason, coupled with the importance of the Borough roads as compared with rural roads, some concessions should be given to Cheltenham. RESOLVED, That the County Council be informed accordingly and that first it be stressed that no reduction should be made ; failing this the deletions recommended by the Borough Surveyor are the maximum which the Council can agree to exclude from their original estimates.

1207—Lay-byes and Draw-ins—A communication had been received from the Divisional Road Engineer with regard to the construction of lay-byes and draw-ins for which, in approved cases, the Ministry of Transport were prepared to make a grant of 75%. Lay-byes were areas adjacent to carriageways into which waiting vehicles could drive to avoid causing congestion. They were provided generally at points of interest and well-known view points; also near business premises which attract vehicles in number, and presumably would include transport cafe - Draw-ins were intended more for public service vehicles and the proposals would apply to the draw-in which the Council had agreed to construct at Pike House for the Cheltenham District Traction Co. and where the Company had agreed to erect a shelter. As this scheme was in the nature of a major improvement, the Borough Surveyor proposed to apply for a grant towards the cost. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1208—Omnibus Shelters (Min. 1018)—The Committee were anxious for the Cheltenham District Traction Co. to provide shelters at Swindon Road and Pike House, as agreed. The Company had received the shelters and were proceeding with the erection in Swindon Road. With regard to Pike House, this work was delayed pending the provision of a draw-in as mentioned in the preceding minute. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor endeavour to obtain approval as soon as possible to the Pike House junction improvement.

1209—Promenade—Telephone Kiosks (Min. 1016)—The Borough Surveyor had discussed with representatives of the Post Office Telephones, the suggestion that the additional kiosks required be placed in the curves of the ornamental gardens near to the Post Office entrance, and the Post Office were agreeable thereto. This position would accommodate two or four kiosks which would be a valuable addition to the present facilities. Upon giving the matter further consideration the Committee were of opinion that their original suggestion for a third kiosk to be added to each of the existing double kiosks was preferable. RESOLVED, That the Post Office Authorities be informed accordingly and that the plan submitted by them be approved.

1210—Posters-7(a) Cheltenham Spa Open Music Competitive Festival, 10th to 18th May—Application was made for permission to exhibit, as from 2nd May, posters advertising this Festival in positions in the Promenade near the Post Office and near the National Savings Centre ; Montpellier Gardens, and Imperial Gardens main entrances. The Town Clerk reported upon the provisions of the Advertisement Regulations and the observations of the Borough Surveyor and Entertainments Manager were considered. RESOLVED That permission be given for suitable posters to be displayed in the 2 positions in the Promenade for a period not exceeding 2 weeks, subject to the same complying with the requirements of the Borough Surveyor that no posters be permitted at either Imperial Gardens or Montpellier Gardens, but with regard to the former the Entertainments Sub-Committee be asked to consider the possibility of permitting suitable advertisements to be displayed in the advertising frame outside Town Hall.



(b) Three Choirs Festival, September—The Festival Committee asked for permission for poster boards at the Town Hall and Montpellier Gardens. RESOLVED, That the application be not acceded to but that permission be given for two suitable posters to be displayed in the Promenade in similar positions to those mentioned in the preceding Minute for a period of not exceeding 2 weeks, subject to compliance with the requirements of the Borough Surveyor. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Entertainments Sub-Committee consider the possibility of permitting a poster to be displayed in the advertising frame outside the Town Hall.

1211—Victory Club—Projecting Sign—The Sign—The Victory Club applied for permission to erect a sign at Nelson House, Trafalgar Street, and submitted sketch plan which complied with the usual conditions. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1212—Streamer—Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club—The Club applied for the usual permission to suspend a streamer across the Colonnade on the occasion of their Galas. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for a period not exceeding 2 days for each gala, subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

1213—Road Safety—(a) Circular 611—Read, this circular from the Ministry of Transport stating that the Minister proposed to make grants from the Road Fund of 50% of approved expenditure incurred by Local Authorities on road safety activities during the financial year 1947/48, and indicating the types of expenditure recognised for grant.

In the Minister's view the existence of local road safety organisations was an essential preliminary to the organisation and conduct of local campaigns and he looked to the Council to submit a scheme and to assume responsibility for expenditure involved.

The National Road Safety Propaganda Campaign would continue until March, 1948, and the Minister hoped that local authorities would conduct activities on an extensive scale. The Borough Surveyor stated that the Council's estimate already forwarded to the Minister was in conformity with the circular. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be noted.

(b) Road Safety Organiser—The Organiser (Mr. H. F. Scott) had resigned and applications had been invited to fill the vacancy.

(c) Car Allowance—The Road Safety Committee recommended that £68 be paid to Mr. Scott in respect of the use of his 8 h.p. car during the time he was engaged as Road Safety Organiser. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Committee be recommended to pay Mr. Scott a mileage allowance based on the approved scale (Min. 289/46).

(d) Publicity—The Road Safety Committee also recommended the erection of a poster frame in the Promenade for the display of propaganda. The position suggested was near the fountain and the frame would be similar to the existing frame containing meteorological reports. The estimated cost amounted to £11. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved, in principle, subject to the Planning Committee raising no objection thereto.

1214—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which included resurfacing the carriageway of College Road ; kerbing, channelling and footpath resurfacing in various parts of the Borough ; carriageways repaired and reinstated ; new surface water drain under crossing Gloucester Road near Arle Court ; repairs of blocked gulleys ; provision of entrance crossings ; concrete bedding of River Chelt ; connections to sewers painting of street name plates ; trees felled, planted and pruned ; and other works. 1606 tons 10 cwts. of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1706 tons for the month of March.

1215—Lansdown Road—Surface Water Drain (Min. 661)—Good progress had been made with this work within the minimum inconvenience to traffic, Approximately 60% of the drain had been completed.

1216—Folly Lane—Wyman's Brook Culvert and Additional Land (Min. 840)—The Borough Surveyor reported that upon preparing detailed estimates for culverting at the tip he found that the cost of culverting through the Council's land and the additional area to be acquired would amount to £4,194. The work on the land now owned by the Council amounted to £3,654 and not £3,500 as previously stated, but as endeavours were being made to acquire adjacent land he recommended that the whole scheme be included in the loan application. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for loan sanction for the increased sum and also for the cost of the acquisition of the adjacent land at the District Valuer's valuation and that Min. 840 be varied accordingly.

1217—Annual Tenders, 1947/48—(a) Price increases—The British Quarrying Co. and the Cromhall Quarries had intimated price increases in road materials of 1s per ton as from 1st April. The Tytherington Stone Co., Ltd., had also notified that four of their quotations for tar macadam would be reduced by 4d. but that the 1s increase referred to above for road materials would apply. RESOLVED, That the price adjustments be noted.

(b) Chippings for Tar Spraying—The British Quarrying co., whose quotation for chippings had been accepted, stated that, as a result of the closing of their quarries during the severe weather, they were behind in deliveries and doubted their ability to supply more than 750 tons for the forthcoming tar spraying programme. The Borough Surveyor, therefore, sought authority to obtain additional supplies from one or more of the firms who had submitted tenders. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That he be authorised to experiment with " granophast " surfacing and report thereon.

1218—Highways' Employees—Annual •Outing-The Highways Employees' Social Club, which included employees of the Water Undertaking, asked permission to hold their annual outing to Weymouth on Saturday, 21st June. The Committee had in mind that the General Purposes Committee would including them at their next meeting certain matters normally dealt with by the Labour Sub-Committee Including a recommendation from the Western District J.I.C. that holidays be increased to 12 working days in addition to the 6 public holidays. The Committee had every wish to accede to the request but they considered that the employees should regard the outing either as part of their normal holiday or as leave of absence without pay. RESOLVED, That the Genera: Purposes Committee he recommended accordingly,

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

207

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**22nd April, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Ward and Waite ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge Biggs, Readings and Thompson.

1219—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee--The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on the 2nd April, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1220—Association of British Market Authorities—Annual Meeting—RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor Bettridge and the Chief Sanitary Inspector be appointed representatives to attend this meeting at Clacton-on-Sea on the 19th and 20th May, 1947.

1221—Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee (Min. 1033)—The Ministry of Food had approved the nomination of Councillor Miss Carter to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Councillor Grimwade. RESOLVED, That Councillor Miss Carter be appointed to the Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee for the current year.

1222—Vacancies on Committees and Other Bodies—The Committee considered the filling of the vacancies caused by the deaths of Mr. Alderman P. P. Taylor and Mr. Councillor H. C. Grimwade. RESOLVED, (i) That, with the following exceptions, the matter be deferred pending the election of the new members ; (ii) That Mr. Councillor Strickland be appointed this Council's representative on the Western District Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services (Employers' Side) and the South Western Provincial Council for Local Authorities Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Services, and also a member of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, Establishment Sub-Committee and the Labour Sub-Committee ; (iii) That Mr. Councillor Tucker-Brown be appointed a representative on the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee and the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board Committee for the current year.

1223—Street Lighting (Min. 306)—The Committee considered the report of the Electricity Committee on the suggestion that public lighting duties be transferred to this Committee. The Electricity Committee recommended that the public lighting account should be separated from the accounts of the electricity undertaking and transferred to the General Rate Fund, but that no alteration should be made in the duties of the respective Committees. The Committee considered all the implications involved and RESOLVED, that the Council transfer the functions in regard to public lighting from the Electricity Committee and that the Council be asked to agree to the Street and Highway Committee assuming responsibility for these duties, the Electricity Committee until further notice advising the Street and Highway Committee in this connection when required. ALSO RESOLVED, That Min. 306 (Electricity Committee) be varied accordingly.

1224—Education Act, 1944—Delegation of Educational Functions (Min. 393/46)—The Council in December, 1945, in pursuance of the powers contained in the Scheme of Divisional Administration, delegated the powers and duties in connection with the educational functions of the Borough to the Cheltenham Committee for Education subject to certain exceptions, such delegation to be reviewed in April, 1947. RESOLVED, That such delegation be continued until April, 1948, and the matter be then reconsidered.

1225—Cleeve Common—A letter was submitted from the Gloucestershire Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, which had been addressed to the Deputy Mayor, referring to a proposal of the War Office to utilise approximately 470 acres of land at Cleeve Common, formerly held under Defence Regulation 52 but now released, as a proposed infantry training area.

A similar letter had been addressed to the Chairman, Cleeve Common Conservators. The Town Clerk reported he had received an enquiry from the Association of Municipal Corporations whether any training areas were proposed in this area, and whether the local authority had been consulted. RESOLVED, (i) That the Town Clerk be instructed to submit to the appropriate Government Departments the strongest possible representations against the proposals to utilise Cleeve Common as a training ground, which would have a serious and detrimental effect, and would destroy the amenities of the district and the Cotswolds, (ii) That the fullest support be given to the Council for

the Preservation of Rural England and the Cleeve Common Conservators in their objections to the proposals. (iii) That the Town Clerk express to the Government Departments concerned and the County Council the Council's great dissatisfaction and serious concern that such an important proposal was considered and formulated without this authority as the planning authority, being first notified and given an opportunity of submitting their observations. (iv) That the attention of the Association of Municipal Corporations and the Borough Member of Parliament be called to the proposals and the procedure adopted.

1226-109 Old Bath Road—The Town Clerk reported that discussions had taken place with the owner and her solicitor in regard to the future use of 109 Old Bath Road, formerly the Aged Persons' Hostel. It was understood that the owner would be prepared to dispose of the property at a figure to be approved by the District Valuer: The property was convertible into two or three flats and there was still a number of Corporation officers urgently requiring accommodation, some of whom might be satisfactorily housed at these premises. RESOLVED, (i) That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of the property and that in the event of an agreement being reached in accordance with the above terms, the Council be recommended to purchase the property for the purpose mentioned. (ii) that subject to satisfactory terms being agreed, application be made, to the Ministry of Health for sanction to the borrowing of the purchase money and costs, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to the conveyance, mortgage, order and form of receipt.

208

1227--Establishment Sub-Committee--As there was no meeting of the Establishment Sub-Committee during April, the following matters were dealt with by this Committee :—

(i) Town Clerk's Department—The Town Clerk reported that in future the Home Office required the register of electors and jurors lists to be compiled on the pre-war basis and that the present part-time female registration clerk would be unable to cope with the additional work involved. He recommended that his establishment be amended to provide for a whole-time assistant registration clerk (male or female) in accordance with the General Division, instead of a female clerk. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(ii) Planning Department—Planning Officer's Salary—RESOLVED That the Committee concur in the recommendation of the Planning Committee in regard to the payment of an increased salary to the Planning Officer (see Min. 1139, Planning Committee).

(iii) Borough Treasurer's Department—(a) Reported, Mr. E. C. Beadle, Lewisham, had been appointed Valuation Assistant (Min. 707) and took up his duties on the 10th March, 1947.

(b) Machine Operator—RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in a recommendation of the Finance Committee that in view of the pending resignation of a machine operator on the permanent establishment and the difficulty in obtaining such officers within the Council's grading, Miss B. Shepherd be appointed in a temporary capacity at a salary of £2 10s. 0d. per week until a vacancy occurred on the establishment.

(iv) Public Health Department--Reported Mr. G. A. Lee, Purley, had been appointed Chief Clerk in the Medical Officer of Health's Section, and Mr. W. H. J. Meekings, Dudley, Clerical Assistant in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department.

1228—Labour Sub-Committee- -- It was not possible to hold a meeting of this Sub-Committee during April and the following matters were dealt with by this Committee. (a) National Standard Rates of

Wages—The National Council had considered difficulties in fixing basic rates of wages of the 15 Provincial Councils throughout the country, and in order to exercise an appropriate measure of control decided as follows :

(i) to fix consolidated standard rates of wages to include all additions since 3rd September, 1939.

(ii) to establish 2 wage zones, A and B.

(iii) to fix consolidated standard wage rates for general labourers

Zone A, 94s per week (2s per hour). Zone B, 91s per week (1s 11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d per hour).

(iv) That each Provincial Council allocate the local authorities within its area to the appropriate Zone.

(v) to apply to general labourers the rates above, as from the pay day in the week commencing 7th April, and adjust the existing all-in rates of all other Grades from the same date.

(vi) the rates for female employees to be 75% of the male rates. RESOLVED, That the position be noted and the recommendations adopted as from the appropriate date.

(b) Re-zoning--In February last the Council requested the Western District J.I.C. to re-zone Cheltenham from B to A, the excess rate of 1d. per hour now received by certain casual employees to be merged and the existing anomalous position adjusted, to which they had agreed. RESOLVED, That the decision be noted and adopted as from the appropriate date.

(c) Holidays—The J.I.C. had approved a recommendation of the National Joint Council that after 12 months' continuous service employees' annual holidays be 12 working days, with pay, in addition to the six public holidays, and asked that effect be given to this in 1947. RESOLVED, That the decision be adopted.

(d) Town Hall Staff—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers had asked :

(i) for all full-time male employees to receive a guaranteed week of 47 hours to be completed in six days, the half day, in view of the exceptional circumstances, to be mutually arranged.

(ii) That all full-time male employees be up-graded from A to B.

(iii) that Sundays be paid at the appropriate J.I.C. rate of double time.

The Entertainments Sub-Committee had considered the institution of a 3-shift system and also a 2-shift system, and had discussed the suggestions with the employees, who were not agreeable to either suggestion as they would suffer a considerable reduction in wages.

Upon further consideration, the Entertainments Sub-Committee recommended that employees be re-graded from A to B and classed as Male Cleaners (Public Buildings) increase 86s to 88s 6d per week, plus 8s in respect of consolidation and re-zoning ; the 44 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours now worked to be increased to 47 hours with J.I.C. over-time rates for Sundays and Bank Holidays. The Union had stated verbally that no objection would be raised to the Council re-engaging their employees for night duty upon terms and conditions to be mutually arranged. The Town Clerk advised that this arrangement should be recorded in writing. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Entertainments Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(e) Carbon Black Waste--The Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent reported upon the difficulties experienced in transporting carbon black waste required for use as substitute fuel. This product was particularly dirty to handle and could not be removed from clothing or shoes.

RESOLVED, That without prejudice to the present rate of 1d. per hour " dirt money," employees handling carbon black waste be paid an additional 2d. per hour when engaged on this work. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor endeavour to provide all employees so engaged with protective clothing, subject to surrender of necessary coupons.

(f) Propagators—(i) Parks Department, Foreman/Propagator—The Parks Committee had recommended that the foreman/propagator's wages be increased from £5 3s. 6d. to £5 15s. 0d. per week. The Foreman/Propagator is not included in the J.I.C. classifications. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(ii) Cemetery--The Cemetery Committee had suggested that the appointment of Head Gardener Propagator be deferred but that in the meantime a member of the staff be appointed gardener/propagator at the wage of £4 13s. 6d. (J.I.C. scale), The Town Clerk stated that the effect of re-zoning and consolidation of wages (8s) would be additional to the rate mentioned. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved,

209

(g) Decisions of J.I.C.—The J.I.C. recommended that it be understood that the operative date of their future decisions be the commencement of the pay week following the date of the meeting of the District Council at which the decision was made, except in cases where a special operative ate was fix. The Committee viewed this decision with some concern as it gave no opportunity to local authorities to consider or make representations thereon. RESOLVED, That the Council's representative upon the bring forward this point of view at the next meeting of that body.

(h) Highways Employees' Annual Outing—The highways and waterworks employees had asked permission to hold their annual outing on Saturday, 21st June. The Streets and Highways Committee had referred the matter to this Committee for consideration and recommended that the employees regard it either as part of their annual holiday or as leave of absence without pay. RESOLVED, That the suggestion of the Street and Highway Committee be approved and adopted.  
H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**24th April, 1937.** Present--The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Morris and Strickland.

1229—The Knole—Read, letter from the Gardens Superintendent asking if the Parks Department might continue to have the use of the kitchen garden at this house as a nursery ground in return for which attention would be given to the lawns during the summer. He also asked for the use of the various stables, garages and outhouses which would provide useful storage facilities in connection with work to be carried out at the King George V Playing Field.

RESOLVED, That the use of the kitchen garden be granted and the temporary use of the stables, garage and outhouses it being the intention of the Committee in due course to consider whether it is possible to convert some of the outbuildings into living accommodation.

1230—Furnished Houses (Rent Control Act) 1946—The Town Clerk reported that the Urban District of Stroud had been included in the area served by the local Rent Tribunal as from the 19th April.

1231—Control of Civil Building—Referring to the Committee's decision to support the application of Messrs. Western Estates Ltd., for permission to apply the increased selling price of £1,300 to the remaining 30 houses on this estate, the Town Clerk now submitted letter from the Ministry intimating that no increase in the maximum of £1,200 could be allowed since the licences were issued prior to the 25th February, 1947, and work had actually commenced. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Western Estates be informed accordingly.

1232—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—Read, letter from the Ministry of Health that the Ministry would raise no objection to the acceptance by the Council of the following revised tenders, namely :—

|                                    |           |     |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------------|
| Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons Ltd. | 12 houses | ... | £14,683 7s. 1d. |
| Messrs. Collins & Godfrey          | 8 houses  | ... | £9,717 11s. 4d. |
| Mr. E. L. Squire ...               | 2 houses  | ... | £2,347 10s. 0d. |

The Minister also approved the houses for payment of exchequer contributions under Sections 1 and 2 of the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946. RESOLVED, (a) That the above mentioned tenders be accepted and that the Common Seal be affixed to Contracts to be prepared by the Town Clerk (b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £26,748 for the cost of the houses. (c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £26,748 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

1233—St. Mark's Community Association—The Committee had agreed some time ago to supply certain Government equipment to the Association including 50 yards of blackout material at 2s 6d. per yard. In view of the fact that the demand for this material had now ceased the Association thought the price was excessive and offered 1s 6d. per yard. RESOLVED, That this offer be accepted.

1234—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on 28th March and 11th April were submitted. The following matters, inter alia, were dealt with :— (i) 18 applicants were interviewed and 9 applications considered. (ii) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversion of requisitioned and various other properties :—

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 36 Lansdown Crescent    | Commenced 9th April, 1947.                               |
| 3 Sydenham Villas Road  | Commenced 4th April, 1947. Estimated completion 2 weeks. |
| Oldfield Court          | Work in hand. Estimated completion 4 weeks               |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas  | Commenced 8th April, 1947. Estimated completion 6 weeks. |
| Clayton House ...       | Commenced 8th April, 1947.                               |
| 13 Lansdown Crescent    | Tenders received 24th April, 1947.                       |
| 16 Great Norwood Street | Completed.   |
| Lauriston ... ..        | Completed.   |
| Northfield House.       | In course of preparation.                                |

(iii) Various applications from tenants for rent rebates were dealt with.

(iv) Increase in rates—RESOLVED, That the increase in rates on requisitioned property be passed on to the tenants, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary notices. RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

210

1235—Requisitioning Sub-Committee--A report of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 3rd April was submitted.

(i) Two properties had been requisitioned but were subsequently released.

(ii) Park Grange—The Sub-Committee had considered further nominations from Messrs. Denton Ltd. for tenants of the flats at this house and approved certain of the nominations. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1236—Housing—Use of Steel recovered from Shelters—Read, Circular 71/47 from the Ministry of Health stating that steel components of A.R.P. shelters could now be used for housing work and permitting the local authorities who were responsible for collection of shelter material to retain such steel components as would be required immediately for housing purposes.

The circular urged that full use should be made of these facilities in order to save timber and new steel which was now in extremely short supply.

Particulars of prices of the various components were given in relevant Civil Defence circulars and it was suggested that any materials which were retained should be provided as prime cost items at these prices. It was requested that local authorities should supply information at an early date as to the amount of materials to be retained in order that full use might be made of the remainder.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he had had stock taken of the components in store at the depot and found that the material consisted chiefly of steel tees and angle irons which the Ministry suggested could be used for lintols and fencing posts. He pointed out that this would merely entail the replacing of concrete as timber was not now used for this purpose, and he suggested that such components as were required for general use by the Department should be retained and the surplus sold. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be approved and adopted.

1237—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) B.I.S.F. Houses—Read, letter of the 21st April from the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives complaining that the Contractor had engaged a sub-contractor for the plumbing work who provided labour only, the standard of whose work they did not consider satisfactory.

The Federation asked that steps should be taken to prevent a recurrence of this practice of engaging sub-contractors who did not provide their own materials.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he too had been dissatisfied with this work and that the Contractors had been required to cease employing this man which they had done on the 14th April, RESOLVED, That the Federation be informed accordingly. RESOLVED, also, That the Borough Surveyor notify the Contractors that the Committee are only prepared to consider giving consent to the employment of sub-contractors who carry out the whole job and provide materials and the Committee cannot approve of sub-contracting on the basis of labour only.

(b) Rents—The Borough Treasurer reported that approximate rents had been worked out for the B.I.S.F. houses with the following results :—



|                      |                     |               |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Maximum Rent.        | Standard Rent.      | Minimum Rent. |
| £1 11s. 8d. per week | £1 3s. 2d per week. | 17s per week. |

The Borough Treasurer suggested that with regard to the minimum rent the same scale should be applied to these houses as was applied to traditional houses. This would mean that the minimum rent would be 9s per week. RESOLVED, That the proposed maximum and standard rents for these houses be approved. RESOLVED, also, That with regard to the minimum rents the same scale be applied to these houses as to normal traditional type houses.

1238—Temporary Houses—The Knole—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported that the measured work carried, out up to 19th April amounted to 040, the time lost due to bad weather being approximately 20 per cent. Road works and foundation slabs were proceeding.

The Ministry of Works had acceded to the Council's application for a reduction of 15 per cent. in the rates of pay to be charged for P.O.W. labour. The Town Clerk submitted letter dated 24th April from the Ministry of Health agreeing to the Council's proposal that the slabbing and other works within the house curtilages should be carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, subject to the conditions set out in the letter, all of which conditions had been agreed between the Ministry's Technical Officers and the Borough Surveyor.

(b) Land, Orchard Terrace—The Town Clerk reported that the Gardens Superintendent was of the opinion that the claims submitted for compensation in connection with the allotments on this land, the tenants of whom had been given notice, were reasonable, The Gardens Superintendent also recommended that the year's rent paid by the tenants of the other allotments in respect of which claims had not been made should be remitted. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to pay the amounts claimed and make a refund of the year's rent to the other allotment holders.

1239—Hales Close—A small amount of work was still to be done for completing the road works on this estate and the Borough Surveyor now submitted a tender from Mr. R. Towell for completing the work, the cost of which, based on the prices submitted, should not exceed £194 17s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. R. Towell for the remainder of the road work on this site be accepted and that the Common Seal be affixed to contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

1240—Requisitioned property—(a) 13 Montpellier Grove—The Borough Surveyor reported that a certain amount of re-decoration was necessary to this basement which had been requisitioned in addition to which it would be necessary to separate the gas and electric services. Messrs. Stallard & Co. had submitted a quotation of £7 3s. 8d. for the electrical Work and the Gas Company one of £7 1s. 7d. Two tenders were now received for they wort, of redecoration, RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. H. G. Ballinger amounting to £44 0s. 0d., being the lowest be accepted. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the work of separating the gas and electric services be put in hand at the prices quoted by Messrs Stallard & Co., and the Cheltenham District Gas Co.

211

(b) Canobie, Montpellier Parade--The Borough Surveyor reported complaint as to the electrical wiring in this house He had, therefore, asked Messrs. Stallard & Co., to examine and test the wiring and they now reported that it was found to be old and overloaded and in a bad state generally, in addition to which the flats were not on separate meter: The Borough Surveyor therefore recommended that the house should be re-wired with the flats separately metered-. Messrs. Stallard & Co., had submitted a quotation of £86 9s. 5d. for this work. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Stallard's. quotation be accepted subject to the consent of Ministry of Health.

(c) Glencairn, Lansdown Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that the owner of the house adjoining Glencairn complained that the brick wall between the two houses had collapsed and fallen on her garden. The wall had been inspected and the remaining portion was found to be in a bad state of repair. It had been ascertained that the wall belonged to Glencairn and two tenders were now submitted for its re-building.

The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that while the collapse of this portion of the wall had been brought about by recent gales this had only hastened what would inevitably have happened due to its bad state. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. amounting to £59, being the lowest, be accepted. RESOLVED, also, That the Town Clerk be instructed to ascertain whether such damage is covered by any insurance policy held by the owner, failing which, application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the work being carried out.

1241-12 Lypiatt Terrace—The Borough Surveyor submitted a letter from the owner of 11 Lypiatt Terrace pointing out that the owners of 10, 11, 12 and 13 were responsible for the upkeep of the open lawn in front of the house. A man had been engaged at 6s per week to keep the lawn in good order, and it was desired to know whether the Council would pay the amount of 1s 6d. per week in respect of No. 12 requisitioned by the Council. RESOLVED, That this amount be paid.

1242--Final Accounts—(i) Arle House—The retention money of £49 16s. 1d., held in respect of the contract for the conversion of this house was now due and as the work had been satisfactorily carried out and maintained, the Borough Surveyor proposed to issue final certificate for payment. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(ii) Hales Road—Temporary Housing Site—The Borough Surveyor reported that retention money of £108 3s. 6d on the contract for construction of roads and sewers was now due and he proposed to issue final certificate for payment. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**24th April, 1947.** Present—Councillor Gardner (Chairman) ; Alderman Green; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Brown and Carter. Mesdames Bony, Grist, Hopkins and Wood.

1243—Health Visitors—(a) The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors :—  
Quarter 31st March, 1947.

1243—Health Visitors—(a) The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors :—

|  | Quarter 31st March, 1947. |
|--|---------------------------|
| No. of Children on Register  | 4,480                     |
| Un-notified Live Births discovered (when checked with Registrar's Returns) | 13                        |
| Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under                   | 2,441                     |
| (b) over 1 year ... ..   | 2,616                     |
| First Visits paid by Health Visitors... ..                                 | 373                       |
| Ante-natal cases visited by Health Visitors (a) New ... ..                 | 220                       |
| (b) Return   | 28                        |
| Special visits to Mothers ... ..   | 234                       |
| Chicken Pox cases visited by Health Visitors ... ..                        | 51                        |
| (34 Nazareth House)  |                           |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Measles cases visited by Health Visitors ... ..        | 3   |
| German Measles cases visited by Health Visitors ...    | —   |
| Whooping Cough cases visited by Health Visitors ...    | 85  |
| Mumps cases visited by Health Visitors ... ..          | 3   |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited by Health Visitors | 1   |
| Scarlet Fever cases visited by Health Visitors         | —   |
| Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres ...          | 131 |
| Cases reported to the N.S.P.C.C. ...                   | 2   |

|   |                     |                |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| (b) Children's Act.                               | Health Visitors.    | School Nurses. |
| No. of Children on Register at end of Quarter ... | 75                  | 11             |
|   | (44 Nazareth House) |                |
| “ Foster Mothers on Register at end of Quarter... | 18                  | 10             |
| “ visits paid (under Children's Act) ...          | 36                  | 12             |
|   | (2 Nazareth House)  |                |

1244—Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—(a) Quarterly Report—Read, Report for the quarter ended 31st March, 1947.

The attendance at the Centres had been as follows :—

|                               | Infants. | Toddlers. |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| At Highbury (12 Meetings)     | 524      | 177       |
| At Bethesda (13 Meetings)     | 319      | 141       |
| At St. Mark's (13 Meetings)   | 556      | 164       |
| At Baker Street (13 Meetings) | 337      | 138       |
| Whaddon (13 Meetings)         | 429      | 222       |

212

(b) Annual Report—The Committee considered the Report of the Association for the year ended 31st December, 1946. During the fuel crisis at the beginning of 1947, many difficulties were encountered, and the Toddlers Clinic had to be cancelled for eight weeks. The Association recorded their appreciation of the way in which the voluntary helpers had continued to give assistance during this time. Three members had namely, Mr. E. W. Garland, Mrs. Gurney and Miss Pratt, Mr. Garland had held the post of Hon. Treasurer for eleven years ; the Association were very appreciative of all he had done, and he would be very difficult to replace. Mrs. Gurney had been one of the pioneers in Maternity and Child Welfare work in the town, and one of the first members of the Committee, while Miss Pratt had been a most valued member of the Committee since 1930. Mr. Harvey had resigned the post of Medical Officer at the Whaddon Centre, and Dr. Bruce Wallace, who acted for him during his absence on war service, had been appointed his successor. Dr. G. B. Matthews had been appointed in place of Sir Eric Stuart Taylor at the Baker Street Centre. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr E. W. Garland, Mrs. Gurney and Miss Pratt, this Committee's appreciation and thanks for the excellent services rendered by them.

1245—Midwives Acts—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period 1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947, was £105 1s. 6d., of which £45 11s. 6d. was chargeable to patients.

(b) Pathological and X-Ray Examinations—RESOLVED, That the account of £22 3s. 0d. submitted in respect of these examinations during the period April, 1946 to March, 1947, he paid.

1246—Sunnyside Maternity Home—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances of a special case of a mother who was in hospital for 86 days. The original assessment was £8 15s. 0d., for the fortnight, and 12s 6d per day for any extra days, the full fees amounting to £53 0s. 0d. The Husband had subsequently asked for a reduction, as his earnings had been reduced, and the Medical Officer of Health recommended the fees be reduced to £26 17s. 6d. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(b) The Medical Officer reported on the circumstances of another special case where the Mother was in hospital for 54 days. The original assessment was £8 15s. 0d. for the fortnight, plus 12s 6d a day for extra days. The full fees amounted to £33 15s 0d., and the husband had asked for a reduction, as he was finding it difficult to pay this amount, and the Medical Officer of Health recommended the fees be reduced to £27 5s. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(c) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances of a case where the mother was in Hospital for 52 days. The original assessment was 2s. 6d for the fortnight, plus 8s 9d. per day for any extra clays, and the full account amounted to £22 15s. 0d. A deposit of £3 10s. 0d. was paid on the booking, and a further £5 had since been paid, leaving £14 5s 0d. due. RESOLVED, That the sum of £10 be accepted in settlement, of the amount due, payment thereof to be made at the rate of £1 a month,

1247—Children's Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the name of Mrs. M. Williams of 2S Trafalgar Street, as a foster mother for registration, and recommended she be allowed to take one child. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1248—Puerperal Pyrexia Cases—The Medical Officer of Health submitted account for treatment of one case by a special nurse provided by the Victoria Home amounting to £1 15s 0d. RESOLVED, That this account be passed for payment.

1249—Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases—The Medical Officer of Health submitted account for treatment of one case by a special nurse provided by the Victoria Home amounting to £1 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

1250—Cleft Palate and Hare Lip—(Min. 617/47)—The Medical Officer of Health reported he had communicated with the City General Hospital, Gloucester, regarding the fees payable in this case, and had heard from them in reply that £4 12s. 9d. per week was the actual cost per patient. The child in question was in hospital from 14th October to 9th November, 1946, and re-admitted on the 3rd January until the beginning of February It was expected the total residence in Hospital would be approximately 9 weeks, and it was anticipated that a further operation would be required in 12 months' time. RESOLVED, That the Council accept responsibility for the cost of the treatment.

1251—Dentistry—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted a report on the work carried out by the School Dentist during the quarter ended 31st March, 1947.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the circumstances where a necessitous mother had been provided with dentures at a cost of £4 4s. 0d. It was possible that the Charity Organisation would be willing to pay half this amount. RESOLVED, That the council pay half the account, but in the event of the Charity Organisation being unwilling to pay the other half, then the Council undertake payment of the whole account.

1252—School Dentist—Fee for treatment of mothers. The school dentist had been holding evening sessions of 2 ½ to 3 hours, instead of one hour as originally arranged. The fee originally agreed was £1 10s. 0d. for each session, plus 5s for the Assistant. RESOLVED, that subject to the approval of the Education Committee, the fee be increased to £2 2s. 0d. for each evening session, and 7s 6d for the Assistant.

1253—Orthopaedic Scheme—RESOLVED, That the account for provision of special splints in six cases amounting to £8 7s 0d. be passed for payment.

1254—Adoptions—The Medical Officer of Health reported the Committee was represented at the Cheltenham Police Court in connection with 23 cases, of which 18 were Borough cases.

1255—Health Visitors—(a) RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to purchase scales for use in carrying out "test feeds."

(b) The Committee considered a request for a qualified nurse at Bethesda Welfare Centre once weekly at a cost of 10s per week to relieve Miss Powell, Health Visitor, who owing to the increased birth rate and her large district, found it difficult to carry out her ordinary duties. The Infant Welfare Association required the attendance of two Health Visitors at each Welfare Centre, but had agreed in the circumstances, to a qualified nurse replacing Miss Powell. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

213

1256—District Nursing Association---(a) RESOLVED, That Councillor 1<sup>l</sup>. Gardner be appointed representative of the Council on the Executive Committee of the Cheltenham & District Nursing Association in place of Mr. W. Garland, resigned.

(b) The Town Clerk submitted Report of the Sub-Committee of their meeting with representatives of the District Nursing Association On the 13th March, 1947, when they discussed the Association's claim for additional grant on account of the Domiciliary Midwifery Service. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting, and that in the meantime the Town Clerk endeavour to obtain the views of the Ministry of Health on the proposal to increase the grant to the Association.

1257—National Association of Maternity & Child Welfare Centres—RESOLVED, That Councillor Miss F. L. Carter and Mrs. E. E. Hopkins be appointed representatives of this Committee to attend the Annual Conference of this Association to be held in London on the 25th/27th June.

1258—Medical Practitioners—The Town Clerk submitted joint Circular from the County Councils Association, the Association of Municipal Corporations, the Urban & Rural District Councils Association and other local authority organisations enclosing scales of remuneration for part-time Medical Practitioners which they recommended for adoption by local authorities. The scales provided for the remuneration of Consultants, Specialists, General Practitioners and Refractionists on a sessional basis, and also for payment on a case basis for Consultants and Specialists, Medical Practitioners and other medical services. The Medical Officer of Health reported that the scales showed a general increase over the fees at present paid by this Committee for Specialists, Consultants and Doctors. RESOLVED, That the scales recommended be adopted.

1259—Public Assistance Institution—Maternity Ward—(Min. 849/47). The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had communicated with the County Public Assistance Officer asking that consideration be given to re-opening the Maternity Ward at the Institution in order to relieve the congestion at Sunnyside Maternity Home. The County Public Assistance Officer had informed him

the matter had received the careful consideration of his Committee, but they were hampered through the lack of trained staff. An appeal was now being made for part-time midwives and as soon as adequate staff was recruited, every effort would be made to re-open this ward.

1260—Curtis Report—The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had written to the Home Office to ascertain whether the Cheltenham Girls' Orphanage, Cheltenham Boys' Home and the Society of Hope Girls' Home in Hales Road had been registered with the Secretary of State in accordance with Section 93 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933. He now submitted letter from the Home Office that the Homes were registered and subject to Home Office inspection. The Town Clerk also reported interview which he had had with Mrs. Cuffe, one of the Inspectors of the Children's Branch of the Home Office. RESOLVED, That as it is understood there are children under nine years of age at all three homes, the Medical Officer of Health be instructed to arrange for the regular inspection of these Homes, and for reports to be made to the Committee thereon.

1261—Home Helps Service—(a) The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health that the Minister approved generally the arrangements made by the Council under Section 204 (1) of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the provision of the service of Home Helps.

(b) Salaries of Home Helps—Attention was drawn to the fact that the County Council were now offering more favourable rates of pay for whole-time and part-time Home Helps. In the case of the part-time Home Helps the amount offered by the County was 2s per hour, and a retaining fee was also being paid, compared with 1s 6d. an hour paid by the Council. The Organiser strongly recommended some increase in pay should be granted to the part-time Home Helps, and in appropriate cases it was desirable that a small retaining fee be paid. RESOLVED, That the rate of pay for part-time Home-Helps be increased from 1s 6d. to 1s 8d. per hour, and that in appropriate cases a retaining fee of 10s a week be paid to part-time Home Helps.

1262—Maternity Fees—(Min. 849/47). As reported at the last meeting, the charges made to the Council for hospital treatment for maternity cases had very largely increased, and as instructed, the Medical Officer of Health submitted his proposals for increasing the charges made to patients. The Committee also considered the charges made for the attendance of midwives or maternity nurses by domiciliary midwives attached to the Victoria Nursing Home RESOLVED, That the following revised income scale and charges be approved, namely :—

| Net Income per week<br>after deductions. |                | Fees.          |          |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Over.                                    | Not Exceeding. | Per Fortnight. | Per Day. |
| £ s. d.                                  | £ s. d.        | £ s. d.        | £ s. d.  |
| —  | 5 0            | 2 12 6         | 3 9      |
| 5 0                                      | 15 0           | 3 10 0         | 5 0      |
| 15 0                                     | 1 5 0          | 4 7 6          | 6 3      |
| 1 5 0                                    | 1 15 0         | 5 5 0          | 7 6      |
| 1 15 0                                   | 2 5 0          | 6 2 6          | 8 9      |
| 2 5 0                                    | 2 15 0         | 7 0 0          | 10 0     |
| 2 15 0                                   | 3 5 0          | 7 17 6         | 11 3     |
| 3 5 0                                    | 3 15 0         | 8 15 0         | 12 6     |
| 3 15 0                                   | 4 5 0          | 9 12 6         | 13 9     |
| 4 5 0                                    | 4 15 0         | 10 10 0        | 15 0     |
| 4 15 0                                   | 5 5 0          | 11 7 6         | 16 3     |
| 5 5 0                                    | 5 15 0         | 12 5 0         | 17 6     |

|        |        |         |       |
|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| 5 15 0 | 6 5 0  | 13 2 6  | 18 9  |
| 6 5 0  | 7 15 0 | 14 0 0  | 1 0 0 |
| 7 15 0 | —      | 14 17 6 | 1 1 3 |

214

(B) Domiciliary Cases—Attendance of Midwife or Maternity Nurse,  
Net Income per week  
after deductions.

| Over.  |       | Not Exceeding. |       | Midwife. |       | Fees per Case. |       | Maternity Nurse. |       |
|--------|-------|----------------|-------|----------|-------|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| £      | s. d. | £              | s. d. | £        | s. d. | £              | s. d. | £                | s. d. |
| —      |       | 2 5 0          |       | 1 0 0    |       |                |       | 17 6             |       |
| 2 5 0  |       | 2 15 0         |       | 1 10 0   |       |                |       | 1 5 0            |       |
| 2 15 0 |       | 3 5 0          |       | 2 0 0    |       |                |       | 1 15 0           |       |
| 3 5 0  |       | 3 15 0         |       | 2 10 0   |       |                |       | 2 5 0            |       |
| 3 15 0 |       | —              |       | 3 0 0    |       |                |       | 2 15 0           |       |

Deductions to be made from gross income to arrive at net income figures for purpose of application of above Scales :—

- (1) The rent paid.
- (2) For each child under 16 (excluding new baby) 10s per week.
- (3) Where husband living at home, 15s per week.
- (4) Where no Maternity Benefit receivable, 1 per week.
- (5) Children's Family Allowance not to be regarded as income

1263—Nurseries Sub-Committee—Read, Reports of the Sub-Committee at their meetings held on 16th January, 27th February and 20th March.

The usual high attendance at the Day Nurseries and Thirlestaine Residential Nursery had been maintained.

Considerable difficulties were still being experienced in obtaining staff for the Day Nurseries, and the Sub-Committee had made representations to the Ministry of Health urging expedition of the promised revision of salary scales.

The Sub-Committee had endeavoured to obtain part-time helpers with a view to easing the staffing difficulties, and recommended the following payments be made for part-time help :—

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Ordinary housewife with no Nursery experience       | 1s 6d. an hour. |
| Women with experience of work with children         | 1s 9d. “        |
| Women with any recognised appropriate qualification | 2s “            |

Owing to shortage of staff, it had been necessary to close Swindon Road Nursery for a few weeks prior to Easter and to transfer the staff to Whaddon and Clarence Square Nurseries in order to keep these open. All three Day Nurseries were now open again.

New linoleum and curtain material had now been obtained for the Nurseries, and an order placed with Messrs. Kingfisher Ltd. for 30 chairs for Clarence Square and Whaddon Nurseries respectively, and 12 chairs for Thirlestaine Court Nursery. RESOLVED, That the Reports of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**25th April, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman); Aldermen Ward and Waste ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, and Mann.

1264—General Rate--Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £188,867 ; amount outstanding £5,774, representing £1,535 arrears, the balance being in respect of allowances, voids and irrecoverable items.

1265—Water Rate--Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, on the collection of the water rate for the half-year ending 31st March, 1947. Amount collected £18,438 ; amount outstanding £355, representing £222 arrears, the balance being in respect of voids and irrecoverable sums.

1266—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £26,817 had been collected since the last meeting, Accounts outstanding were £259 for re-chargeable works carried out and £370 for electricity supplied

1267-Oldfield Court—(Min. 2094/46 and 447/47), RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £5,198 for the purchase and conversion of Oldfield Court into flats, for which loan sanction was obtained from the Ministry of Health on the 17th March, 1947, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order, and form of receipt.,

1268—Variation of Rates of Interest—(Min. 1069) Circular 68/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted forwarding Regulation made under Section 5 of the Water Act, 1945, reducing the rate of interest payable by the local authority to owners of premises, on monies required to be deposited in respect of water supplies from 4% to 2 ½ %.

1269—Capital Issues Control—Letter, dated 29th March, 1947, was submitted from H.M. Treasury consenting tinder Regulation 6 of the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1939, to the renewal, replacement or other amendment of mortgages without application for specific consent for the period expiring 31st March, 1948. This arrangement, which extended the previous authority, was a temporary one, pending the issue of a comprehensive revised circular which, it was anticipated, would be forwarded in the next few months.

1270—Planning Officer—Salary—RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation of the Committee (Min 1139) in regard to the proposed salary of the Planning Officer.

215

1271—Insurances—Corporation properties—(i) The Committee reviewed the insurances of the following premises, which appeared to be insufficiently covered. RESOLVED, That the cover in respect of the properties be increased as mentioned below :—

| Property                              | Insurance cover |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Town Hall ...                         | £100,000        |
| Municipal Offices                     | £60,000         |
| Spa Baths and Civic Playhouse         | £20,000         |
| Rotunda                               | £6,000          |
| Pittville Pump Room                   | £20,000         |
| Alstone Baths (including School bath) | £25,000         |
| Sandford Pool                         | £17,000         |



(ii) Civic Regalia—RESOLVED, That the Committee, being of opinion that the "cover" for the civic regalia was insufficient, that the values be re-assessed and the insurance increased accordingly.

1272—Borough Treasurer's Department—Machinery—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to purchase a new National accounting machine at an estimated cost of £110 to replace a machine purchased in 1933, and that the cost be charged to the machinery account for which financial provision has been made.

1273—Capital Works-Finance--The Borough Treasurer reported on the difficulty of financing capital works out of working balances, and called attention to the large financial commitments at present being undertaken by the Council, and those contemplated, particularly in regard to housing. The difficulty of meeting such payments out of balances would become more acute unless sanctions to loan based more realistically on estimated expenditure were obtained in advance. RESOLVED, That the appropriate Committees be asked when formulating their schemes, to take the necessary steps to ensure that sufficient financial provision would be available to meet the expenditure without the necessity of applying working balances to the works.

1274—Superannuation—(i) The following refunds of contributions had been made:—

Mrs. A. W. Halford (Entertainments Department) £10 14s. 1d.

Miss L. D. Clayton (Day Nurseries) £16 12s. 7d.

Mr. F. A. Ide (Borough Surveyor's Department)... £14 3s. 4d.

(ii) Transfer value amounting to £32 17s. 11d. had been received from Cambridge in respect of Mr. G. E. Johnson, Entertainments Department.

(iii) 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, a superannuation allowance was payable to Mr. T. Lucassi, Entertainments Department, who retired on 29th March, amounting to £35 7s. 3d. per annum, based on 5 years 5 months contributory service, and 10 years 9 months non-contributory service.

(iv) Chad Guidance Clinic—The Child Guidance Clinic was formerly operated under a Joint Committee, composed of members of the Education Committees of the Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucester City Council, and this Council. The officers, three in number, had contributed to this Council's superannuation scheme, although no admission agreement under the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, had been entered into. These officers should now contribute to the County Council fund as their duties were now attributed as to two-thirds to the County Council and as to one-third to the Gloucester City Council. The Borough and County Treasurers had discussed the matter and tentatively agreed that the officers should be transferred to the County fund upon payment by this Council to the County Council of the whole of the employees' contributions, plus interest, the Council's equivalent contributions, equal annual charges, and any transfer values received by this Council, less any refunds of contributions which had been made. The total payment would be approximately £938. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the transfer of the officers to the County Superannuation Scheme and to the payment of the sum mentioned above.

1275—Corporation 1956 Stock—The Borough Treasurer reported that stock amounting to £1,000 had been transferred from Sir N. W. Fisher and others, to Sir C. J. Gregg and others. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Stock Certificate No. 154.

1276—Fire Insurance—The Committee have had under consideration the Council's existing arrangements for insurance, together with a report on the method in operation by a large local authority in this area. Hitherto the practice has been to obtain quotations for each property or block of properties and to place insurance with various individual companies, the largest insurers being the County Fire Office Ltd. In view of the limit placed on insurance of Council houses (Min. 703), namely £500 per house, difficulty had been experienced in securing cover. It was suggested that this Council might follow the arrangements of the local authority mentioned above, whereby the insurance business of the Council was scheduled and portions allocated to certain tariff companies at the Council's discretion. The largest holding company would become the "leading company" under the system and would be responsible for carrying out the transactions as between the Council and the insurers comprised in the scheme. This method, it was understood, had been of considerable assistance to the local authority mentioned but only referred to fire insurance, although the Council could explore the possibility of other business being treated in a similar manner if they so desired. The Borough Treasurer recommended that should the Council favour such a proposal, the insurance be limited to fire insurance; that the County Fire Office Ltd. should be appointed the "leading company" and that the schedule of insurance and this arrangement if approved, should be reviewed and modified, if necessary, both in regard to the companies comprised in the scheme and the proportions of business allocated to each company at quinquennial periods. Also that for the first quinquennial period, interest in the schedule should be limited to those companies having fire insurance business with this Council, in, as far as possible, the approximate proportion of the business which they now have with Council and that all new insurance should be undertaken by the "leading company," on its own behalf, re-allocation in accordance with these proposals being made if necessary in respect of the next quinquennial period. RESOLVED, That the above proposals be approved and that the Borough Treasurer take the necessary steps to give effect thereto, the position being reviewed at the expiration of five years from the commencement of the arrangement.

1277—Corporation Employees—(Min 1228 (a) and (b)). The Borough Treasurer reported that the financial effect upon the rates of the decision of the National

Joint Council to increase the wages of employees, together with arrangement reached for the consolidation of wages and bonus, and the granting of this Council's application for re-zoning from Zone B to Zone A was expected to be approximately £4,500 per annum, after allowances had been made for grants

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

216

#### **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 May, 1947. Present :**

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fildes, Fisher, Gardner, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Capt. Trye, Councillors J. Bendall, Lt.-Col. Biggs and Mann.

1278—Minutes of Previous Meeting--RESOLVED, That 11, the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 9th April, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1279—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 :--

Allotments ... April 14

Parks and Recreation Grounds April 14

(Subject to the resolution to Min. 1092 (Sports Area) being amended to read as follows " RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk make application to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan for the carrying out of the complete scheme excluding for the time being, the erection of the necessary pavilion, and that application be made to the Public Works Loan Board to the borrowing of the sum of £11,310, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and Form of Receipt, ALSO RESOLVED, That in the event of the Ministry of Health not being prepared to approve the whole scheme being carried out at the present time, they be urged to issue loan sanction for the construction of the 9 tennis courts, one bowling green and one nine-hole approach golf course.")

(An amendment moved by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Readings, "That the second resolution to Min. 1105 (Land lying between Lansdown Road, Douro Road and Lansdown Crescent) be referred back for further consideration and report " was lost).

Electricity and Lighting April 15

Water April 15

Planning April 10 & 11

Public Health April 14

Housing April 15 & 24

Town Improvement and Spa April 18

(An amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Yeend " That Min. 1173 (Boxing Tournaments) be not approved " was lost),

Cemetery and Crematorium April 18

Rating April 23

Street and Highway April 21

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Alderman Lipson "That Min. 121S (Highways. Employees—Annual Outing) be referred back for further consideration and report" was lost).

General Purposes and Watch April 22

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Councillor Compton " That the resolution to Min. 1228 (g) (Decisions of J.I.C.) be not approved " was lost).

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Councillor Compton " That Min. 1128 (e) (Carbon Black Waste) be referred to the Labour Sub-Committee for further consideration and report" was lost),

(A further amendment moved by Councillor Addis, seconded by Councillor Compton " That Min. 118 (h) (Highways Employees—Annual Outing) be not approved, and that the application of the employees to be granted Saturday morning, 21st June, for their annual outing be granted " was lost).

Min. 1225 (Cleeve Common)—The Town Clerk read letter from the War Office in regard to the representations made upon the proposal to use 470 acres of Cleeve Common, stating that if approved, the area would only be used very infrequently and mainly on weekdays. There would be no detrimental effect upon the amenities of the area, as no fire or live ammunition would be used, nor would tanks or heavy tracked vehicles be used, and public access would not be restricted. The matter has yet to be considered by the inter-departmental Committee who will have before them a report from the Regional Office of the Town and Country Planning embodying all local objections, and the report would receive further consideration before a decision was reached. Alderman Lipson also reported upon an interview with the War Minister, following receipt from the Town Clerk of the Council's objections. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue the matter.

217

Maternity and Child Welfare ... April 24

(Subject to the deletion of Section 13 in Min. 1262, relating to maternity fees, which was withdrawn by the Chairman with the consent of the Council, for further consideration and report),

(Subject also to Min. No 1261 (b) being amended to provide for the payment of part-time Home Helps being related to Home Helps paid by the hour, the details to be approved by the Mayor and Vice-Chairman).

RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Mayor and Vice-Chairman be authorised to deal with the application for registration of No: 27 Mead Road, as a Nursing Home, subject to the approval of the PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Finance April 25

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.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**9th May, 1947**, Present—Councillors Bayliss (Chairman), F. Bendall, and Messrs. F. S. Bond and C. R. Mapp.

1280—Curator's Report for March and April, 1947.

Visitors—During March and April 6931 (March and April last year 6699). Daily average 139 (last year 134).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, etc., £5 2s. 3d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c £17 6s. 7d.

Annual Attendance and Report for the year ended 31st March, 1947. Number of visitors had reached 41,272. A brief Report giving Donors' names and a list of activities would be published as usual.

Chelsea Porcelain—Dr. F. Severne Mackenna of Droitwich had kindly lent 68 specimens of Chelsea porcelain during the month of April. This had now been returned and he had placed on loan choice specimens of Bristol and Plymouth porcelain for the month of May, 1947.

Curator's Talks—From March to May, 1947, the Curator had given talks on subjects allied to the Institutions interests, to the Women's Auxiliary Y.M.C.A., and three Women's Institutes ; and also to twenty German prisoners at the Art Gallery and Museum on the night of 5th May.

South-Western Group of Museum and Art Galleries—As authorised, the Curator attended the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of this Group at Plymouth on the 18th April, and he gave a Report on the proceedings.

Exhibitions—A collection of photographs circulated by the Georgian Group, " Four Phases of Georgian Architecture," was on view in the Gallery from 8th till 22nd March, and was visited by 1786 persons.

The Blackwell Family Collection was on view from March 26th to April 24th, and was visited by 3485 persons. The First Exhibition of The Cheltenham Art Club commenced on 3rd May 1947, and was due to end on 17th May. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve the Curator's proposal that the Club should be asked to extend the exhibition until 2nd June, 1947.

1281—Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors :- Lady Valda Machell (two oil paintings by the late Lady Helena Gleichen) ; Ald. Capt. J. H. Trye, D.L., C.B.E., (Worcester porcelain dessert dish) ; Antique oak Dresser and examples of pottery and glass had been received as bequeathed by the late Capt. R. P. Gifts were also received from the Rev. E. Courtney Gardner, Miss R. M. Goulding, Mrs. Higgs Mrs. F. Lee, Mr. Wyndham Payne, Mrs. Rhys Price, Mr. J. Spreutels, and Miss F. Tomkins. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1282—Specimens purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved—

General A/c.—Leeds pottery Plate (al); Leeds pottery Dish (15s); Staffordshire Sugar Basin (7s 6d); Bow plate (£2); Davenport early-morning Tea-set (£3 10s 0d); Pottery bowl by Bernard Leach (£3 10s 0d); Black Wedgwood Jug and Bowl (£1); Whieldon ware Coffee Pot (£2 10s 0d).

" Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " A/c.—Bristol opaque glass Mug (£6 6s 0d); Saluting Cannon (£10) from the Ellenborough sale ; Three local mezzotints (11s 6d).

1283—Exhibitions—(a) Czechoslovak Modern Art offered by the British Council. RESOLVED, That the Committee accept this Exhibition from 10th to 31st Dec., 1947.

(b) Four Rugby Art Masters' Exhibition—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to negotiate for date for the display of this Exhibition.

1284—Distempering—RESOLVED, That the Entrance Hall, Top Landing and Armoury be distempered, and Roof Lights painted. £73 had been included in the estimates for this work.

1285—Museum Show Window (Min. 896)—The Committee further considered the suggestion and offer of Mr. J. C. Karn regarding the insertion of a Show Window near the Art Gallery entrance in which an " Exhibition of the Week " could be shown regularly. The Curator submitted letter from the Borough Surveyor in regard to this matter and also designs from the Cheltenham Shop Fitting Company. RESOLVED, That the Curator obtain an estimate from the Cheltenham Shop Fitting Company of the cost of providing this window and the amount of controlled materials which would be required, and that on obtaining the estimate, he discuss the matter further with Mr. Karn.  
E. K BAYLISS, Chairman.

218

Minutes of the meeting of the Art Gallery & museum Committee held on the 9th May 1947, which were not submitted to the meeting of the Council.

CHARLES M. GERE, R.A. The Bournemouth Art Gallery, to which Cheltenham had lent the Self-portrait by Charles M. Gere, now made application that this portrait be allowed to go on tour. RESOLVED, That in view of the protective one-man Exhibition of Mr. Gere's work in the Art Gallery, this could not be agreed to.

CHIPPING SODBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL. The Craft master of this school (Mr. P. Bivand) had asked for the loan of a Sheffield Plate Coffee Biggin for a short period. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

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Minutes of: the meeting of the Library Committee held on 9th May 1947, which were not submitted to the meeting of the Council.

LATE MR. COUNCILLOR H. C. GRIMWADE- The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Committee of the services rendered to it by Mr. Councillor Grimwade, and a vote of condolence with his widow and family was marked by the members standing.

TUBULAR NESTING CHAIRS. Resolved, That a further 40 Tubular Nesting Chairs be ordered from the Kingfisher Company, exactly as supplied before.

CARD CATALOGUE CABINET. RESOLVED, That an additional card cabinet be obtained, as before, at a cost of approximately £27, plus purchase tax £7 4s. 0d.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**Friday, 9th May, 1947.** Present—Councillors Compton (Chairman), Bayliss, S. Bendall and Brown; Rev. E. C. Hanson and Rev. B. Thomas; Messrs. S. J. Clarke, H. J. Norris and F. Vernall.

1286--Librarian's Report for March and April, 1947.

Issues—Ref. Dept. 13,366 ; Lending Dept. 70,134 ; Junior Dept. 10,392 ; Branch Libraries 3,286: School Libraries (Jan.—Mar.) 6,986 ; Loan Collections 800. Total 104,964 (March and April last year 110,233).

Receipts amounted to £154 0s. 7d.

Annual issue 1946/7 was 598,360, an increase of 16,521 over previous year's record issue of 581,839.

Annual Report—A brief Report, 1946-7 would be issued in due course. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Replacements and Binding-422 volumes have been replaced. 508 volumes have been dispatched to the binder and 248 returned.

Lectures—Nine lectures had been given in the Art Gallery during the period. the average attendance being 67.

Letters of thanks—Received from Miss G. E. Allen, Matlock Training College for Women, for kindness to lecturers and students visiting Cheltenham. From Mr. P. W. Bennett, City Librarian, Gloucester, for a gift of 12 volumes.

1287—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 764 volumes published at £372 14s. 6d. be purchased for £331 5s. 11d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding.

(c) That the sum of £100 be spent on replacements.

1288—Donations-201 volumes had been received from 27 donors.

1289—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That " Coal (Monthly, 2s 6d per annum) be purchased.

1290—Painting—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to proceed with painting doors and main entrance, and sundry internal woodwork, for which £42 had been included in the Estimates.

1291—Staff—(a) The Librarian reported that, as authorised he had appointed Mr. W. M. Martin, F.L.A., to fill vacancy as a Senior Assistant (Grade II A.P.T. Division) and that Mr. Martin commenced duty on the 30th April, 1947.

(b) The Librarian also reported the resignation of Mr. H. J. Wilce, who had been in charge of the Whaddon Branch. To this vacancy he had appointed Mrs. J. L. Davis. (c) He further reported that Mrs. E. Todd. hitherto temporary full-time assistant, was now engaged part-time only, RESOLVED, That these appointments be approved.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman.

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**12th May, 1947**, Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman), Aldermen Green and Smith ; Councillors Compton, Midwinter and Yeend; Messrs. Ball, Barlow and Roe.

1292—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 8th May (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the Report be approved.

1293—Temporary Allotments, Alstone Lane (Min. 1081)—The Town Clerk had urged the Territorial Association that any portions of this site not required for some time remain in cultivation. The Association were arranging for the temporary hutments to be placed at the rear of the site, adjoining Alstone Lane, leaving the remainder of the land to be occupied at a later date with the permanent buildings. This would enable two-thirds of the tenants to retain their plots for which the Association would charge no rent but reserved the right to dispossess tenants of any portion without prior notice and without payment of compensation for disturbance. The tenants had taken advantage of the offer and cultivation was proceeding. RESOLVED, That appreciation be expressed, to the Commanding Officer, Colonel Nightingale, for his co-operation and help in obtaining a satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

1294--Brighton Gardens, Arle Road (Min. 1082)—The Chairman and Gardens Superintendent had interviewed the owner and as only partial cultivation had been undertaken she was urged to sell the site to the Council for allotment purposes. The Town Clerk had subsequently received a letter stating that the remaining area would be insufficient for a living for her sons and the sale of the site would mean that the majority of fruit trees would be lost. In these circumstances she was not prepared to consider a sale and was now having the land cultivated. A further inspection prior to this meeting sheaved no extensive cultivation had yet been undertaken and the Chairman was of opinion that if the owner was able to obtain the fruit this season she Might consider a sale in the autumn. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk continue negotiations in an effort to acquire the site before next winter.

219

1295—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground Allotments—Four tenants adjacent to the access road from Hudson Street complained. of damage and thefts which they contended was due to the bad condition of the fence. The fencing was erected by the Butchers' Buying Committee to prevent cattle from straying. The Gardens Superintendent reported that the fence was now in bad condition as a quantity of wire and stays had been removed. The Borough Surveyor suggested that as the access road was not now required in connection with tipping operations a small inner gate be erected fitted with a lock arid that the tenants be supplied with keys. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor arrange accordingly.

1296—Wellington Square Allotments No. 13(b)—The Gardens Superintendent understood this tenant had now left the town and the rent due in March last had not been paid. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take steps to obtain possession and that the plot be re-let.

1297—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting 35 tenancies had been terminated and 63 allotments re-let. There were 20 vacant plots with 73 applicants on the waiting list but the difficulty in satisfying their requirements was due to the fact that land was not available in the area required.

1298—Cultivation—Following an inspection of all sites, a communication had been sent to 30 tenants drawing their attention to the bad condition of their plots and a further report would be submitted to the next meeting. The Gardens Superintendent stated that the majority, of tenants had made excellent progress and had taken full advantage of the recent spell of fine weather.



H. ADDIS, Chairman.

### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**8th May, 1947.** Present—Councillor Morris (Chairman); Councillor Bayliss ; Majors Beak Brown, Mitchell, and Shakspeare ; Mr. Clegg.

9th May, 1947. Present—Councillor Bayliss (Chairman); The Mayor ; Councillor J. Bendall.

1299—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                                 | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| 5628        | Mrs. Harris<br>Mrs. Ballinger        | Erection of two houses on bombed site, 204-206 Old Bath Road           | Disapproved                  | Disapproved   |
| 5937        | Belle Vue Hotel<br>(Cheltenham) Ltd. | Amended layout for derelict cottage, Belle Vue Cottage, Witcombe Place | Approved                     | Approved  |
| 6109        | F. R. Brown                          | Coal house and conservatory, 117 Tanners Road                          | Approved at last Meeting     | Approved  |
| 6113        | J. H. Basson                         | Rebuilding of sanitary wing, 44 Bath Road                              | As in Plan No. 6109          | Approved  |
| 6123        | P. Haddock                           | Garage, Western Lodge, West Drive                                      | Exempt                       | Approved  |
| 6124        | M. Middleton                         | Garage, 24,25 Sidney Street  | Exempt                       | Approved for private use only and not for business purposes for a period of 5 years from the date of consent as the site is in a proposed re-development area |
| 6125        | D. H. Ross                           | Cycle and tool shed, 55 Brooklyn Gardens                               | Exempt                       | Approved  |
| 6126        | J. H. Jenkins                        | Greenhouse, Hawthorne Cottage, Wards Road                              | Exempt                       | Approved  |
| 6127        | W. Jardine                           | Garage, All Saints Villas Road   | Exempt                       | Approved  |
| 6128        | Miss Eggleton                        | Bathroom and W.C. to   | Approved subject to          | Approved  |

ground floor,  
80, Gloucester Road

the sanitary arrange-  
ments being to  
satisfaction of the  
Chief Sanitary  
Inspector

220

| No. of Plan | Name                           | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 6129        | R. Carpenter                   | New kitchen,<br>30 Imperial Square   | Approved   | Approved  |
| 6130        | C. E. Leat                     | Alterations and<br>extensions,<br>165 Bath Road                                | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6128  | Approved  |
| 6131        | S. Spencer                     | Garage,<br>110 Gloucester Road   | Exempt   | Approved  |
| 6132        | Mrs. Irving                    | Extensions,<br>Irving Hotel,<br>Bath Road                                      | Approved subject to<br>the door opening<br>outwards on to a<br>landing not less than<br>3 ft, square | Approved subject to the<br>new work harmonising<br>with the existing<br>building  |
| 6133        | Cheltenham Original<br>Brewery | Alterations to sanitary<br>accommodation,<br>Fleece Hotel,<br>High Street      | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6128  | Approved  |
| 6134        | Eton Lodge<br>Hotel, Ltd.      | New boiler house and<br>lighting plant room,<br>Montpellier Lawn,<br>Bath Road | Approved subject to<br>Regulations under<br>the Petroleum<br>Consolidation Act,<br>1928              | Approved subject to no<br>fouling of the forecourt<br>or highway during the<br>filling of the oil tanks<br>and to all new work<br>above ground level<br>harmonising with the<br>existing building |
| 6135        | P. A. L. Hands                 | Garage,<br>4 Tennyson Road   | Exempt   | Approved  |
| 6136        | I. Field                       | Garden shed,<br>56 Hewlett Road  | Exempt   | Approved  |
| 6137        | G. R. Hamlin                   | Garage,<br>98 Priors Road  | Exempt   | Approved  |
| 6138        | G. R. Hamlin                   | Workshop,<br>98 Priors Road  | Deferred for detail<br>plans as required<br>under Minute 931 (f)                                     | Deferred  |
| 6139        | H. L. Whitaker                 | New W.C.,  | Approved as in   | Approved  |

|      |                                       |   |   |   |
|------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|      |                                       | The Old Manor,<br>Chester Walk                                    | Plan No. 6128   |   |
| 6140 | L. Stanbury                           | Re-erection of scullery,<br>41 Leighton Road                      | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6128   | Approved  |
| 6141 | N. J. Jenkins                         | Garden shed,<br>22 Brooklyn Gardens                               | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6142 | H. T. Allen                           | Conservatory,<br>Woodbines, Arle Village                          | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6143 | W. Turner                             | Coal shed,<br>Pembridge House,<br>The Park                        | Exempt  | Deferred  |
| 6144 | Belle Vue Hotel<br>(Cheltenham), Ltd. | Alterations and<br>extensions,<br>Belle Vue Hotel,<br>High Street | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6128 and to<br>detail plans, sections,<br>etc., of the proposed<br>work on the first floor<br>being submitted to<br>and approved by the<br>Committee | Approved  |
| 6145 | Worcester & Midland<br>Ice Co., Ltd.  | New cold store,<br>The Abattoir,<br>Gloucester Road               | Approved  | Approved subject to no<br>retail business being<br>conducted from the<br>distribution shops, and<br>to the approval of the<br>Public Health Committee<br>to the proposals |
| 6146 | Costelloe &<br>Kemple, Ltd.           | Temporary structures,<br>Southam Court,<br>Prestbury Road         | Approved  | Approved until<br>31st December, 1948   |
| 6147 | H. Knight                             | Glass lean-to,<br>16 Cleevemount Road                             | Disapproved   | Disapproved   |
| 6148 | H. Sutherland                         | Garage,<br>Inverness, Tryes Road                                  | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6149 | A. E. G. Reith                        | Garden and tool shed,<br>Bridgeburg, Arle Drive                   | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6150 | G. M. Barker                          | Greenhouse,<br>91 London Road                                     | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6151 | W. S. Addis                           | Garage,<br>16 Morley Terrace                                      | Approved subject to<br>the doors opening<br>inwards   | Approved  |

221

| No. of Plan | Name         | Description                        | Recommendation<br>under Byelaws | Recommendation<br>under Interim<br>Development Order |
|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 6152        | D. V. Davies | Alterations,<br>Ellenborough Hotel | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6128 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6132                      |

(annexe), Oriel Road

|      |                               |  |                              |  |
|------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6153 | Cavendish House Co., Ltd.     | Re-siting of restaurant and sanitary accommodation, Cavendish House, Promenade | Approved as in Plan No. 6128 | Approved as in Plan No. 6132   |
| 6154 | North Glos. Technical College | Alterations, The Woodlands, The Park   | Exempt                       | Approved subject to the windows being of the same type, design and materials as the existing windows and as in Plan No. 6132 |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name                | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---------------------|--|---|
| T.P.2281    | A. Greenhow         | Proposed additions to cottage, Gretton                       | Approved subject to additions being finished same colour as the existing building   |
| T. P.2282   | H. Gibb             | Alterations, Ivy House, Greet                                | Approved subject to all new windows being of the same type, design and materials as existing windows and to all new work harmonising with the existing building |
| T.P.2283    | J. Norton           | Proposed additions, Jim's Garage, Queen's Square, Winchcombe | Approved  |
| T.P.2284    | B. Callaghan        | Proposed shed, St. Mary's, Chapel Lane, Winchcombe           | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2285    | C. L. Ratcliffe     | Proposed garden shed, Southam                                | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2286    | Dr. Barnardo's Home | Proposed alterations and additions, Badgeworth Court         | Approved as in Plan No 2282   |
| T.P.2287    | G. Packer           | Garage, Pendennis, Post Office Lane, Cleeve Hill             | Approved  |
| T.P.2288    | Mrs. Stacey         | Conversion of house into two houses, Boddington Manor        | Approved subject to each house having sufficient land to conform to Planning requirements in the event of their coming under separate                           |

|          |            |  |                       |
|----------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| T.P.2289 | R. S. Ames | Proposed Nissen hut for use for industrial purposes,<br>New Barn Lane, Prestbury | ownership<br>Deferred |
|----------|------------|--|-----------------------|

1300—Development Plans—(a) Shurdington Road—Application was submitted from Mr. L. Ireland to erect a house fronting Shurdington Road. RESOLVED, That consent be granted subject to conditions prescribed by the Ministry of Transport under the Trunk Roads Act, 1936, and the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935, and to the Owners entering into an agreement that before further development took place in the area they would lay out and construct at their own expense a service road in accordance with planning requirements.

(b) Rosehill Street—Application was submitted from Mr. J. B. James to re-open the fried fish and chip shop at 3 Rosehill Street. The site was in a proposed re-development area and its use as a fish and chip shop would not comply with the proposed planning scheme. RESOLVED, That consent be granted to the proposed use for a period of three years from the date of consent subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, smell or fumes and to the frying installations being to the satisfaction of the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(c) Newlands Garage, Bishop's Cleeve—Application was submitted from Mr. B. Shaw Taylor to erect a large garage in the field immediately south of Newlands Garage. The site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes only and the proposal would be likely to affect the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(d) St. Anne's Terrace—Mr. H. Loud applied for permission to use land formerly the site of Zara Cottages, for storage purposes and a workshop. The area was very congested and the erection of a workshop would affect the amenities of the nearby cottages. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(e) Staverton—Mr. A. J. Nunn applied on behalf of a client for permission to erect a house on land fronting the main Cheltenham-Gloucester Road. The proposal would lead to sporadic and unsightly ribbon development and the site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes only. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(f) Casino Place, Andover Road—Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell, Ltd., made application for permission to use Casino Place as a builders' yard and to erect a garage and storage premises. RESOLVED, That in view of the narrowness of Andover Road consideration be deferred, and the matter referred to the Street and Highways Committee.

222

(g) Church Street, Charlton Kings—Mr. J. W. Peacey applied for permission to use a shed at the back of Woodbine Cottage, Church Street, for a cycle repair business. RESOLVED, That consent be granted.

(h) Chandos Street, Winchcombe—Mr. A. D. Power applied for consent to establish a motor-cycle repair business in Chandos Street, Winchcombe. This street was very narrow and the entrances to the main roads dangerous. The area was mainly residential. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(j) Andover Place—Mr. D. C. Bendall applied for permission to erect a temporary shed either near or beside the outer staircase at 4 Andover Place, The building would be in front of the building line and the appearance would be unsatisfactory and affect the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(k) Thirlestaine House—The County Architect applied on behalf of the Gloucestershire County Council to use Thirlestaine House for office accommodation. RESOLVED, That having regard to the fact that the policy adopted by the Council was that the premises, in view of their situation, architecture and suitability would be best in the hands of the Cheltenham College, and the assurance given by the College that the Council would be informed if their negotiations to purchase the premises failed, consideration be deferred and the Town Clerk obtain the views of the County Council and the Cheltenham College thereon.

1301-22 Evesham Road (Min. 377)--The Owner attended before the Committee and stated that the premises were not being used for business purposes, and that the garage had only been re-built to its original height. The Planning Officer reported that from inspection it appeared that the premises were not being used for business purposes. The Borough Surveyor also reported thereon. RESOLVED, That the explanation be accepted, and that no further action be taken.

1302—Town and Country Planning Summer School—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor and Planning Officer be authorised to attend the Summer School at Reading University from 16th to 23rd July, 1947.

1303—National Housing & Town Planning Council—The annual conference of Local Authorities in Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire and Dorset would be held in Bath on Thursday, 29th May, 1947. The Housing Committee had appointed the Borough Surveyor to attend leaving a vacancy for one delegate, RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer attend.

1304—Committee Representatives—Gloucestershire County Council appointed Major S. Mitchell and Major W. Shakspeare their representatives for the ensuing year, and Cheltenham R.D.C., Mrs. A. Atherton, Lady Victoria Forester, Messrs. W. Clegg and W. L. Sinton.

1305—Signs and Advertisements—The Planning Officer reported on signs within the Borough contravening the bye-laws. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk call the attention of owners to such contraventions and request the removal of the signs.

1306—Victoria Cabinet Works, Larput Place—Memorial was submitted from the residents in the vicinity of these works complaining of nuisance. The Planning Officer reported he had inspected the works and the firm were making arrangements which he considered would eliminate any nuisance. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at present, but that the matter be kept under observation.

1307--Proposed Garage, Belle Vue House Grounds (Min. 1967/46)—The Ministers of Town and Country Planning and Transport dismissed the appeal of Messrs. T. Bugbird and Son against the Council's refusal to consent to the proposal.

1308---Road Safety Publicity—The Committee considered proposal of the Street and Highway Committee that a Poster frame be erected in the Promenade near the existing frame containing meteorological reports. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised, provided the frame was of the same type and design as the existing frame.

1309—Land adjoining Full Moon Hotel, Highs Street—The Street and Highway Committee had considered the purchase of this land for use as a car park, but had decided its position was too remote from the centre of the town. The Committee were asked to consider the future development of the land. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for the present.

1310- 101 Promenade—Verandah—Application was submitted from the owner of 101 Promenade for permission to remove the verandah. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

1311--30 King Street—The Borough Surveyor reported that the kitchen and scullery of this property was in a condition dangerous to the occupiers. The attention of the owner had been called to this but no action had been taken. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to take action in pursuance of Section 58 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to render the property safe.

1312—Black and White Motorways, Ltd. (Min.811)---The Black & White Motorways, Ltd., had given a written undertaking that the emergency fire exit doors would not be used except in the case of emergency.

A. L. MORRIS, Chairman.

223

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**13th May, 1947**, Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Councillors Addis, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Morris, Strickland and Yeend.

1313-16 Milton Road—The Town Clerk submitted application from the Post Office Telephones for permission to place one pole in the garden of this house to provide telephone service for the tenant. RESOLVED, That permission be given, subject to the usual agreement and acknowledgment and to the position being agreed with the Borough Surveyor.

1314--Rent Rebate Scheme—Read letter from the Secretary of the Council Tenants' Association pointing out the unfortunate position of many of the tenants on the Council's housing estates caused by the increase in rents, to which had been added the extra burden of the recent increase in rates. In many cases the rent and rates resulted in advances of from 80% to 120%. They considered that the present increase in rents constituted a grave hardship in the case of those tenants whose incomes were below £5 per week and the Association most earnestly asked the Council to consider their contention that one-fifth of the gross income is far too high a proportion to take as rent from working class tenants during the present times of high taxation and cost of living and in the meantime they wished to register their protest in the matter. The Borough Treasurer reminded the Committee that it was proposed to review the whole of the rent rebate scheme when the last year's accounts had been prepared and he was now engaged in obtaining all the necessary data with a view to making a report to the Committee as soon as practicable. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed that the Council were unable at this stage to vary the rent rebate scheme but that they would have regard to their letter when a review of the scheme takes place and that in the meantime the Association be reminded that under the present scheme the Estates Management Sub-Committee have been given power to deal with any cases of special hardship that might arise.

1315—Whaddon Community Association--The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Chairman of the Association enclosing copy of the Constitution and Standing Orders and inviting representatives to attend a public meeting on 15th May. The Constitution was largely the same as that of St. Mark's Community Association. Several members of the Committee signified their intention of attending the public meeting. RESOLVED, That the Deputy Town Clerk also attend.

1316—Wimpey " No Fines Houses—The Town Clerk reported on an interview between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and representatives of George Wimpey Ltd. It was explained to Messrs. Wimpey that the Council were unable to enter into a contract for the 500 houses until the result of their application for confirmation of the Rowanfield Road and Hesters Way Compulsory Purchase Orders was known. Messrs. Wimpey had there-fore agreed to enter into a contract for 106 of the houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate and in the unlikely event of neither of the Compulsory Purchase Orders

being confirmed the reduction of £20 per house in respect of the 500 houses would be reduced to £3 per house for the 106 houses. Various other matters arising on the contract had also been discussed and Messrs. Wimpey had undertaken to bring their list of basic prices up to present day prices so that application might be made to the Ministry of Health for loan sanction for an amount approximating as nearly as possible to the cost of the houses when completed.

1317—Staff—The Housing Manager reported that Miss Harris, formerly a student, had resumed her duties after taking her examination and recommended that she be appointed temporary student-assistant on the temporary Officer's Scale Grade A, Class 2 at £220 p.a. plus 15%. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the matter be reviewed in three months time.

1318—Floor Coverings for Solid Ground Floors—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 79/47 from Ministry of Health with schedule of suitable floor coverings. Materials of higher prices were included with a view to possible future price reductions but it was requested that requirements should be staggered and alternatives specified where possible.

It was no longer considered necessary to restrict types of flooring to living rooms as recommended in Circular 201/46. Timber floors could be used if the necessary timber could be obtained by savings elsewhere with the maximum permitted quantity and small supplies of wood blocks might become available from off-cuts, second-hand timber, etc., without licence. The conditions to be inserted in building licences for new houses restricting use of timber on ground floors should be modified to preclude the use of timber joints only. Price figures quoted were for comparison only and were based on present estimated prices. Black pitch mastic should not be specified for floors until further notice, as steps were being taken to overcome the danger from fumes. Suspended timber ground floors and linoleum were included in the schedule for comparison only and should not be provided.

The Borough Surveyor reported that sufficient wood blocks were ensured for ground floors on Scheme 1, Lynworth Farm and -that he was making enquiries regarding a new type of floor covering for Scheme 2 upon which a report would be submitted at a later date.

1319—Erection of Houses by Small Builders.—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. G. W. Enoch had now agreed to reduce his tender for the erection of a block of four houses to the figure approved by the Ministry of Health and he now submitted amended tender amounting to £4,946 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this tender be accepted and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval thereto. RESOLVED, also That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £4,946 and to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for £4,946 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

(b) The Borough Surveyor also reported that three other firms of small builders had intimated to him that they wished to reconsider their tenders. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to supply them with necessary documents and that they be informed that provided they can reduce their tenders to the price approved by the Ministry, the Council would be prepared to make application to the Ministry for approval.

224

1320-B.I.S.F. Houses—(a) Read letter from the Ministry of Health stating that the national price for these houses was 96s 7 ½ d. per ft. super. As the only tender for a similar traditional house in the Borough approved within three months of the date to which this price of B.I.S.F. houses was related, was prior to the change in national wage rates, it was proposed to take the regional average tender



price per ft. super for traditional houses approved In February, 1946, which was 21s 3.2d., as representing the comparable tender price per ft. super for a traditional house.

The grant based on the difference between these two prices would be adjusted for special transport charges and wage rates in the area. The Ministry proposed to fix the grant payable upon this basis but if the excess cost worked out at less than £25 per house no grant would be made. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve of the capital grant being based on the figures quoted by the Ministry.

(b) Read circular from the Ministry of Health that a proportion of kitchen fittings for these houses would be made of wood in order that the completion of the houses should not be delayed pending production of steel fittings.

1321—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Progress-0) Scheme 1--Fifty-eight houses had been roofed in and tiled and the remaining four should reach this stage by the end of the month, Plastering was finished in 36 houses of which 22 had been handed over and present rate of completion was four houses per month which it was hoped would accelerate after this month.

(ii) Scheme 2—The Borough Surveyor expressed great concern at the very slow rate of progress on this scheme, considerable labour having left the site, particularly bricklayers. Between January and the end of April the value of work only increased by £446 while the value of materials in this period had increased by £3,063. Since the beginning of work on Lynworth Estate, labour difficulties had been encountered, the labour force never having reached adequate proportions. The number of bricklayers was maintained at 26 from December last until February, since when it had declined, especially since the abolition of the Essential Works Order, to the present figure of 12, four being employed on Scheme 1 and eight on Scheme 2.

The total number of men now employed on the two schemes was 90, of which 11 were apprentices, while the number of houses still to be completed was 112. While some men had left on their own accord, some had been put off by the Contractors and the position regarding bricklayers was now serious.

Most of the bricklaying on Scheme 1 had been completed, the remainder comprising internal block partitions, but on Scheme 2 apart from foundation work completed on 20 houses, the available bricklayers could only be employed on six houses at a time and so far the first six had reached first floor level. At this rate of progress it might well be that two to three years would elapse before the completion of the scheme. The Contractors had been approached but stated that the Ministry of Labour were unable to assist him in securing labour. It seemed, therefore, that the most likely method of accelerating the rate of progress was by sub-contracting.

The Town Clerk referred to Ministry of Health Circular 19/47 where it was strongly urged that every advantage should be taken of the practice of sub-contracting in all directions including bricklaying, plastering, plumbing, etc. The Ministry directed that the over-riding consideration should be that where there was a general shortage of skilled craftsmen the fullest possible use should be made of small firms as sub-contractors. The Town Clerk was of the opinion that full consideration should be given to the question of extending sub-contracting on this site and suggested that a Sub-Committee should be appointed to interview the Contractors. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors Addis and S. Bendall be appointed to meet the Contractors with a view to all possible steps being taken to increase the number of craftsmen and labourers.

(iii) "B.I.S.F. Houses"—Ten houses had been completed and eight more were scheduled for completion by the end of the month. It was hoped to maintain this rate of progress so that 50 houses would be completed by the end of September. The Electrical Sub-Contractor had supplied an additional wire-man and mate to ensure that the electrical work was kept ahead of the General Contractors' work.

(b) View Committee—The Town Clerk reported that the Committee met at Lynworth Farm Estate on the 29th April and inspected the B.I.S.F. and other houses in course of erection on the Estate. At this Meeting the Borough Surveyor submitted application from Messrs. Chivers Ltd. for consent to their importing plasterers under the terms of the contract as they had been unable to obtain sufficient plasterers locally. Subject to the Manager of the Local Employment Exchange informing the Borough Surveyor that no plasterers were registered as unemployed, the Committee had acceded to the application for a period of two months when the matter would be reviewed.

1322-22 Kipling Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the War Damage Commission confirming the amount for rebuilding this house at £1,066 13s. 6d., which represented the maximum sum which the Commission would pay based on prices ruling at 30th April and was subject to any variation in the cost of labour or materials since that date. The lowest tender submitted by Mr. E. L. Squire included £72 6s. 6d. for improvements, the cost of which would not be met by the Commission. Plans and documents had been sent to the Contractor, who had been urged to make an early start. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the plans and to the acceptance of Mr. Squire's tender and that the Ministry be informed that in due course application will be made for loan sanction for the cost of the erection of the house less the compensation payable by the War Damage Commission.

1323—Non-Traditional Houses—Letter and plans were submitted from Messrs. Gordon Payne and Partners regarding houses erected by Taylor Interlocking Block Co., of Cinderford. The houses were constructed with concrete blocks subsequently rendered on the outside and have a low pitched roof covered with copper sheet. The frontages are longer than those of the usual type. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until one of these houses has been erected and was available for inspection.

1324—Temporary Housing—The Knole—Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported that three sabs had been completed with brickwork and six without, while drainage had been completed on six. The excavation for roads was nearly completed, 75% of the underfed consolidated, and work on kerbing in progress. The Prime Cost of this work, allowing 15% rebate for P.O.W. Labour was £1,249 6s. 7d., and the measured work completed based on approved estimate amounted to £1,679.

225

1325—Wash Boilers—Read letter front Cheltenham District Gas Co. that wash boilers supplied by them to new houses would now be subject to Purchase Tax which had increased their cost by £1 19s. 0d. each. RESOLVED, That the increased cost be paid.

1326—Dunalley Parade, Temporary Housing Site—A complaint had been received from the owner of 137 Brunswick Street about damage to the wall between his property and this housing site. All the walls adjoining were party walls and an inspection revealed that certain lengths have collapsed and need re-building, the total estimated cost of repairing and rebuilding loving £88 15s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to approach the owners of the various walls with a view to the necessary work being carried out, the owners bearing half the cost.

1327—Priors Farm Temporary Housing Site The Borough Surveyor reported that on inspecting this site He had found that an unsightly shed had been erected in a garden and that several other gardens had been allowed to remain untended with the result that the general appearance was poor. With regard to the shed, the Housing Manager reported that it had been erected without permission for use as a fowlhouse and as the tenants were unwilling to dispose of the fowls she was arranging to transfer them to the Whaddon Estate where the keeping of fowls was permitted. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Housing Manager require the tenants of untended gardens to comply with the conditions of tenancy and keep their gardens in a clean and tidy condition.

1328—Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society, Ltd.—The Knole—Read letter of the 5th May from the Ministry of Health that the Minister was now in a position to issue his formal consent to the lease of this property on receipt of a formal resolution embodying the terms of the lease. RESOLVED, That a lease of The Knole be granted to the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society, Ltd., for a term of 14 Years, the Society to have the option to terminate at any time on six months' notice, the rent to be £150 per annum plus rates, the lease to be in a form to be prepared by the Town Clerk. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health to the granting of the lease on the above-mentioned terms to the above-named Society.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

13th May, 1947. Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Smith and Waite, Councillors S. Bendall, Carter, Midwinter, Readings and Thompson.

1329—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Readings be appointed Vice-Chairman for the remainder of the present year.

1330—Renewals Fund—The Borough Treasurer reported that for nearly twenty years it had been the policy of the Council to set apart a portion of the surplus revenue as a Renewals Fund and on the 31st March, 1946, this fund amounted to the sum of £13,490. He recommended that as from the 31st March last this fund should be merged with the surplus revenue account and no longer appropriated as a separate fund. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted, and that the Town Clerk inform the Electricity Commissioners of this resolution. -

1331—Association of Public Lighting Engineers—Read notice from the Association of Public Lighting Engineers that the annual meeting and Conference would be held at Southport from the 15th to the 19th September. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Borough Electrical Engineer and Public Lighting Engineer be authorised to attend.

1332—Oakley and Benhall Farms (Min. 498/47)—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Works agreeing to the proposal that electrical energy consumed at Oakley and Benhall Farms should be charged for at the provisional rate of 2d. per unit.

1333—Electricity- Bill—(a) The Town Clerk submitted circular letter from the Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association stating that consequent upon the Association's resolution to endeavour to secure certain amendments in the Electricity Bill it was proposed to ask that the present Clause 7 of the Bill should be replaced by an entirely new clause providing for the establishment of District Distribution Units and District Committees in lieu of the Consultative Council proposed in the Bill. The Association felt that local authorities should have a voice in the control of their own local distribution areas and that the elected representatives of the people were the proper vehicle

through which the Commissioners could express their opinion, so that this opinion might be presented to the Area Boards in an authoritative manner. Local Authorities were asked to solicit the interest of their Member of Parliament to ensure the fullest consideration being given to this amendment with a view to it being moved on the report stage. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to support the proposed amendment and that the Member of Parliament for the Borough be asked to take whatever action was possible in ensuring the fullest consideration of the amendment.

(b) On April 17th, the Minister of Fuel and Power had informed the Parliamentary Committee considering the Electricity Bill that he intended to allocate the sum of £5,000,000 as compensation to local authority electricity undertakings. In allocating this amount account would be taken of the loss of the contributions to the general municipal administrative expenses, income tax set off and the effect of the severance of the undertaking on the superannuation funds. No account would be taken of the loss of rate contributions in assessing this contribution.

226

1334—Consents to Loan—(i) (Consent had been received from the Electricity Commissioners to the borrowing of £9,940 in connection with the change of system of supply from single phase to 3 phase in the London Road area.

(ii) Consent had also been received from the Electricity Commissioners to the borrowing of £5,479 for work necessary to provide a 3 phase supply of electricity in place of the existing single phase system in Lansdown, and St. Mark's area.

1335—Electrical Industries Benevolent Association—Subscription—Application had been received from the E.I.B.A. for payment of the annual subscription. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the practice of making an annual subscription of £5 5s. 0d. should be continued. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1336—Bath and West Show—(a) The Ministry of Food proposed to arrange a series of cookery demonstrations using a demonstration van equipped for using Calor Gas. The Borough Electrical Engineer had approached the Ministry suggesting that an electric cooker should be used but had been informed that no authority had been given to incur the service charge. He therefore recommended that the service charge should be waived and the necessary cooker provided free of charge. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

(b) Thirty-eight applications had been received for supply of electricity at this Show, but the net effect would still be that the Council would incur a cost of approximately £200 in connection with the provision of the service.

1337—Purchase Tax—(a) The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the budget proposals included reimposition of purchase tax at 66.2/3% on electric and gas fires, cookers and water heaters in order to reduce home sales, raise additional revenue and restrict the use of these appliances with a view to fuel economy. The Electrical Development Association had considered the matter and were making strenuous efforts to relieve cookers and water heaters of the new tax as these two appliances had a " high diversity " and therefore did not increase the load to any large extent. It was pointed out that these domestic appliances were essential in every house and if they were relieved of the proposed purchase tax the tax on electric and gas fires could be increased which would achieve the three objects which it was originally set out to achieve. RESOLVED, That the Committee disapprove of the imposition on the grounds of fuel economy of the purchase tax at a total rate of

66.2/3% on such essential domestic appliances as cookers, water heaters and wash boilers and that they consider that these appliances should be relieved of tax and if necessary a corresponding increase made in the tax on gas and electric fires. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Borough Member be asked to put forward these views and take such action as is possible to bring about the amendment advocated.

(b) In view of the proposed re-imposition of purchase tax it would be necessary to formulate a policy with regard to apparatus which was hired and sold by the Electricity Undertaking. There was a quantity of stock which was in hand before the budget and the Borough Electrical Engineer wished to know whether these should be disposed of at the old price or whether purchase tax should be added. When purchase tax was re-moved in November, 1945, the tax on articles in stock had been written off out of revenue (Min. 72/45).

The Borough Treasurer pointed out that at present a purchaser was required to pay purchase tax but where appliances were hired the purchase tax was borne by the Council, RESOLVED, (a) That the Committee bear the cost of purchase tax on hired appliances for the time being and that the position be reviewed in six months.

(b) That goods in hand before the re-imposition of purchase tax be sold at the increased price, but that if, before the Finance Bill is passed into law, the purchase tax is reduced or taken of the above mentioned domestic appliances or any of them the amount of the tax be refunded to purchasers who have paid the increased price.

1338—Transport—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that owing to the rapid expansion of the department it was essential that all vehicles operating in the department should receive adequate maintenance in order to obtain the maximum road life with minimum time under repair. He therefore recommended that high pressure greasing and tyre inflating equipment should be purchased which would also be available to operate paint sprays in the cooker repair shop. Two quotations for supplying the necessary equipment were submitted. RESOLVED, That the quotation of Messrs. Stevco Ltd., for supplying air pressure and accessories at a- total cost of £139 1s. 0d. be accepted, the cost to be borne by an appropriation from surplus revenue.

1339—Southwood House—(a) Heating System—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it was desirable that steps should be taken to reinstate the heating system at Southwood House so that this would be available for next winter. Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall, Ltd., had been asked to examine this system and he submitted their estimate for repairing the system amounting to £473 ; for providing radiators in rooms where not at present provided, £175 ; for repairing the hot water system £5 6s. 0d., making a total of £653 6s. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd., be accepted, subject to the approval of the Electricity Commissioners, RESOLVED, ALSO, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £175 for the cost of the new radiators.

(b) Redecorating—Six tenders were received for redecorating where necessary. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell Ltd., amounting to £958 16s. 10d., being the lowest he accepted, subject to the Company giving a written assurance that the acceptance of this contract would not adversely affect or delay progress with their housing contracts on the Lynworth Farm Estate. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract.

(c) Conversion of Outbuildings—It would be necessary for a certain amount of conversion work to be carried out to the rooms over the garages to provide accommodation for a resident custodian and five tenders were received for this work. RESOLVED, (a) That the tender of Messrs. Wheeler &

Mansell amounting to £358 15s. 0d., being the lowest, be accepted, subject as mentioned (b) above regarding the Lynworth Farm contracts ; (b) That the Common Seal be affixed to the contract ; (c) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £359 ; (d) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for £359 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

227

(d) Electric Wiring— The electric wiring was badly damaged and the Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it would be cheaper to rewire the building using existing material where possible than to repair and extend the existing installation. He recommended that the work should be carried out by the department's own staff at an estimated cost of £700, the charge to be allocated as follows :—

(a) £250 covering the replacement of the damaged installation to a suspense account.

(b) £250 covering larger wiring and switchgear necessary for the meter test and repair room, water heaters, etc., to loan.

(c) £200 for fittings to revenue.

RESOLVED, (a) That these recommendations be approved and adopted. (b) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £250 for the larger wiring and switchgear necessary for the meter test and repair room, water heaters, etc. (c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £250 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

(e) The Borough Electrical Engineer had been unable to obtain suitable second-hand furniture for use of additional staff and had, therefore, placed an order for two desks and one typists desk at a price of £33 and £9 18s. 10d., respectively, plus purchase tax. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved.

(f) Telephones—(i) The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the telephones at Arle Road Works, St. George's Place Stores and Manchester Street at present rented from the Post Office should take the form of extensions from the new private branch exchange to be installed at Southwood. instead of being connected direct to the Post Office Exchange.

This would result in there being one telephone number for all types of electricity services. In order to enable a 24 hour service to be given a night extension would be required for the Custodian's flat. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into an agreement with the Post Office Telephones for the provision of the necessary lines.

(ii) The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a second entry should be made in the Telephone Directory under " Electricity " as well as " Corporation." RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

(iii) With reference to the internal telephone system to be purchased from Telephone Rentals Ltd., when loan sanction was obtained the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that an agreement should be entered into for the maintenance of the installation after the first year at a cost of £25 per annum. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the necessary agreement.

1340-Overhead Line System—Since many faults on this system were caused by twigs or pieces of wire blowing across the lines thus blowing main fuses or opening main circuit breakers, the consumers were frequently left without a supply until the circuit breaker had been reclosed or the

fuse replaced. In order to reduce these interruptions to the minimum the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a newly designed circuit breaker which reclosed automatically after clearing such faults should be fitted experimentally to the Malvern kiosk switch in Leckhampton Depot Substation. The cost would be £250 and the work could, be carried out when the modifications were made to increase the rupturing capacity of the switch gear. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out by Messrs. Reyrolle and Co., the manufacturers of the switchgear and that the charge be met from Unspecified Switchgear Loan.

1341-Switchgear (Min. 1903/46). Since consent was received from the Electricity Commissioners to a loan of £34,690 for modifications to switchgear to increase its rupturing capacity the basic price of the switchgear had increased by 15% and a further increase would be charged due to increase in the cost of labour and materials under the price variation clause. It was, therefore, recommended that application should be made for a supplementary loan. RESOLVED, (a) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for a supplementary loan of £5,203 to cover these increases.

(b) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £5,203 and that the Com-mon Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

(c) That the Common Seal be affixed to a contract with Messrs. A. Reyrolle and Co., of Hebburn-on-Tyne the manufacturers of the switchgear to carry out their portion of this work for the sum of £22,738, subject to any adjustment according to the British Electrical & allied Manufacturers' Association price adjustment clause.

1342—Unspecified Loan 104—In May, 1937, the Electricity Commissioners sanctioned a loan of £15,000 for unspecified mains and services, In July, 1944, it was reported that £14,788 of this loan had been expended, as a result of which the Committee authorised application to the Commissioners for authority to use £5,000 for mains and services and £3,000 for switchgear from the Revenue Appropriation Account. It was subsequently discovered that £4,666 had to be credited to this loan account so no further action was taken at that time. In April, 1947, the loan was £5,623 overspent and work costing approximately £4,300 authorised by the Committee to be charged to this loan during the last two years had yet to be carried out. It was, however, estimated that small extensions chargeable to unspecified loan for the year ended March 31st, 1948, would be £10,200 made up of £6,400 for mains and services and £3,800 for switch gear. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to borrow £15,000 for an unspecified mains and services loan and £5,000 for an unspecified switchgear loan. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £20,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

1343—Meter Test Room—(i) During the time between application being made for a loan for £1,202 for meter testing equipment and the consent of the Commissioners being received the lowest tender had increased to £1,576. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a supplementary loan of £374 to meet this increased charge.

(ii) Potentiometer Equipment—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that under the Meter Act, 1936, Electricity Supply Authorities were obliged to make periodical checks of their meter testing instruments against approved standard instruments.

In the present meter testing room there was not sufficient accommodation to install such standard instruments and the testing against Worcester Corporation Electricity Departments standards, this arrangement being unsatisfactory and somewhat costly.

Two tenders were therefore submitted for the provision of the necessary equipment to enable these tests to be carried out when the test room was moved to Southwood. RESOLVED, (a) That the tender of Messrs. H. Tinsley & Co. amounting to £421 being the lowest be accepted ; (b) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £425 ; (c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £425 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

1344—Staff—(a) Telephonist—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it would be necessary to appoint a tele-phone operator at Southwood. RESOLVED, That applications be invited for the appointment of a male or female operator at the appropriate salary in the General Division of the National Scales, RESOLVED ALSO, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be asked to approve of this appointment.

(b) Caretaker---RESOLVED, That applications be invited for the appointment of resident custodian for South-wood at a salary in accordance with the Miscellaneous Division Grade I of the National Scales (£255-£300) plus cost of living bonus, less the value of the rent free flat, namely £39.

(c) Works Outing—The Borough Electrical Engineer had received an application for permission to hold an annual outing on Saturday, 14th June. This outing had taken place during the last two years and in each case the necessary time off, with pay, was granted to those who were allowed to go, but since then the amount of the annual holiday granted to these employees had been increased to 12 working days. RESOLVED, That the necessary time off be granted to those employees who were able to attend the outing but that the Committee do not recommend the Council to pay the employees for such time off, as they consider it should be regarded either as part of their annual holiday or as leave of absence without pay.

1345—Applications for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on six applications for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to afford a supply.

1346—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported three interruptions of supply during the month.

1347—Rebate to Consumers (Min. 973)--The Borough Treasurer and Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report on their proposals for making a rebate to electricity consumers in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1947, in accordance with the decision of the Council to return by way of rebate a sum of approximately £10,000. The most desirable way of making the rebate would be by basing it on the income relative to a fixed and uniform period for all consumers but under the system of continuous meter reading and billing it was impossible to ascertain the exact figure attributable to such a period. The following recommendations were, therefore, made by which it was hoped to secure a substantial measure of equity among the various classes of consumers.

" Ordinary Quarterly Consumers "—The quarter centred on the end of February, 1947, would secure most even distribution and they recommended that the rebate should be assessed on the gross income received in respect of the three months period ending on the date of the meter reading taken between the 15th January and 14th April, 1947, A 10% rebate in this case would amount to £5,798.

" Prepayment Consumers "—The same basis to be adopted as for ordinary consumers namely a rebate of 10% which would amount to £804.



"Special Contract Consumers"—As the winter period entailed heavier consumption than the summer they re-commended that the charges be re-calculated in order to ascertain the exact charge for a period approximating to that taken for the above two classes and that the rebate should be based on the gross charges for three months ended 31st March, 1947. It was estimated that in this case a 10% rebate would amount to approximately £1,300.

" Public Lighting"—As Public Lighting was postponed during the March quarter it was suggested that the rebate be based on the December, 1946 quarter. A 10% rebate in this case amounted to £200, In order to simplify accounting work they suggested that the rebate should be applied to the total charges including rents for meters and hire of apparatus after deducting all credits except discount for prompt payment.

RESOLVED, (a) That a rebate of 10% be made to all consumers for the periods above mentioned.

(b) That the rebate at 10% be calculated on the total charges made to each consumer for the appropriate period indicated in this report, after deducting all credits applicable to that period except discounts for prompt payment.

(c) That the rebate be given by deduction from the consumer's next accounts or by return of cash at the next collection in the case of prepayment consumers who have no credit accounts.

(d) That in the case of consumers who have ceased to take a supply and there is no account from which the rebate can be deducted, the rebate be only paid to such consumers as make a claim before the 31st August next and that in the absence of any claim the rebate be not paid.

(e) That a reserve for the estimated total rebates be charged in the 1946/47 Revenue Account.

1348—Street Lighting—The Committee considered Min. 1223 adopted at the last meeting of the Council transferring the functions in regard to public lighting from this Committee to the Street & Highway Committee. The Council in January, 1947 (Min. 306) had already agreed to the separation of the Electricity Street Lighting Account from the accounts of the Undertaking and to its transfer to the General Rate Fund.

It was proposed that in future all street lighting matters including complaints and schemes for new lighting and improvements shall first be dealt with by this Committee, who would make reports and recommendations thereon to the **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE**.

The Council had already agreed that the Borough Electrical Engineer should remain responsible to the Council for street lighting and it was proposed that the staff in the public lighting section of the Electricity Department should remain under the control of this Committee.

RESOLVED, in order to make the position clear, (a) That the existing staff responsibilities and arrangements shall remain unchanged and that this Committee shall continue to determine the terms on which the services of the staff under their control are made available for street lighting purposes, and that they shall be considered as members of the staff engaged in the electricity supply industry.

(b) That all street lighting columns and fittings whether paid for out of street lighting revenue or capital funds shall be considered the property of the Council as the street lighting authority.

(c) That on the passing of the Electricity Supply Industry Bill the whole position be further considered in the light of the provisions of the Bill.

(d) That the Borough Electrical Engineer attend the meetings of the Street & Highway Committee street lighting matters are under consideration.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

229

#### BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

**14th May, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (in the Chair) ; Councillors Carter and Compton and Mrs. Greening.

1349—St. Margaret's British Restaurant—The Town Clerk reported letter dated the 27th March from the Ministry of Food. Colwyn Bay, intimating that the requisition of land was safeguarded by the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act until February, 1948 and possibly until the end of 1950, and in the circumstances there appeared to the Ministry to be no difficulty in the Council continuing the restaurant service on the existing site. The transfer under the terms of the Ministry's circular 6/7 dated the 1st June, 1946, would cost the Council approximately £2,000 in addition to which there might be some liability for re-instating the land which on the other hand might be offset by the proceeds of the sale of the premises. RESOLVED, That the Council continue to hold the land under requisitioning and that the matter be reviewed at a later date.

1350—Meals for Building Operatives—(a) The Organiser reported that since the last meeting she had been requested to supply packed meals for Ministry of Works Engineers engaged at a local Prisoner of War Camp. As an experiment she had undertaken this and meals were provided for fourteen but by the end of the week this had been reduced to one. It was proved that this service could not be undertaken on an economic basis for less than a guaranteed minimum of twenty meals per day.

(b) The Town Clerk reported that the Housing Committee had ascertained that only 14 of the building operatives on the Lynworth Farm Estate had expressed any interest in the suggestion of H.M. District Inspector of Factories that packed meals should be provided. RESOLVED, That H.M. Inspector of Factories be informed that the Committee do not consider it practicable to supply meals for this small number of men. but that, when the number of building operatives on the Estate increase, the Committee will be prepared to consider the matter if a substantial number of men express a desire for the service.

1351—Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted provisional financial statement for the year ended 31st March, 1947, indicating a gross profit prior to charging amortisation of £518. The amortisation charges were £538 and the net loss was £20. The March quarter showed a net loss of £77 but this was due to some extent to the very bad weather and the difficulty in obtaining supplies, particularly fresh vegetables, which necessitated the use of more expensive tinned commodities, and also the rise in wages of 1d. per hour. The total number of meals served during the year was 86,726 including 3,301 cash and carry meals. The cost per meal, before charging amortisation, was 12.505d. and after charging amortisation 13.994d.

1352—Organiser-Cook's Report—(a) Meals Served—The total number of meals (excluding School Meals) supplied at St. Margaret's British Restaurant during January, February, March and April was as follows:—

|          | Meals | Takings        |
|----------|-------|----------------|
| January  | 6336  | £385 14s. 0d.  |
| February | 4888  | £301 10s. 11d. |
| March    | 5359  | £326 0s. 4d.   |
| April    | 4709  | £285 10s. 7d.  |

The comparison between figures for January, 1946 and January, 1947 showed an increase of 322 in the number of meals and £23 9s. 1 d. in the takings, for February, 1946, and February, 1947, an increase of 66 and £7 17s. 6d., for March, 1946, and March, 1947, an increase of 396 and £23 19s. 7d., and April, 1946, and April, 1947, an increase of 451 and £29 3s. 10d. The total number of school meals served during the four months was 6,290 and the takings amounted to £262 15s. 6d.

(b) Staff—With the termination of the meals to the Grammar School children, two full-time members of the staff were redundant and their services had been terminated.

(c) Bath and West Show—An enquiry had been received for a supply of 20 container meals for the Organisers and Secretaries of the Bath and West Show during the time they were engaged on the site making preparations for the Show. The Society were providing their own transport for the meals. RESOLVED, That container meals be supplied at 1s. 4d. per head.

1353—Price of Meals—The Committee considered the prices charged for meals having regard to the increase in wages and cost of commodities since the prices were last reviewed. RESOLVED, That no change be made in the charge of 6d. for small children under five years of age, but the charge for children over this age be increased from 8d., to 10d. and for adults from 1s. 3d to 1s. 4d. RESOLVED ALSO, That the increased prices operate from the 9th June, 1947

1354—Organiser Cook and Clerk—The Chairman reported on the duties carried out by Miss Smelt which included supervision in the kitchen and cooking. When Miss Snick was appointed her salary was fixed on the assumption that she would be responsible for purchasing and supervising the stores, whereas this work was being under-taken by the Clerk. The Chairman had discussed the matter with Miss Smelt, who was willing for an adjustment to be made in her salary. RESOLVED, That as from the 2nd June, Miss Smelt's salary be reduced froth £275 per annum plus bonus to £212 per annum plus war bonus, and that the salary of the part-time Clerk (Miss Langhorne) be increased from £150 per annum to £208 (this sum to include war bonus), as from the 2nd June next.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

230

#### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**12th May, 1947.** Present----Councillor Biggs (Chairman); Alderman Waite ; Councillors Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton Gardner and T . K. Waite.

1355—Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements, 14 London Road, 51 Fairview Street, 39 London Road, Sligo House, Wellington Road, 1 Suffolk Street and 9 Montpellier Villas—The Standing Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of the above basements and the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector was submitted. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the above-mentioned parts of the said buildings, which were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, and upon the persons having control of the said parts of

the said buildings, and the mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said parts of the said buildings and offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of the Committee on the 7th July, 1947.

(ii) Basement, 40 Evesham Road—Undertaking—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owners had carried out to his satisfaction the works required to render this basement fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That the undertaking given by the owners, that the basement would not be occupied until works had been carried out to render the basement habitable, be cancelled.

(iii) Basement, 35 Clarence Square—The Committee further considered the question of making a Closing Order in respect of this basement. RESOLVED, That the Council accept the owner's undertaking that the basement would not be used for human habitation until the Council were satisfied that it had been rendered fit for human habitation.

(iv) Serving of Notices—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Standing Sub-Committee that to avoid delay in the serving of notices of intention to make a closing order, power to serve such notices be delegated to the Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(v) Re-licensing of Premises—(a) Unfit Houses.—RESOLVED, That the licences for the re-occupation of the under-mentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months from the dates set opposite the premises :—

13 Witcombe Place expires 19th June, 1947.

11 Edward Street expires 21st June, 1947.

12 Edward Street expires 21st June, 1947.

(b) The report of the Habitation Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee appointed by the Ministry of Health was submitted indicating the standard recommended for a satisfactory house. Circular 80/47, Ministry of Health, was also submitted explaining the procedure to be adopted before sub-mitting for confirmation by the Minister of Health an Unfitness Order in respect of houses comprised in a proposed development area under the Town & Country Planning Act, 1944, considered to be unfit and incapable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense.

1356—Food & Drugs Act, 1938—(i) Quarterly report of the Public Analyst in respect of the quarter ended 31st March, 1947, was submitted.

(ii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon Samples Nos. 880, 884 and 885 (milk), all of which were genuine.

(iii) Ice Cream—(a) Nos. 254 Old Bath Road and 47 Townsend Street were no longer used for the sale and manufacture of ice cream. RESOLVED, That the registration of these premises be cancelled.

(b) RESOLVED, That application from Mr. S. A. Bowhill, 10 Pittville Street for registration of these premises for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, and Mr. A. Yates, 86 Tewkesbury Road, for the sale of ice cream be approved.

(iv) Wholesale Dealers in Margarine—RESOLVED, That the application of the Home & Colonial Stores to be registered as wholesale dealers in margarine in respect of 389 High Street, be approved.

1357—Labelling of Food Order, 1946—(a) Circular FSL/30/47, Ministry of Food. was submitted drawing attention to the provisions of Article 4 of this Order, which provided that cider-based wines,

and other wines not made or derived from grapes, should be properly labelled as such The Minister expressed the hope that Authorities would take steps to enforce these requirements to prevent the sale of low strength cocktails and inferior liquors at excessive prices.

(b) Circular FSL/31/47, Ministry of Food. was submitted, forwarding copies of the Labelling of Food Amendment Order, 1947, exempting pre-packed fish, fruit and vegetables (other than potatoes) and pre-packed single toffee apples from the labelling requirements of Articles 2 and 3 of the Labelling of Food Order, 1946.

1358—Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938—The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms, boils of which were slightly unsatisfactory, and further samples were being taken.

1359—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported defects at the following properties :-11 Brooklyn Road, 2 Little Bayshill Terrace, 35 Montpellier Terrace, 8 Commercial Street. RESOLVED, That notices be served, in pursuance of Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of 11 Brooklyn Road, 2 Little Bayshill Terrace, 35 Montpellier Terrace, and under Section 43 of the Act upon the owner of 8 Commercial Street, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of such notices, and that failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dustbins—(a) RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of 16 Kew Place and 17 Kew Place requiring them to provide regulation dustbins.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owners of Moreton Cottage, Mitre Street, 43 and 47 Naunton Lane, and Kingscote House, Wards Road, had not complied with the statutory notices to provide regulation dustbins for these premises. RESOLVED, That new dustbins be provided by the Council and that the Town Clerk recover the expenses incurred from the owners in pursuance of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

231

(iii) Beechmount, Pittville Circus Road- It was reported that the basement of these premises had been flooded from the sewer. The Borough Surveyor reported thereon. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor and Chief Sanitary inspector consider the possibility of installing an anti-flood trap at these premises and report to the next meeting.

(iv) Smoke observations---(A) Cheltenham Original Brewery The Chief Sanitary reported that as a result of a complaint, observation had been made on the premises of the Cheltenham Original Brewery. No nuisance could be observed but further observations would be taken, Representatives of the Company had been interviewed and had stated that the Company were receiving very inferior fuel. RESOLVED, That no action be taken thereon at the present time.

(b) Victoria Cabinet Works, Larput place—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that as a result of a memorial received from residents in tis vicinity of these works complaining of smoke nuisance, observations had been kept. The firm were carrying out the suggestions made by him to obviate further nuisance and the factory was being kept under observation. No further complaints had been received. RESOLVED, That no action be taken thereon at the present time.

1360—Sewage Works—Trespassers The Borough Surveyor reported that considerable nuisance and a certain amount of damage had been caused at the Hayden Sewage Works by trespassers. On the 3rd May, 1947, three boys ran one of the trucks used for the removal of sludge into a pile of sludge.

They also altered valves and pen-stocks, the setting of which was a matter of considerable importance for the control of the process of purification. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings against the persons concerned, provided he was satisfied with the evidence submitted.

1361—National Health Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported receipt of Circulars 22/47 and 66/47, Ministry of Health, dealing with the health services to be provided by Local Authorities, under Part III of the Act. The Circulars were forwarded, for information of Non-County Boroughs but County Councils and County Borough Councils were required to submit proposals for carrying out the duties imposed by this part of the Act. It appeared that the appointed day for the transfer of health services to County Councils or County Boroughs would be the 1st April, 1947, Circular 66/47 contained guidance for the preparation of proposals by Local Health Authorities in respect of vaccination and immunisation and the provision of ambulance services.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**Friday, 16th May, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge and Yeend.

1362-Superintendent's Report—During the month of April there were 85 interments and 44 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position 1 ; 2nd position 3 ; 3rd position 1 ; 4th position 14 ; New memorials erected 9. Additional inscriptions 17.

1363—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,503 to 11,521 inclusive.

1364—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4351 to 4368 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

1365-Flower Vases for Chapels--Requests were frequently received from relatives attending Cremation Services to place flowers in the vases provided for this purpose. At present there were only three vases, and the Super-intendent submitted estimate and design of Messrs. H. H. Martyn Ltd. for a plain turned oak vase, without any inscription, at a cost of £3 7s. 6d. each. RESOLVED, That six vases be purchased, and that the cost be met by reducing the amount provided in the estimates for purchase of teak seats by £20.

1366--Press Announcements—The Superintendent submitted suggestions for press announcements in order to give the public accurate information and encourage confidence in cremation. The Superintendent also suggested consideration be given to a scheme already adopted by many Cremation Authorities, whereby those desiring cremation might be allowed to pre-pay the cremation fee. RESOLVED, (i) That an announcement to be approved by the Town Clerk be inserted at weekly intervals in the Gloucestershire Echo, Gloucestershire Chronicle and Graphic, Malvern Gazette, Worcester Journal, Hereford Tunes, Gloucester Citizen, Evesham Journal and Stroud News for a period of three months, and that the matter be then reviewed. (ii) That the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer report to the next meeting as to the suggested pre-payment of the cremation fee.

1367—Robes for Clergy-The robes provided for use of Clergy at the Cemetery were worn out and needed replacing and the Superintendent recommended the purchase of one Cassock and two Surplices at a cost of £10 16s. 6d. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

1368—Re-Purchase of Grave Space---No. 11075, Section T.-The relatives of the purchaser of the exclusive right of burial in this grave wished to dispose of the space. RESOLVED, That the Council re-purchase the space at the price of £4 4s. including stamp duty.

1369-Recorded Music (Min. 1186) RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. E. M. I. Services Ltd., amounting. to £46 1s. 6d. for the necessary wiring in connection with the installation of the sound reproduction equipment be accepted.

1370—Cabinet for Book of Remembrance (Min. 637)--The Borough Surveyor submitted revised tender of Messrs. H. H. Martyn, Ltd. amounting to £156 1s. 6d. which included the strip lighting to be fixed inside the cabinet. RESOLVED, That this be accepted subject to Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

G. READINGS, Chairman

232

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**16th May, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman) ; The Mayor; Alderman Green; Councillors Bishop, Carter, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

1371—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 29th April (report circulated here-with). RESOLVED, (1) That the report be approved and adopted. (ii) Item 12, That the Borough Surveyor proceed with the floor levelling and surfacing at a maximum cost of £100 to adapt the Montpellier Pavilion as a roller skating rink.

1372--Playhouse Sub-Committee—The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 30th April (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1373—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 6th May (report circulated herewith). Item 6 (c)—The Planning Committee approved the positions of six small direction signs to Sandford Park Swimming Pool but not the large hoard at the entrance near Gainsborough Villas as this would contravene the Advertisement Regulations. They would, however, approve the erection of such a board at the Keynsham Road entrance. RESOLVED, That Item 12 (purchase from the Chamber of Commerce of 1,500 copies of the recently published hotel accommodation folder) be referred back for further consideration, and that with this exception the report be approved and adopted.

T. WILFRED WAITE. Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**12th May, 1947,** Present—Aldermen Green (Chairman) and Smith; Councillors Addis, Compton and Midwinter.

1374—Land Lying Between Lansdown Road, Douro Road and Lansdown Crescent (Min 1105)—The Committee considered the reference back by the Council of the minute relating to the proposed fencing of this land, RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting, and that in the meantime the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be asked to inspect the land again.

1375—Athletic Ground (Min. 1091)—Cheltenham and County Cycling Club-----The Club thanked the Council for the offer of the ground on one evening in alternate weeks. This was, however, insufficient for their purpose, and the use of the ground for motor cycle football would render it

unsuitable for grass track training as it would increase the difficulty of maintenance. They had, therefore, made other arrangements.

1376—Pittville Pump Rooms and Gardens—(a) Pump Room Dilapidations. The Military Authorities had remitted £442 15s. Od. for dilapidations.

(b) Huts in front of Pump Room—The Military Authorities had offered a compensation rental of £40 per annum for the site now occupied by the huts. RESOLVED, That as the occupation was likely to be of short duration, the offer be accepted.

(c) Sports Area—Representations had been made to the Military Authorities to de-requisition the site occupied by the bakery, below Marle Hill House, as this land was required in connection with the sports area development. They had now obtained alternative accommodation and hoped to release both this site, and the site in front of the Pump Room, as soon as practicable after 1st July.

(d) Field adjoining Marle Hill House—The General Purposes Committee had transferred control of this field to this Committee, The Cheltenham Butchers' Buying Committee, to whom the tenancy of the grazing rights had been granted for several years, asked for the renewal of their agreement which was for 364 days and expired on 6th April last. RESOLVED, That in view of the development proposals now in mind, the Butchers' Buying Committee be granted a monthly tenancy at a rent of £2 10s. per month.

1377—Sandford Park—Sale of Ice Cream (Min. 1095)—The Cotswold Dairy had accepted the terms and conditions for the sale of ice cream in Sandford Park during the months of May and June. The granting of similar rights for the remainder of the season would be reviewed at the June meeting. RESOLVED, That the Town Improvement Committee be asked whether they are interested in the sale of ice cream in the park, failing which offers for the months of July, August and September be invited by public advertisement.

1378—Victory Sports Ground—RESOLVED, That the trees at the rear of this field be topped and lopped to prevent children climbing and using them as a stand during matches.

1379—Cricket Season, 1947—Applications had been received from Messrs. Brunners and the Cheltenham Butchers' Cricket Clubs for pitches, and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that as these Clubs had no definite weekly match date, the former be accommodated at Clyde Crescent and the latter at Tewkesbury Road Playing Field subject to the usual terms and conditions including 5s preparation charge for Clyde Crescent and a rental of 5s for each occasion a pitch is used on the Playing Field. The Committee were prepared to grant the application of the Butchers' Club for the Playing Field but not that of Brunners' Club, as this was contrary to their policy that pitches on recreation grounds should not be let to adult clubs. The Gardens Superintendent pointed out present difficulties in meeting the demand for pitches and recommended that, for this season, the application be granted on the understanding that if a pitch was available on either of the playing fields for any of Brunners Club matches, the Club be transferred thereto. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved subject to this condition.

233

1380—Tennis.—(a) Lettings. The Gardens Superintendent reported upon further lettings of tennis courts which were approved. He stated, however, that if all applications for contract bookings were accepted no courts would be available for casual lettings and the recommendations now made would ensure that 6 grass and 1 hard courts would be available for this purpose.



(b) Receipts—The Gardens Superintendent submitted comparative figures for lettings of tennis courts in 1946, and 1947, namely :—

|  | 1946      | 1947     |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Receipts from occasional bookings for month ended 30th April ... | £53 15 0  | £72 5 0  |
| Revenue from contract bookings up to 9th May ...                 | £200 18 4 | £327 7 6 |

1381—Boating—(a) Additional Craft—The Gardens Superintendent had obtained a second-hand flat bottom paddle boat in good condition from Mr. Sanders, Pershore, for £40. RESOLVED, That the purchase be approved.

(b) Receipts. The Gardens Superintendent submitted comparative receipts for the month ended 30th April, namely, £45 14s. in 1946 and £81 19s. 9d. in 1947.

1382—Deck Chairs—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had offered' to transfer to the Parks Department at a cost of 2s 6d each, 50 deck chair frames which required repair and new canvas. The Gardens Superintendent was able to undertake necessary work and had sufficient canvas in stock. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted.

1383—Field Lorge--The Gardens Superintendent reported again upon the damp condition of these premises. The Borough Surveyor stated that prior to the war he had recommended that no large sums be expended thereon as little could be done to make the premises habitable and owing to the age of the property, money expended would be largely wasted. He had then suggested that other accommodation should be found for the Gardens Superintendent but owing to the war this proposal had been in abeyance. The Gardens Superintendent pointed out that it was desirable for his accommodation to be in such a position as to enable him to carry out his duties as Borough Meteorologist which entailed frequent readings of instruments, both day and night. RESOLVED, That efforts be made to find other suitable accommodation, and that in the meantime the Borough Surveyor undertake necessary urgent temporary repairs.

1384—Transport—(a) Old Patisson Lorry (Min. 758)—The Education Committee were willing to purchase the engine of the old Patisson lorry for school demonstration purposes for £5. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted.

(b) Garage Accommodation (Min. 1205 Street and Highway Committee). The Street and Highway Committee had recently considered the financial position of Rodney Road Car Park. One suggestion for obtaining additional revenue was the issue of 24 season tickets at £5 per annum for parking in the covered shed, and this Committee was asked to find alternative accommodation for their vehicles or make an appropriate payment for the facilities provided. The Gardens Superintendent reported that provision for building garages for four vehicles was deleted from the annual estimates by the Finance Committee who suggested as an alternative the use of the covered shed at the car park. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances an appropriate rental be paid for the accommodation required, but that the Street and Highway Committee be asked to provide locks for the double doors.

1385—Staff-(a) Foremen/Propagator and Foremen—The Gardens Superintendent pointed out that these employees were not included in the J.I.C. schedule, but that it had been the practice to grant them the wage increases from time to time applicable to other employees in the Department. The recent award amounted to 8s in respect of consolidated standard rates of wages and re-zoning. RESOLVED, That the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended to apply the award to these employees accordingly.

(b) Montpellier Gardens—Tennis Attendant. Mrs. O'Brien, the wife of the Custodian undertook casual bookings of tennis courts. This was part-time employment and during the winter months little, if any, work was involved. She received a payment of £2 5d. per week throughout the year and the Gardens Superintendent sought instructions as to the application of the recent wage award. RESOLVED, That the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended to increase Mrs. O'Brien's wages to £2 9s. per week.

W . GREEN, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**19th May, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Green ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Readings and Strickland.

1386—Street Lighting—Wares Hotel—Owing to alteration of frontage of this Hotel the street lamp was in a dangerous position at the edge of the entrance drive and the Hotel asked for its removal as otherwise the lamp was likely to be damaged by vehicles entering their premises. The Borough Electrical Engineer stated that the lamp was not of a type which could be removed and re-erected and that the cost of another lamp in a different position would amount to approximately £49. The Electricity Committee recommended that, in the circumstances, the owner of the Hotel should bear the cost. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and adopted.

1387—Traffic Sub-Committee—The Traffic Sub-Committee met on 14th May (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1388—1a Winchcomb Street—When the Council acquired these premises they were let to Mr. L. A. Soper, but were subsequently assigned with the Council's approval. Mr. Soper's solicitor now asked for consent to re-assign the lease to Mr. Soper. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

234

1389—Pittville Street and Winchcomb Street Properties—The Committee were of opinion that the time had now arrived when in appropriate cases, the terms and conditions of tenancies of properties in these streets might be reviewed. RESOLVED, That at the next meeting the Town Clerk submit a report upon such tenancies.

1390—Shaftesbury, Folly Lane (formerly Aggs Cottages)—This Tenant, who was in occupation when the Council acquired land in Folly Lane for tipping operations, had been granted during his war service a rent reduction from 12s 6d to 10s per week inclusive. He had now been informed that his rent would be increased by 9d. per week to cover additional rates, but he asked for re-consideration in view of the condition of the premises, its unsatisfactory approach and its proximity to the tip. The Borough Surveyor stated that little nuisance should now arise from the tip as tipping in this area had now ceased. He would, however, carry out necessary repairs including repairs to another cottage in Folly Lane. RESOLVED, That the tenant be informed accordingly, and that in the circumstances the Council cannot agree to waive the rate increase.

1391--Brunswick Street—Waste Land (Min. 1199)—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the three waste sites in Brunswick Street in respect of which complaints had been received of nuisance caused by children and others. He suggested that as this was a clearance area the appropriate Committees of the Council should consider the acquisition of these sites which might temporarily be fenced and

let to adjoining occupiers for cultivation at a nominal rental. RESOLVED, That the appropriate Committees of the Council be recommended accordingly.

1392—Rodney Road Car Park (Min. 1205)—(a) Parks Department—The Parks Committee were willing to pay an appropriate rental for garage accommodation in the covered shed for their four vehicles, but asked that locks be provided for the double doors to ensure safe storage. RESOLVED, That the Parks Committee be allocated the bay at the northern end and that locks be affixed to this portion of the shed.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that reinstatement of the surface and other work had now been carried out.

1393—Lansdown Road—Railway Bridge—The Minister O1 Transport stated that he had under consideration a proposal for the permanent retention of the quadrupled railway lines including the additional span of Lansdown Road Bridge. The Council's comments were invited thereon. The Borough Surveyor reported that water, gas, electricity and other public services were laid under the roadway and that in the past approaches had been made to the Ministry to increase the width of this Bridge. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal, but that the Minister be informed that the Council feel it is very desirable that as soon as circumstances permit the bridge should be widened if possible to 80 ft.

1394—Trunk Roads—The Borough Surveyor had been informed by the Divisional Road Engineer that the amount available for repair and maintenance of trunk roads throughout the country had been drastically curtailed by H.M. Treasury, but it was understood that works already embarked upon or to which Local Authorities were committed might be undertaken. With a representative of the Ministry, the Borough Surveyor had inspected the trunk roads in the Borough with a view to re-casting the annual estimate, and the Ministry had now approved the following reductions :—

T.R. 10, £17,627 (from £18,365) to include the surface water sewer in Lansdown Road and re-construction of road between Gordon Lamp and Westal Green. Westal Green improvement had been deleted.

T.R. 44, £3,812 (from £11,141). Work had already commenced on Shurdington Road but had been closed down and nothing was included for re-making the unshapely lengths of Hewlett and All Saints Roads. Provision was, however, made for re-surfacing Evesham Road on the west side from Saxham Villa to the Borough boundary.

RESOLVED, That the reductions be noted.

1395—Classified Roads (Min. 1206)—The County Surveyor had stated that a greater reduction must be made in the proposed expenditure and had indicated the expenditure which could be allowed for each class of road—Class I £2,110 ; Class II £5,130 ; Class III £2,825 ; total £10,065. This sum compares with the original estimate of £19,000 and the offer of the Council to make a reduction by £4,886.

1396—Trunk Road 10—Proposed Amendment—The Ministry of Transport asked for the Council's comments upon a proposal to raise Montpellier Terrace from Montpellier Walk to Bath Road to trunk road status and like-wise the few yards of Bath Road between its junction with Montpellier Terrace on the west side and Sandford Road on the east. To counterbalance this it was proposed to

lower from trunk road to classified status the portion of Trunk Road 10 between Montpellier Island and the junction of High Street with Bath Road, including Montpellier Walk, Queens Circus, Promenade, Clarence Street and High Street. This proposal would be economical from the Ministry's standpoint but would throw upon the County Council and the Borough Council a proportion of the cost of future maintenance of the roads included in the suggested reduced status. The Borough Surveyor felt that the only grounds for opposition were that the Promenade, one of the most attractive roads in the country, would be used by visitors and, therefore, the volume of traffic thereover was not likely to be reduced. RESOLVED, That before opposition was offered, as the County Council were also concerned in future maintenance, their observations be obtained.

1397--Casino Place—Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell, Ltd., applied for permission to use Casino Place as a builders' yard and for the erection of a garage and storage accommodation. The Planning Committee had asked for the views of this Committee. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that Andover Road from which access to Casino Place was obtained, was, at this point, particularly narrow and the Committee felt that added danger would arise if a builders' yard was established, necessitating the use of the road for ingress and egress of lorries and other vehicles. RESOLVED, That the Planning Committee be recommended to refuse the application.

1398—Albert Road—The Borough Surveyor stated that the Gloucester Co-operative Society were about to purchase land between New Barn Lane and the Girls' Grammar School for a sports field. They therefore enquired their liability for future road charges. The Town Clerk advised that the Pittville Estate roads were under the control of the Parks Committee and that as the grass verge belonged to the Council any access thereover was a matter for the Council's approval. The Committee felt it was very desirable if possible for the field to be retained as a permanent open space, and if the proposals of the Society materialised, this would be

235

achieved. If a low hedge could be substituted for the present high hedge, it would open the vista of the surrounding landscape and the land could be scheduled in the Planning Scheme as a permanent open space. RESOLVED, That the Parks Committee be recommended to afford access to the field across the verge in Albert Road on favourable terms.

1399—Annual Music Festival, 30th June to 4th July—The Music Festivals Advisory Committee asked permission to display 2 six-sheet boards in the Promenade during the end of May and the month of June. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, the posters to be placed in positions approved by the Borough Surveyor, out-side the General Post Office and near the National Savings Centre.

1400—Pedestrians' Association—RESOLVED, That approval be given to the payment to this Society of the Council's annual subscription for the year 1947/48 amounting to £2 2s.

1401—Hewlett Road—Parking of Cars—Read, Memorial from 5 residents complaining of nuisance caused by parking outside their premises of cars and breakdown equipment belonging to a nearby garage. The vehicles were considered to be a source of danger to children as the view of oncoming traffic was obstructed. The Police Superintendent concurred therein and was informing the owners of the garage that if the practice continued proceedings for obstruction would be instituted. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk also inform the proprietors that the Council support the Police Superintendent and strongly deprecate the practice.

1402—Obstruction of Carriageways and Footpaths—In May, 1945 the Police Superintendent had been consulted upon the practice of certain garages in parking vehicles on the highways for considerable periods, and in some in-stances undertaking repairs in the roadway, resulting in large deposits of oil and other substance. Congestion and nuisance was also caused and the Police Superintendent had, at the request of the Council, cautioned certain garage proprietors and informed them that if the practice continued, proceedings for obstruction would be instituted. No doubt this practice was then due to the fact that many garage premises were partially requisitioned, thus restricting their accommodation. The Borough Surveyor reported that although sonic improvement had been observed the practice still continued in many instances. He also reported upon cases of shopkeepers displaying goods outside their premises often encroaching on to the pavement to an unreasonable and dangerous extent. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the garage proprietors and shopkeepers now indicated informing them that the attention of the Police has been called to the practice and that if the nuisance is not abated, the Police Superintendent will be requested to institute proceedings.

1403—Road Safety—(a) Exhibition, 22nd October, 1947—The Borough Surveyor reported that, through the good offices of the Borough Member, Mr. G. R. Strauss, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport had agreed to open this exhibition and the Road Safety Committee expressed the hope that the exhibition would receive the Council's interest and support.

(b) Road Safety Organiser-The Borough Surveyor suggested that the Chairmen of this Committee and of the Road Safety Committee might be authorised to interview applicants and recommend an appointment. It was desirable that the person appointed should take up his duties in the near future in order to commence organisation of the Road Safety Exhibition. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved

1404—Destructor Depot—Amended Boundaries—The Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor and Borough Electrical Engineer had discussed the allocation of land as between the Electricity Committee and this Committee, and the Borough Surveyor now submitted plan showing the areas recommended. He also stressed the desirability of acquiring additional land between the River Chelt and Arle Road for possible future extensions. RESOLVED, That as the suggested area for inclusion in the Destructor Depot affects the St. Peter's Recreation Ground, the views of the Parks Committee be obtained.

(b) Damage—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the serious damage occurring at this tip which he alleged was caused by children using St. Peter's Recreation Ground, and he recommended the provision of fencing. The Committee were reminded that the Recreation Ground would shortly be closed for a considerable period for reinstatement work. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit to the next meeting an estimate of the cost of fencing required.

(c) Erections—The Borough Surveyor recommended that the old filler shed formerly used for the manufacture of tar macadam and which was now in a very dilapidated condition, should be demolished and the opening in the fence made good. He also recommended the demolition of the structure which formerly housed the asphalt plant. Should the Committee decide to manufacture asphalt in the future he doubted whether a modern plant could be accommodated in the existing building. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved and adopted.

1405—Central Depot—(a) Garage Accommodation—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan showing his proposals for covered garage accommodation for the new vehicles which the Council had decided to acquire. The cost of the work by direct labour would amount to £1,000 as compared with a possible £1,500 by contract. This difference was accounted for by the fact that the Borough Surveyor would be able to use a quantity of material in stock. Provision was included in the scheme for doors to the existing storage accommodation and additional covered accommodation for six vehicles. The Committee had in mind that the Finance Committee had excluded such a scheme from the annual estimates and considered that this expenditure should be defrayed from loan. They, therefore, were of opinion that some adjustment might be made in the present storage accommodation and that the cost of providing doors could be omitted for the time being.

RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit a revised estimate to the next meeting with a view to application being made for loan sanction.

(b) Horse Transport—The Borough Surveyor reported that the horse-drawn vehicles were costly to maintain and that it would be more economical to replace them with motor transport. A light motor lorry would probably carry out all the work formerly undertaken by the three horses and carts and the results from the sale of this equipment could be set off against the cost of a motor vehicle.

RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be adopted and that he report to the next meeting as to the arrangements for sale.

236

(c) Workmen's Club—The Council had agreed to the root., formerly adapted for A.R.P. purposes, being Allocated as a Club Room for the employees. They now asked the Council would raise any objection to a Chili licence being obtained. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the application be granted on condition that the Club was run on approved lines and a good standard of conduct maintained. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal subject to the necessary safeguards that the Club will be conducted on satisfactory lines.

1407-Works Completed---The Borough Surveyor reported on the works completed during the month which included carriageway widening in Dunalley Parade ; re-surfacing North Street ; new kerbing and channelling Lansdown Road ; footpath widening Oriol Road ; repairs to carriageways and footpaths ; surface water drain Gloucester Road ; re-laying slabs around Sandford Pool and Car Park reinstatement ; trimming and felling trees; painting of name plates, direction signs, speed limit signs and halt signs, and other works. 1162 tons 10 cwts. of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1606 tons 10 cwts. in April. Refuse collections had improved and it was hoped to maintain collections at seven-day intervals. The recent paper salvage drive had resulted in increased paper collections from 28 tons in April to 44 tons in May and the general sales of salvage had increased from £246 to £360 for the same period.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**13th May, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Green and Waite ; Councillors Addis, Midwinter, Morris and Strickland.

1408—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of April was read—

| DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS |                  | Average for          |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
|                        | For month ended  | corresponding period |
| Springs                | 30th April, 1947 | during last 3 years  |
| Hewletts Spring        | 437,000          | 237,000              |
| Dowdeswell             | 3,615,000        | 1,569,000            |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 103,000,000 gallons.

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 28th April                     | 37,845,000 |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 4 weeks ended 28th April                      | 12,822,000 |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1st April, 1947 | 37,845,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947                    | 12,822,000 |
| Average daily consumption for April   | 3,419,000  |

| Rainfall for April | During month | Average monthly rainfall |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford           | 2.66"        | 1.98"                    |
| Hewletts           | 2.87"        | 2.10"                    |
| Dowdeswell         | 2.83"        | 2.17"                    |
| Tewkesbury         | 1.92"        | 1.75'                    |

1409—Rural Water Supplies—(a) Leckhampton Hill—(i) The Borough Engineer stated that when this scheme was sub-mitted to the Ministry of Health in August, 1946, £5,000 was included for a reservoir and new mains in that part of Leckhampton parish situate above the Council's existing reservoir; also £2,000 for the purchase of the Ullenwood Camp supply.

Since that date, however, further facts became apparent which necessitated some modification of the scheme. He had now obtained information in regard to the supply which comprised a booster pump at Leckhampton Reservoir, delivering into either a low level reservoir or a high level tower at the Camp with a second booster to trans-port water between the two latter points. The high level tower with a capacity of 24,000 gallons formed some 40% of the total storage.

The supplies to be given from this system included: ---

- (a) a portion of Leckhampton parish in the Council's water area not at present supplied;
- (b) existing supply to Cheltenham Rural District Council for Birdlip and future development in the Cheltenham Rural District including Crickley, Cobberley and Cowley.
- (c) a supply to Cheltenham Rural District Council for re-sale to the Cirencester Rural District Council after boosting through Birdlip.
- (d) future requirements of the Ullenwood Camp at present unknown but likely to exceed present demands. it was very difficult to estimate future demands with any degree of accuracy and as little or no financial assistance could be expected from the Government under the Rural Water Supplies Act, 1944, the Borough Engineer proposed to delete from the scheme the provision of a reservoir in Wagon Quarry, including the short lengths of main leading thereto, and to substitute therefore a second pressure reducing valve and connections out of the existing rising main. Whilst the Borough

Engineer still considered separate service and pumping mains to be the most satisfactory engineering method. he felt that any risk entailed by connecting services to a pumping main was sufficiently reduced by having a set, main with only two connections. This could be regarded as a short-term policy until such time as future requirements were more definitely known.

237

The saving by these recommendations over the original scheme amounted to £1,650, making the total cost of the supply to Leckhampton Hill, including £2,000 for the purchase of the Ullenwood Camp supply, at £5,350 as compared with £7,000 previously reported. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Health be informed that as a result of the additional information now available in regard to the Ullenwood supply, the Council desire to substitute a modified scheme on the lines indicated.

(ii) Read, letter from Councillor Thompson stating that residents on Leckhampton Hill had again approached him in regard to their supply. The supply to two properties was unsuitable for drinking purposes and it was imperative that a main supply be afforded as soon as possible. The Borough Engineer stated that there were already three stand-pipes in suitable positions on the Hill so that there was available for all residents a mains supply from this source. RESOLVED, That Councillor Thompson be informed accordingly and his attention also be drawn to the difficulties which the Council have encountered in regard to obtaining information as to the Ullenwood supply and the consequent amendments to the scheme about to be submitted to the Ministry.

(b) Grant towards cost of Rural Schemes (Min. 592)---The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had asked the Ministry of Health to re-consider the Council's application for grant in respect of the schemes sub-mitted by the Council. The Minister however, was not prepared to make a direct grant to the Council. If, however, the Rural District Councils concerned were prepared to enter into guarantee arrangements under Section 36 of the Water Act, 1945, with the Borough Council, the Minister would consider application for grant in respect of the losses falling on the Rural District Councils under their guarantees. The Minister there-fore proposed to defer further consideration of the Council's schemes pending receipt of information as to the reaction of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Rural District Councils on the financial question. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk approach the Rural District Councils accordingly and that if necessary the Chairman, Town Clerk and Borough Engineer be authorised to discuss the matter with representatives of the District Councils.

(c) Pershore Supply—The Town Clerk reported information received from the Ministry of Health of an Inquiry into an application of the Pershore Rural District Council to afford a supply of water to the parishes of Defford and Besford.

The Borough Engineer reported on the existing supplies to the Pershore Rural District Council. RESOLVED, That if a bulk supply was desired, Council were prepared to furnish such supply on terms to be arranged, and that the Borough Engineer be asked to attend the Local Inquiry with a view to obtaining full information as to the proposals.

(d) Norton Parish—The Borough Engineer reported communication from the Clerk to the Norton Parish Council enquiring the progress of the Rural scheme for that parish and whether the scheme, as at present envisaged, included a branch to Norton Green and Wainlode Road. The Borough Engineer had informed the Clerk that the scheme was awaiting the Ministry's approval and that branches, such as indicated, were not included in the main scheme but were intended to be the subjects of revenue agreements either with consumers or the appropriate local authority. RESOLVED, That the reply be approved.



(e) Down Hatherley—The Borough Engineer also submitted a communication from Mr. J. C. Scrivens in regard to, the supply to this Parish. In the special circumstances of this case he saw no objection to a public tap being placed at once at the end of the existing mains in Down Hatherley, subject to safeguards by a responsible body for payment for water used and also to the removal of the taps if and when a new main was laid through the village.

The main road from Gloucester to Tewkesbury formed the boundary between the water areas of Cheltenham and Gloucester for about a mile north of Brook Lane, the properties on the east being in the Cheltenham area and those on the west in the Gloucester area. To avoid undue expense to each authority there was an under-standing that the Gloucester mains would eventually extend for the southern half of this distance serving both sides of the road and the Cheltenham mains included in the scheme now submitted to the Ministry had included properties on the northern half. The question therefore of a public tap at the Twigworth boundary was primarily a matter for the Gloucester City Council. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer discuss the position with the City Engineer and also inform the Gloucester Rural District Council of the application and that if a tap is provided off the main under the control of this Council, the Rural District Council must accept responsibility for consumption and removal of tap when required.

1410—Extension of Main, New Barn Lane—The Borough Engineer reported upon a claim received from the tenant of Starvehall Farm amounting to £30 in respect of the trench laid across his land. The length involved was 417 yards with an average width of three yards. The trench now required levelling and seeding and the work would be carried out in the near future but the tenant alleged that in the meantime, due to deposits being left rather high, the adjoining field had been flooded, thus deteriorating the grass.

The Borough Engineer recalled that the Cheltenham District Gas Company had also laid a gas main in the same trench and were prepared to share reasonable compensation. RESOLVED, That the Boroughs Engineer be authorised to endeavour to effect a settlement at £25, failing which the matter be referred to the Councils Land Agent (Mr. Castle).

1411—Brooklyn Gardens—Extension of Main—Messrs. Western Estates (Laves Cherry) Ltd. applied for a further main extension of 100 yards at Brooklyn Gardens to afford a supply to an additional 12 houses, for which building licences had now been obtained. The Borough Engineer estimated the cost at £100 but that the revenue would cover the required guarantee under the Water Act, 1945. The Company had previously deposited £100 in respect of an extension to new houses in these Gardens and as these houses were all occupied and the exceeded the requisite percentage, the Borough Engineer suggested and the Company agreed to this sum being transferred to cover the guarantee required for the further extension. RESOLVED, That the proposal be agreed to.

238

1412—Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board—Annual Consumption—The Borough Engineer submitted statistics showing the output. of the Joint Board for the year ended 31st March last, together with the quantities taken by the two constituent authorities.

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Total taken by Cheltenham Borough Council  | 821,137,000 galls.   |
| Total taken by Gloucester City Council ... | <u>913,510,000 "</u> |
|  | 1,734,647,000 "      |

Comparative figures in gallons were :—

|                            | 1946               | 1945               | 1944               | 1943               |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cheltenham Borough Council | 898,573,000        | 912,522,000        | 852,098,000        | 604,672,000        |
| Gloucester City Council    | <u>895,282,000</u> | <u>923,185,000</u> | <u>914,358,000</u> | <u>614,215,000</u> |
|                            | 1,793,855,000      | 1,835,707,000      | 1,766,456,000      | 1,218,887,000      |

1413—Castle Barn Farm—Mr. R. W. Castle, the Council's Land Agent, attended to make recommendations in regard to the re-letting of this farm from Michaelmas next. He had been in communication with the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee and recommended that the application of an ex-service man, Mr. W. E. Fletcher, of Northleach, be accepted, the rent to be at the rate of £1 per acre, namely £279 per annum. Mr. Fletcher asked for the hot water system in the house to be repaired and he would also like the shooting rights over Red Wood and Lineover Wood included in his tenancy. The Committee were satisfied with Mr. Fletcher's status and references, and the Borough Engineer saw no difficulty in carrying out the repairs required. RESOLVED, That the Farm and shooting rights be let to Mr. Fletcher on a yearly tenancy at the rent stated, as from 29th September next, and that the Common Seal be affixed to tenancy agreement.

1414—Home or Lower Farm (Min. 1124)—The Borough Engineer reported on two tenders received for drainage work to this farm which had been referred to him for examination' the Chairman being authorised to accept the most suitable. The Chairman had accepted the tender of Mr. J. Partridge, of Birdlip, amounting to £485 6s. 8d., subject to contract. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract.

1415—Works Completed during the Month—The Borough Engineer reported that during April 1,018 inspections had been undertaken when the Inspectors found 20 defective flush boxes, 71 leaking taps, 17 defective stop taps and 18 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 88 draw taps ; 50 notices had been served on owners; 56 houses were connected owing to change of tenancies, etc.; 44 supplies disconnected and 52 meters changed or fixed.

With regard to general maintenance work, 800 yards of new main had been laid in Lansdown Place, Priors Park Estate, Tewkesbury, and the Knole Estates ; mains repaired at Northfield and Redwood Springs and at Tewkesbury ; new sluice valves fixed in Lansdown Place and the Knole ; sluice valves repaired in Royal Well Road and Elmfield Estate ; new hydrants fixed at Priors Park Estate ; and meters (installed about 1894) re-placed at Tewkesbury. Other work had included pumping, meter cleaning, repairing and testing; mains washed out and hydrants and stop cocks inspected in various districts and necessary repairs undertaken.

With regard to the new main in Lansdown Place and Lansdown Road, the Borough Engineer reported upon the difficulties encountered in making satisfactory connections with the old main and that several attempts had proved unsuccessful. It had therefore been necessary to extend the new main until a satisfactory connection could be made and the contract price would therefore be increased to cover the cost of this additional work. He would, however, report further thereon to the next meeting.

1416--Analyses—The Medical Officer submitted satisfactory analyses of the supplies.

1417—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

## HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**21st May, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor Councillors Addis, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Gardner, Morris and Yeend.

1418—M.A.P. Estate—Innsworth Grove (Min. 1161/47)—As instructed, the Town Clerk had intimated to the Ministry of Supply that the Council would be prepared to accept their offer of £2 5s. 0d. per house per annum for the management of this Estate, provided they continued to receive in addition the allowance of 5% of the amount spent on repairs. The Ministry of Supply had now agreed that the Council should continue to receive the allowance of 5% as requested. RESOLVED, That the revised terms offered by the Ministry for the management of this Estate be accepted.

1419—Priors Farm Estate—The Town Clerk submitted further letter from residents in South Avenue asking the Committee to reconsider their decision not to erect a fence along the line of the brook at the rear of these houses to prevent damage by children pending the erection of the two temporary shops. Although they appreciated that the erection of these shops would be of assistance to all residents on this estate, they did not think that the damage to gardens caused by children would be prevented. It was pointed out that as the brook rarely contained water, consideration might be given to it being filled in.

239

A memorial from residents on this Estate was also submitted asking that the front gardens of the bungalows should be fenced in, in order to prevent young children running out on the roads. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that the Ministry of Works had not provided for fencing for these bungalows and he thought the fencing would seriously detract from the appearance of the Estate.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Borough Surveyor be asked to report on the proposal to fill in this brook with a view to throwing the land into the of the houses in South Avenue and erecting a fence at the rear.

(b) That in view of the fact that the aluminium bungalows are regarded as more permanent structures than other types of temporary bungalow, the Borough Surveyor communicate with Ministry of Works and ascertain whether under the circumstances they are prepared to reconsider the provision of suitable fencing.

1420—Cheltenham Communist Party—The Clerk submitted further letter from Cheltenham Communist Party asking the Committee to reconsider their application. for information relating to the disposition of the building labour in the town and as to building licences and giving their reasons as to why they required the information. RESOLVED, That the Committee owing to the considerable work which would be involved in extracting all the information required, adhere to their previous decision that they are unable to accede to this application and that they must refer the Party to the minutes of the Committee, which from time to time, have given all the relative information.

1421—Licensing—(a) Montal Watch Fitting Co., Ltd.—Read letter from the Ministry of Health that no objection would be raised to the issue of licences for the erection of eight houses provided that the number of houses for which the Council themselves invited tenders during the current quarter were reduced by two. RESOLVED, That this condition be observed on the issue of these licences to the Montal Watch Fitting Co., Ltd.

(b) Brooklyn Gardens—Read letter from the Ministry of Health that it had now been agreed that if a private contractor requested a local authority to revoke a building licence which had been issued before the 25th February, 1947, insofar as it related to the houses on which work had not yet

started, and made application for a new licence in respect of these houses, no objection would be raised to the issue of a new licence by the local authority allowing for the increased price and embodying conditions set out in Circular 34/47. The Town Clerk reported that he had informed Messrs. Western Estates, Ltd., of this decision and now sub-mitted further letter from them making formal application for the licences in respect of the last 30 houses at this site to be revoked and for the issue of a new licence for 24 houses at £1,300 and six houses at £1,230 each. RESOLVED, That the original licences be revoked as requested and that new licences be issued for these 30 houses at the prices set out embodying the conditions mentioned in Circular 34/47.

1422—Sites of Nos. 23 to 26 Dunalley Parade—The Committee considered a recommendation from the Street and Highway Committee that when these sites were purchased, the land should be fenced in. RESOLVED, That the Committee will consider the matter if the negotiations for the purchase of the site are successful.

1423—Land, Junction Whaddon and Prestbury Roads—The Town Clerk reported that the District Valuer had now satisfactorily concluded negotiations with Cheltenham Estates, Ltd., for the purchase of the above land by the Council. The land contained 14 acres on which were erected N.F.S. huts and the fire station and the site was at present requisitioned. The District Valuer's valuation was submitted that the purchase price had been agreed at £1,000, the Corporation to pay Surveyor's fees and Vendors' Solicitors costs. The Ministry of Works were prepared to de-requisition the land with the exception of the brick built N.F.S. station which was at present used by the Ministry of Food for food storage. A certain portion of the land would be required for street improvement purposes. RESOLVED, (a) That the land be purchased on the terms negotiated by the District Valuer.

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan of £1,058 for the purchase of the land including Vendors' Solicitors' and Surveyors' costs and stamp duty on the conveyance.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £1,058, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order and Receipt.

(d) That on completion of the purchase, application be made to the Ministry of Works for the de-requisitioning of the huts and garage with a view to these being available as a temporary community centre for Whaddon and District Community Association.

1424-1 Hudson Street—The Town Clerk reported that the Planning Committee had considered an application received from the tenant of this house for the condition requiring the removal of the small shed at the rear of these premises when required by the Council, to be lifted. Provided this Committee did not object the Planning Committee had agreed to the request. RESOLVED, That this Committee raise no objection to this shed remaining.

1425—Requisitioning Sub-Committee--- Reports of Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the April and 9th May were submitted.

(a) Five houses had been requisitioned, of which three had subsequently been released under certain conditions.

(b) 4 Belle Vue Place—Top Flat The Sub-Committee had considered whether they should make application to the Ministry of Health for delegation of special powers to requisition the whole of this house in order to protect the tenant of the top flat who had received notice to quit upon the termination of the three months for which he was protected by statute following his successful

appeal to the Rent Tribunal. In view of In fact that this house was required by the owner for her own occupation the Sub-Committee had decided not to apply for special powers.

(c) 2 Park Grange The Sub-Committee had approved certain nominations for the flats at this house and had refused to alter their decision on an appeal by the owner to instal alternative tenants on terms and conditions of tenancy which were not to the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

240

1426—Estate Management Sub-Committee—\_A report of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 2nd May was submitted. The following matters inter alia were dealt with:—

(a) Five applicants were interviewed and ten applications considered.

(b) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversions of requisitioned and various other properties.

| Address                 | Progress and Estimated Completion   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 36 Lansdown Crescent    | In hand---6 to 8 weeks.   |
| 3 Sydenham Villas Road  | “ —end of week.   |
| Oldfield Court          | “ —2 weeks.   |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas  | Contractor waiting for tenants to be rehoused.<br>End of month. Commenced 5/5/47. |
| 13 Lansdown Crescent    | Tenders at M.O.H. for authorisation.  |
| 13 Montpellier Parade   | In hand-3 weeks.  |
| Northfield House ...    | Scheme at M.O.H.  |
| 103 Montpellier Terrace | Scheme in hand.   |

(c) Licensing—The Sub-Committee fixed maximum annual rents for eight houses to be erected by Messrs. Montal Watchfittings, Ltd. The Sub-Committee considered all outstanding applications for licences for building houses by private enterprise. Of the six houses which the Council were permitted to licence in the quarter ended 30th September next, they decided to grant licences to Mr. J. Cook for the erection of a pair of semi-detached houses in Hewlett Road and Mr. E. W. Cook for the erection of a pair of houses in Merrivale Road. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1427—Staff—(a) Manager, Innsworth Grove Estate—The Housing Manager reported that she had been in communication with the Society of Women Housing Managers with a view to obtaining an assistant to take over the management of this estate on the present Manager's resignation. As no applications had been received the post was being advertised.

(b) Overtime—The Borough Treasurer reported that in view of the large amount of overtime worked in the Housing Department it might be desirable to consider the appointment of a part-time collector. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager consider this proposal and report thereon to the Committee.

(c) Chief Assistant—The housing Manager reported that the Deputy Housing Manager would shortly be resign-ing upon her forthcoming marriage and she wished to advertise the position with a view to a Chief Assistant being appointed before this resignation took effect. RESOLVED, That the

appointment of Chief Assistant be advertised at a salary in accordance with Establishment and Grading Scheme.

1428—Wimpey " No Fines " Houses--The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Ministry of Health with regard to the form of contract to be entered into with Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., and now submitted letter from the Ministry pointing out that where a national price was agreed with the sponsors of a particular type of non-traditional type of house it was necessary for the price to refer to a particular date, making re-negotiations from time to time unnecessary. In the case of Wimpey Houses, the particular date fixed was 1st May, 1946 and was, in the Ministry's view a fair and national average for that date.

This price formed a basis for the adjustment of local variations and the national price in each instance must be related to a standard basic price.

The national price also formed a basis for the payment of capital grant which was calculated on the difference between the national price for Wimpey Houses (23s 7 ½d per foot super, excluding abnormals) and the comparable approved tender price per foot super (excluding abnormals) for a similar type of traditional house in the area of the local authority.

If no tender for traditional houses was approved within three months of the relevant date the regional average approved in May, 1946 (21s. 11.3d.) would apply.

Broadly speaking the difference between the two prices per foot super would be multiplied by the average area per house in feet super and the resultant figure evaluated to the nearest £5 would, if not less than £25, represent the capital grant. With regard to the provision of services it would be necessary for the Council to allow a sum which was appropriate in their particular case. All increases on National Health Insurance and holidays with pay since the 1st May, 1946, would be extras to the contract. The national price would include the provision of a gas copper.

The Town Clerk pointed out that Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., had been asked to revise their list of basic prices to bring it up to 1st May, 1947, in order that application for loan sanction could be made for a figure which would approximate to the final costs of the houses, thus obviating the necessity for making further application for excess loan sanctions at a later date and he now submitted a revised tender from Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., embodying these amendments. They also submitted plans of further types of houses for different aspects which had been approved by the Ministry, the prices for which had not yet been finally agreed. The price amendments in the list of basic prices had the effect of increasing the original national price per house by £88 which was almost entirely due to price increases of timber and lead and local high prices for aggregate. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that although the Ministry of Health had been pressing Messrs. Wimeys to produce houses suitable for different aspects it now appeared from the revised quotation that the price per house depended upon the number of each type on each site so. that it would be desirable from the point of view of cost to use as little variation of type as possible on each site. The quotation also included amended prices for extras required by the Council including clothes posts, sliding door to larder, closed spandrel to stairs, 1 ¼ " flow and return hot water pipe, aerial and earth, heightened broom cupboard and plate rack. Certain variations such as gable ends in order to avoid monotony would be incorporated, but these would be kept an absolute minimum. RESOLVED, (a) That subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health a Contract he entered into with Messrs. George Wimpey & Co., Ltd., for the first instalment of 106 No Fines houses to be erected on the Lynworth Farm Estate.

(b) That the improvements now be settled by the Committee be incorporated,

(c) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £\_\_\_\_\_ for the cost of the houses made up as follows :-

| Type 12.   | £             | s.        | d.        |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| National Price, May, 1946  | 1,162         | 15        | 0         |
| For guaranteed payments not included in R.I.B.A. Contract  |               | 8         | 0         |
| For Water, Gas and Electrical services ...   |               | 15        | 0         |
| Extras for internal variations approved by Committee   |               | <u>8</u>  | <u>19</u> |
|  | <u>£1,194</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>0</u>  |
| For 80 Houses of Type 12   | 95,576        | 0         | 0         |
| Add for alternative elevation as approved by Committee at May, 1947, prices 24 at £31 and 26 at £14 .. ... | 1,108         | 0         | 0         |
| Increased cost on Basic Prices for May, 1947 ... ..  | 8,888         | 0         | 0         |
| Type 24.   |               |           |           |
| Messrs. Wimpey's price submitted to Ministry. £1,263 19s. Od. per house (May, 1946) 26 houses              | 32,862        | 14        | 0         |
| Increased cost on Basic Prices, May, 1947  | 2,739         | 6         | 4         |
| Extra cost for amendment to original outhouses as desired by Regional Architect                            | 875           | 0         | 0         |
| Estimated increased cost of National Health Insurance from 1st Oct., 1946                                  | 318           | 0         | 0         |
| Clerk of Works (estimated) ... ..  | 600           | 0         | 0         |
| Proportion of Officers' Salaries in lieu of Architect's and Surveyor's Fees, say                           | <u>1,400</u>  | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>  |
|  | 144,367       | 0         | 4         |
| Less reduction for over 100 houses as agreed with Ministry at £3 a house                                   | <u>318</u>    | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>  |
| Total estimated cost of 106 houses as at May, 1947   | £144,049      | 0         | 4         |

With regard to the reduction of £3 per house, if the Rowanfield Road Compulsory Purchase Order is confirmed, and the contract for 500 Wimpey "No Fines" houses entered into as approved by the Council, the reduction will be £20 per house over the whole of the 500 houses.

With regard to Type 24, if of the 500 houses less than 100 houses of this type are provided, an addition of £40 per house will be payable in respect of the 26 houses of this type included in the above mentioned 106 houses, thereby adding a sum of £1,040 to the above mentioned sum.

(d) That the Common Seal be affixed to a Contract and Bond to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

(e) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order and Receipt.

1429—Whaddon Boys' Club Hut—This hut was purchased and erected by the Council on the Whaddon Estate for use as a Youth Hut by the Cheltenham College Mission as long ago as January, 1946. In July last the County Education Committee had agreed to sanction a grant of £550 for the cost of adapting the hut and providing the necessary services and heating and in October the Borough Surveyor obtained tenders on behalf of the County Council, the lowest tender being that of

Messrs. Middleton & Son amounting to £477. In November last the County Council stated that it had been forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval and for the necessary priority for materials. Since then nothing further had been heard. Unfortunately very considerable damage had now been done to the hut, large holes had been torn in the plaster board linings and the two partitions dividing the hut into three rooms had been severely damaged. There was also evidence that an attempt had been made to set fire to the hut. In addition, a piano which the Cheltenham College Mission had stored in the hut ready for use had been completely wrecked and several chairs were missing. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had been in touch with Messrs. Middleton & Son and now found that owing to the long delay they were unable to carry out the work at the original tender price and their revised tender now amounted to £582 11s. 0d. an increase of over £100. To make good the damage which had been caused to the hut would cost a further £26. RESOLVED, That the amended tender and quotation for making good the damage be forwarded to the County Council and that they be urged to take all possible steps to obtain the approval of the Ministry of Education to carrying out the work.

1430—Small Dwellings Acquisition Act—In April last year. the Council decided to approve in principle, the making of advances to owner/occupiers for purchase of their houses under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, as amended by the Housing Act, 1936. The Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer submitted reports upon the powers of the Council and the operation of the Act The terms upon which an advance may be made are as follows:—

1. The advance must not exceed 90% of that, which in the opinion of the Council, is the market value, and an advance could not be made if, in the opinion of the Council, the market value of the house exceeds £1,500.
2. Every advance must be repaid with interest within such period not exceeding 30 years as may be fixed by the Council. The Council are required to be satisfied :—
  - (a) That the applicant is resident or intends to reside in the house, and that he is not already a proprietor of a house to which the statutory conditions of the loan apply.
  - (b) That the value of the ownership of the house is sufficient.
  - (c) That the title is one which a tenant Mortgagee would accept.
  - (d) That the house is in good sanitary condition and good repair.
  - (e) That the repayment of the advance is secured by a Mortgage.

242

On completion of the transaction, the house will be held subject to the following statutory conditions:-

- (i) The sum due for principal and interest shall be punctually paid.
- (ii) The proprietor shall reside in the house for a period of three years unless the Council agree to dispense with this condition in any particular case.
- (iii) The house shall be kept insured against fire to the satisfaction of the Council.
- (iv) The house shall be kept in good sanitary condition and good repair.



(v) The house shall not be used for the sale of intoxicating liquors, or in such a manner as to be a nuisance to adjacent houses.

(vi) The Council shall have power to enter the house at all reasonable times and ascertain whether the statutory conditions are being complied with.

The rate of interest is fixed by the Treasurer from time to time and is -W. above the rate of interest at which the Council may borrow from the Government. As the Government rate is now 2 ½ %, the rate of interest on advances by the Council would at present be 2 ¾ %. The rate in operation at the date of advance to the borrower applies until the advance is fully repaid.

Considerable difficulty is being experienced by many authorities at the present time in determining the market value of existing houses, particularly houses erected prior to the war.

The Borough Treasurer submitted summary of replies to a questionnaire on the policy of making advances adopted by 22 other towns. While most authorities adopted the cost or selling price as being the market value of new houses, in the case of houses erected prior to the war, the majority of the authorities adopted the 1939 value plus a percentage varying from 60% to 100%.

The Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and Borough Surveyor pointed out that while at the present time, owing to the fact that very few houses were being sold at less than £1,500, the work involved in carrying out the Act might be substantial, and perhaps in due course necessitate additional staff in all departments. A considerable number of forms and Registers would be required, and it would be desirable to advertise the terms under which the Council would make advances, and prepare leaflets and application form fully setting out the conditions under which advances could be made. The Borough Treasurer was also required to keep various financial registers, and Deed Registers and cabinets and additional storage accommodation might also be required.

RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make advances in approved cases on the following terms and conditions:—

(1) The period of any Mortgage not to exceed 20 years and repayments to be made monthly.

(2) That the valuation of houses be undertaken by the Borough Surveyor, and that a charge of £2 2s. 0d. be made to Borrowers for each Valuation.

(3) That the basis of the valuation be as follows : —

|              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| New houses.  | The selling price.   |
| Other houses | 1939 value plus 75%. |

Also that the basis of the valuation of new houses be revised in due course if such review is found necessary.

(4) That the Mortgage and investigation of title be undertaken by the Town Clerk, and that the following scale of charges be made for the preparation of Mortgage and investigation of title, the Borrowers in every case to pay in addition the stamp duty on the Mortgage, and Land Registry and Local Land Charge Search fees:-

|                         |                         | £ s. d. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Advance exceeding £100  | but not exceeding £200  | 3 10 0  |
| Advance exceeding £200  | but not exceeding £300  | 4 0 0   |
| Advance exceeding £300  | but not exceeding £400  | 4 10 0  |
| Advance exceeding £400  | but not exceeding £500  | 5 0 0   |
| Advance exceeding £500  | but not exceeding £600  | 5 10 0  |
| Advance exceeding £600  | but not exceeding £700  | 6 0 0   |
| Advance exceeding £700  | but not exceeding £800  | 6 10 0  |
| Advance exceeding £800  | but not exceeding £900  | 7 0 0   |
| Advance exceeding £900  | but not exceeding £1000 | 7 10 0  |
| Advance exceeding £1000 | but not exceeding £1100 | 7 17 6  |
| Advance exceeding £1100 | but not exceeding £1200 | 8 5 0   |
| Advance exceeding £1200 | but not exceeding £1300 | 8 12 6  |
| Advance exceeding £1300 | but not exceeding £1350 | 9 0 0   |

(5) That the maximum amount of the advance shall not exceed 80% of the market value.

(6) That applications shall only be entertained from persons who are about to purchase a house for their own occupation and that no application for an advance to repay an existing Mortgage be entertained.

(7) That where amounts are outstanding in respect of the making up of roads such amounts shall be deducted from the advance, but that no amount shall be deducted from the advance in respect of a liability to make up a road when called upon, such liability being taken into account when the valuation is made.

(8) That the Council undertake the insurance of houses on behalf of the Borrower, the premium to be paid by the Borrower.

(9) That the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer be authorised to obtain the necessary Registers and forms, and deed cabinets as may be required from time to time, and that the Town Clerk have advertisements, posters and pamphlets printed setting out the conditions under which advances may be obtained.

(10) That for the time being applications for advances be considered by the Housing Committee, and the Committee's decisions thereon be forwarded to the Finance Committee for their information.

(11) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £10,000 for the purpose of making advances. Also that application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £10,000, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Order, Mortgage and Receipt, the loan to be taken up by instalments as and when required.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

243

#### GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

**20th [May] 1947**, Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Waite, Ward and Winterbotham; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Readings and Thompson.

1431— Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on 7th May, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1432—Establishment Sub-Committee—The Establishment Sub-Committee met on 15th May, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1433—Police Superintendent, Cheltenham—The Town Clerk reported that the Chief Constable had agreed that the various appointments held by Superintendent Hopkins should on his retirement be held by his successor (Supt. Large). RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to appoint Supt. Large to the following positions that the Common Seal be affixed to his appointments. :—

1. Officer for the purpose of enforcing compliance with the provisions of Section 86 of the Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1907, and with authority to enter any premises used as marine stores and to inspect the books required to be kept under the provisions of the said Section.
2. Officer for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Town Police Clauses Act, 1847, and any byelaws made thereunder.
3. Hackney Carriage Inspector and Street Inspector and Inspector of Places of Entertainment.
4. Inspector for the purposes of the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders. ALSO RESOLVED, That he be authorised to take proceedings under the Shops Acts and any closing orders made thereunder by the Council for breaches in regard to the weekly half holiday and closing hours.

1434—Sunday Opening of Cinemas (Min. 1029)—Letter dated 16th May, was submitted from the Home Office intimating that the Secretary of State had laid before Parliament an Order in the terms of the draft submitted by the Council, and that this Order was approved by resolution of the House of Commons and of the House of Lords on the 12th and 14th May respectively. Section 1 of the Act now therefore extended permanently to the Borough.

1435—Cleeve Common—The Town Clerk reported letter from the County Council indicating their support of the Borough Council's objections and explaining the reasons which lay behind the procedure that had been followed. The Committee also had before them a letter from the War Office read to the Council at their last meeting to the effect that it was only intended to ask for training rights over an area of 475 acres for infantry training purposes of the Territorial Association. If the proposal was approved the area would not be used very frequently and then mainly at weekends. There would be no detrimental effect upon the amenities of the area since no firing of live ammunition would take place nor would tanks or heavy tracked vehicles be used. Public access to the area would not at any time be restricted. It was also stated that the proposal was yet to be discussed by the Interdepartmental Committee which would be in possession of a report from the Regional Office of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning embodying all local objections to the scheme. This report would receive every consideration from the Committee before a decision was made.

The Committee also had before them a letter from Mr. Alderman Lipson who had pursued this matter with the Secretary of State for War and who had received a reply in terms similar to the letter received by the Council from the War Office referred to above. Correspondence was also submitted from the Planning Officer and the Regional Planning Controller which included a sketch plan of the area which did not entirely bear out the limitations in the size of the area referred to by the War Department.

A letter was also submitted from the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Gloucestershire Branch) enclosing a letter from the War Office in which the requirements of that Office contained certain variations. It was reported at the meeting that from local information the training purposes might well involve the construction of a road or roads and the digging of trenches and it was hoped

that the common would be available for training men in modern warfare methods and that the arrangements might be a permanent one. RESOLVED, That this Committee afford the Planning Committee the fullest support in their opposition to the proposals.

1436—Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937—(i) RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the recommendations of the Water Committee that the services of H. M. Butler, General Fitter, and W. G. Dodwell, Custodian, Hewletts Reservoir, who have reached retiring age, be extended for 12 months from 7th May, 1947, and 31st May, 1947, respectively.

(ii) The Committee considered a recommendation of a joint meeting of the Public Library and Art Gallery Committees held on 20th May, 1947, that the services of Mr. D. W. Herdman be further extended for a period of 12 months from the 31st July, 1947, and that his salary be increased by £200 per annum. In view of the difficulty of securing a suitably experienced successor at the present time it was desirable to defer any new appointment until the future position of the library museum and art gallery functions was clarified. In regard to salary, Mr. Herdman had received no increase since 1939 although the staff had received a number of increases. The Public Library and Art Gallery Committees considered the position undesirable and anomalous and therefore made the above recommendation. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended in the circumstances to extend Mr. Herdman's services for 12 months, from 31st July, 1947, but that in view of the consideration now being given to the salaries of Chief and Officers by the Establishment Sub-Committee the terms of the extension be referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

244

1437—Thirlestaine House—The Town Clerk referred to the steps being taken by the County Council for the compulsory acquisition of the lease of this property. This Council previously considered its acquisition but withdrew in favour of the College, who also desired the property, on condition that if negotiations between the College and the owners failed the Council would have an opportunity of resuming negotiations. In view of the present position he had communicated with the College who expressed their regret if it appeared they had broken faith with the Council and stated that they had obtained an assignment of the lease before the County Council decided to do so, and presumed that the County would now withdraw. RESOLVED, That from the point of view of the Committee the position be noted.

1438—Association of Municipal Corporations—RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk be appointed representatives to the annual conference of this Association at Scarborough on 24th and 25th September, 1947.

1439—Conference--Society of Town Clerks—The Town Clerk reported that the Minister of Health, letter dated 28th January, had sanctioned payment by local authorities of expenses incurred in the attendance of their Town Clerks at the Society's Conference at Bournemouth on 12th and 13th May, 1947, which he had attended. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's expenses be paid.

1440—Charlton Kings Common—Notice of Surrender, dated 29th April, 1947, was submitted from the District Claims Officer, War Office, intimating that the Order made under Defence Regulation 52 in respect of the use of 65 acres of land forming part of Charlton Kings Common west of Mountains Knoll wood and the adjoining dis-used quarries expired on 31st December, 1946. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk submit such claim for dilapidations as may be found justified.

1441--Council Minutes—The Cheltenham Communist Party made application for copies of the Council minutes. RESOLVED, That, in common with other organisations, a copy of the minutes be supplied on the morning of Council meetings.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### RATING COMMITTEE.

**21st May, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillor Gardner.

1442—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

1443—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**23rd May, 1947,** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Waite and Ward ; Councillors Biggs and Morris.

1444\_ Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that loans amounting to £2,650 had been repaid since the last meeting.

1445--Corporation 1956 Stock—Stock amounting to £1,700 had been transferred from Lloyds Bank Nominees Limited to Barclay's Bank Limited and £700 from Francis & Praed Nominees Limited to the Public Trustee. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Stock Certificates Nos 155 and 156

1446—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date           | Proposal                                    | Amount | Term      |
|----------------|---|--------|-----------|
| 2nd May, 1947  | Layout, temporary houses; The Knole         | £3,446 | 20 years. |
| 5th May, 1947  | {Electricity—mains)                         | £8,220 | 25 years. |
|                | {Electricity—plant (Sub-Station equipment)  |        |           |
|                | {and kiosk                                  | £1,720 | 20 years. |
| 5th May, 1947  | {Electricity—mains                          | £2,918 | 25 years. |
|                | { Electricity—plant (Sub-Station equipment) | £2,561 | 20 years. |
| 16th May, 1947 | Purchase of No. 57 Promenade                | £6,135 | 20 years. |

245

1447—Audit of Accounts—Letter, dated 13th May, was submitted from the District Auditor intimating that the audit of accounts for the years 1944/45 and 1945/46 had been completed and that there was no matter to which he desired to draw attention.

1448—Pensions (Increase) —(i) Circular 89/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted forwarding Regulations made under the above Act, which consolidated without any substantial amendment the previous Regulations. Attention was drawn to the necessity for obtaining fresh applications and declarations from pensioners every two years. Pensioners entitled to an increase prior to 1st April, 1946, would be required to make new declarations now. The Borough Treasurer reported that the new forms of application and declaration had been forwarded to the pensioners and increases had been paid retrospective to 1st December, 1946. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(ii) RESOLVED, That two additional applications for increases under the Pensions Increase Act, now submitted, be approved,

1449—Variation of Rates of Interest—(Min. 1268). The Town Clerk had made application to the Minister of Health for an Order increasing the rate of interest in respect of the Council's Sinking Fund above that prescribed in the Local Government (Sinking Funds, Rate of Accumulation) Regulations, 1947, namely 2 ½ per cent., on the grounds that the average rate of interest upon advances from the Council's Loan Pool was at present slightly in excess of 3 per cent. and that any excess sum above 2 ½ per cent. would be a charge on the rates. The Minister stated he was unable to make an Order and pointed out that it was only in cases where sinking fund monies were actually invested in securities yielding a rate of interest substantially in excess of the prescribed rate that he would consider allowing an increase in such rate. The Borough Treasurer reported that he had taken up this matter with the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants, as a number of other local authorities were similarly affected.

1450—Housing Subsidies—Circular 93/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted outlining new procedure for payment of Exchequer subsidies under the Housing Acts which would give relief to local authorities in the completion of claim forms. The full amount of subsidies payable in respect of each year would now be paid in two half-yearly payments during the year without awaiting the submission of a claim, in lieu of the present system whereby two advances on account were made, the final balance being paid on receipt of a claim certified by the District Auditor. The circular dealt with the method in which claim forms should be dealt with under the new arrangements. The Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer reported that in view of the automatic way in which this matter had been dealt with in the years-past, the new procedure would in fact mean little or no relief.

1451—Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts—Advances--The Committee considered Min. 1432 (Housing Committee) in regard to advances under the provisions of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts. The Committee made some minor adjustments with which it was understood the Housing Committee might be expected to agree. RESOLVED, That the Council be asked to substitute the word " confirmation " for the word " information " in Resolution 10 of the Housing Committee's Minutes (No. 1432) and, subject to the alteration, the Committee concurred in the recommendations.

1452—Programme of Capital Expenditure—The Town Clerk referred to circular 9147, Ministry of Health, requesting a statement of the actual expenditure on capital works for the year 1946/47, and detailed estimates of expenditure for the years 1947/48, 1948/49 and 1949/50. A statement was submitted showing the estimates originally submitted to the department and the information now required. RESOLVED, That consideration of the programme be deferred to the next meeting, but that in view of the date by which the information is required by the Minister, the programme now submitted be forwarded to him with an intimation that the Council had not yet fully considered the matter and it was therefore subject to any amendment they may consider necessary.

1453—Borough Treasurer's Department—Electricity Section-The Borough Treasurer reported on the re-organisation of this Section, in this particular case he had been able to achieve a satisfactory output of work and a reduction of staff at the same time

1454—Electricity Finance—Rebate—The Borough Treasurer referred to a report submitted by the Borough Electrical Engineer and himself to the Electricity Committee on the proposed rebate in electricity charges, calculations in respect of which would occupy a considerable period in view of the number of consumers. In view of staff reductions and the necessity for keeping billing up to date, it would be necessary to work some overtime in order to give effect to the rebate.

1455—Electricity Renewals Funds —The Borough Treasurer reported that in addition to the statutory Reserve Fund of £40,476 held by the Electricity Undertaking, there was a Renewals Fund of £13,490. The Borough Treasurer had consulted with the Town Clerk upon the position in regard to this fund under the nationalisation proposals, and the Electricity Committee had approved a resolution recommending the transfer of that Fund to the Electricity Surplus Revenue Account.

1456—Superannuation—(i) The following refunds of contributions had been made :—

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Miss Y. G. Goide (Thirlestaine Court) | £3 2s. 3d   |
| H. F. Scott (Road Safety Organiser)   | £11 16s. 9d |

(ii) Transfer values had been paid as follows:—

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Oxford County Council (Miss E. M. Wilkinson, Housing Department) | £182 9s 3d   |
| Croydon Corporation (Miss V. M. Evans, Nurseries)                | £38 0s. 11d. |
| Cornwall County Council (Miss E. M. Parkyn, Nurseries)           | £53 15s. 5d. |

(iii) Transfer value amounting to £142 13s 10d. had been received from Fulham in respect of Miss E. M. Wilkinson, Housing Department.

(iv) The Borough Treasurer asked for instructions upon an application for admission by C. F. G. Jones, assistant meter tester, Electricity Department, who entered the services of the Corporation on the 18th July, 1938, as a servant in accordance with the statutory resolution. RESOLVED, That subject to this employee passing a satisfactory medical examination, he be admitted to the Scheme.

(v) Circular 77147, Ministry of Health, was submitted stating that where it had been the practice of grant-aiding departments to accept for financial assistance charges by way of "equivalent contributions" an apportionment of any sum properly payable as from 1st April, 1946, would be admitted provided the apportionment was on a reasonable basis applied uniformly over the whole of the Council's services.

246

1457-Capital Works--The Borough Treasurer called attention to his previous report in regard to the carrying out of works by direct labour and the position which arose on the condition imposed by Government departments that salaries and wages of permanent officers and employees engaged on capital works should not be charged to loan. At present the salaries of certain technical officers of the Council were allocated to capital and such allocation had in the past been accepted by the District Auditor, but it might be that in future expenditure would be disallowed and it would then become a charge on the rates, The Town Clerk also reported on discussions which he had had with officials of the Ministry on this matter,

1458—Group Housing—The Borough Treasurer asked for instructions on the payment of certain monies which were being held from Messrs Hadsphaltic Construction Company in connection with work on housing estates of local authorities included in the Housing Group. The Town Clerk reported that under the original contract, the Council were entitled to retain certain monies, but as a result of the changeover to prisoner-of-war labour and the cost-plus-profit basis of the contract, the terms of which were supplied by the Ministry of Health, the Council were not entitled to retain any monies. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the Authorities in the Group that it was proposed to make the final payments to the Contractor and if they wished to make any observations they should do so

within seven days, and if they wished the payment in respect of their particular site or sites to be held over they must give this Corporation an appropriate indemnity.

1459—Central Depot--Garage Accommodation—The Committee considered a reference from the Street and Highway Committee in regard to the construction of garage accommodation. The estimated cost of this work by direct labour would amount to £1,000 as compared with a possible £1,500 if carried out by contract. The views of this Committee had been asked in regard to obtaining a loan. The Town Clerk pointed out that the position in regard to payment of salaries and wages of permanent officers and employees mentioned above would also arise in this case, and it was possible that in the event of any salary or wage being disallowed, the amount might be charged to rates: RESOLVED, That subject to the Street and Highway Committee obtaining sanction to loan for the expenditure, this Committee was of the opinion that they should proceed with the work by way of direct labour although there was a possibility of a certain amount being charged to the rates.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

247

### **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 June, 1947.**

Present : The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fildes, Fisher, Gardner, Irving, Midwinter, Morris, Strickland, Thompson, Waite, Ward and Yeend. Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Leigh James and Capt. Trye Councillors Mann and Readings.

1460—Minutes of Previous Meeting— RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 5th May, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1461---Golden Weddings—Alderman Leigh James and Councillor Yeend—The Mayor reported that Mr. Alderman and Mrs. Leigh James celebrated their Golden Wedding on 30th May, and Mr. Councillor and Mrs. Yeend on 12th May, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Alderman Leigh James and Mr. Councillor Yeend the Council's sincere congratulations on their anniversaries.

1462—Election of Councillors—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Returning Officers of the All Saints' and St. Mark's Wards of the Borough the results of the election of two Councillors to fill the casual vacancies.

| Name of Councillor     | Ward                | Date of Retirement |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Irving, Charles Graham | St. Mark's Ward ... | November. 1949     |
| Ward, Bernard Philip   | All Saints ...      | November, 1949     |

The Town Clerk also reported that the new members had made declarations of acceptance of office-  
1463—Bath and West Show—(i) The Mayor referred to the visit of their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester to Cheltenham on the 29th May, when, in addition to the interest taken



in the Show, they also showed great interest in the welfare and activities of the Borough, particularly in the progress of housing. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to their Royal Highnesses the Council's appreciation and gratitude for the interest taken in the current problems of the town, and the heartfelt appreciation of all concerned on the honour bestowed upon Cheltenham by their visit.

(ii) Reference was also made to the Parks' Department's floral display at the Show. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the Gardens Superintendent the Council's congratulations upon an excellent and well-thought out display and their sincere thanks for the time and effort devoted by him and the members of his staff to the work involved.

14644 —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:—

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Planning                     | May 8 & 9 |
| Art Gallery and Museum       | May 9     |
| Public Library               | May 9     |
| Allotments                   | May 12    |
| Parks and Recreation Grounds | May 12    |

(Subject to the figure in line 3 of Min. 1385 (b) (Staff) being amended to read £2 5s. 0d.").

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Public Health | May 12 |
|---------------|--------|

249

|         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| Housing | May 13, 21 & 23 |
|---------|-----------------|

(Subject to the figure of £144,049 living inserted in resolutions (c) and (e) to Min. 1428). ALSO RESOLVED, That in the case of Min. 1473 (Hutton Raufe, Fairmount Road) consent under Defence Regulations to use part of the premises for offices and storage purposes be also subject to the approval of the Planning Committee as to change of user.

(In moving the reports of the Housing Committee the Chairman referred to Min. 1475 (Permanent Prefabricated Bungalows) and IT WAS RESOLVED, THE CHELTENHAM HOUSING(ALMA ROAD AND WARDEN HILL ROAD) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER, 1947--That an Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 1 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, for the purpose of the Housing Act, 1936, for the compulsory purchase of the undermentioned land coloured pink on the map now submitted and identified by the signature of the Town Clerk and containing altogether an area of 40.025 acres or thereabouts :—

(1) In the Parish and Borough of Cheltenham—All those pieces or parcels of land bounded on the North-east by the Great Western Railway line, on the South-east by Alma Road, on the South-west in part by the footpath leading from Alma Road to Hatherley Road, and on the North-west by premises fronting Hatherley Road and the Hatherley Laundry, and including the three dwellinghouses known as "Hatherley Dale " off Hatherley Road, " Wood Grange and The Bungalow " in Alma Road containing altogether 30.150 acres or thereabouts.

(2) In the Parish of Leckhampton—All those two pieces or parcels of land bounded on the North-west in part by Hatherley Road and in part by the backs of houses fronting Hatherley Road, on the

West by land belonging to Green Farm, on the South-east by Warden Hill Road and on the North-east by the Great Western Railway line and including the dwellinghouse known as "Ellasie" and containing altogether 9.875 acres or thereabouts.

Also, that application be made to the Ministry of Health for confirmation of the said Order and that the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary advertisements and notices and to do all things necessary for the confirmation of the Order. An amendment moved by Councillor Fisher "That Min. 1418 (M.A.P, Estate, Innsworth Grove) be referred back for further consideration " was not seconded).

(A further amendment, moved by Councillor Fisher, "That the words 'solicitors concerned in the transactions' be substituted for 'Town Clerk' in resolution (4) to Min. 1430 (Small Dwellings Acquisition Act)" was also not seconded).

(A further amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Biggs " That the word 'confirmation' be substituted for 'information' in resolution (10) to Min. 1130 (Small Dwellings Acquisition Act") was lost).

With the consent of the Council the following words were added at the end of resolution (5) of Min. 1430:— "as arrived at in accordance with resolution 3 above."

Water May 13

Electricity and Lighting May 13

ALSO RESOLVED, That, with regard to Min. 1339 (Southwood House) (b) (redecorating), and (c) (conversion of outbuildings), in the event of Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell not giving the assurance that the acceptance of their tenders would not adversely affect or delay the progress of the Lynworth housing scheme, that the next lowest tenders of Messrs. Billings & Co. at the sum of £1,275 and Messrs. H. J. Trigg at the sum of £391 18s. 0d. respectively, be accepted and that application for loan sanction and mortgage be amended accordingly.

(An amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Alderman Lipson "That Min. 1344 (c) Outing) be not approved, and that the application of the workmen for time off for their annual outing with pay be granted" was lost).

On a requirement that names be taken, the members voted as follows:—

For the amendment—Aldermen Lipson. Green, Smith, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, J. Bendall, Compton, Gardner, and Waite (10).

Against the amendment—Aldermen Waite, Ward, Winterbotham, Councillors S. Bendall, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Bush, Brown. Carter, Fildes, Fisher, Irving, Strickland, Thompson, Ward and Yeend (17). The Mayor thereupon declared the amendment lost.

British Restaurants May 14

Cemetery and Crematorium May 16

Town Improvement and Spa May 16

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Waite " That Min. 2(a) (Use of Medical Baths) of the report of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee at their meeting on 6th May, 1947, be not approved, and that the request of the Playhouse Sub-Committee be granted.

Street and Highway ... May 19

(On consideration of the report of this Committee, Min. 1398 was withdrawn, the matter one for consideration by the Parks Committee).

250

General Purposes and Watch ... May 20

Min. 1435—Cleeve Common—Town Clerk reported letter from the Cotswold Hills Golf Club, enclosing copy of a letter forwarded to the War Office setting out the membership and facilities of the Club, and pointing out that the course covered a considerable portion of the Common and that thousands of pounds had been spent on its construction. The proposed use of the Common would nullify all the Club's efforts, and whilst the portion of the Common used as a golf course would not be interfered with, access and egress to any part of the Common by transport would inevitably ruin the condition with a consequent loss in membership. It was also pointed out that a neighbouring course, requisitioned during the war was now unusable as a golf course, and that many members of that club now used the Cleeve Hill course.

A letter was also submitted from the Cleeve Common Board of Conservators, forwarding a copy of a resolution addressed to The Rt. Hon, W. S. Morrison, M.P., in whose constituency the Common was situate, expressing their deep concern at the threat to the commoners' rights and to food production if the proposal was carried out, and asking that it be abandoned.

Rating May 21

Finance May 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.

Selection June 2

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**2nd June, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman), Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Bettridge, Bishop, Carter and Compton.

1465—Sewage Works—(a) Rotary Distributors—RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Adams Hydraulic Co., York, of £826 10s. 0d. (being the lowest), for the supply and installation of six distributors (excluding un-skilled labour), be accepted, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported the following works were essential and urgent, having regard to the increased sludge being dealt with at these works :—

|  | £. s. d.  |
|--|-----------|
| Provision of 10 Rotary Distributors (Tender for 4 of these accepted 16th September, 1946 (Min. 1876(iii)/46), but delivery not yet effected, the remaining 6 as accepted in above minute | 1,923 8 9 |
| Cost of unskilled labour and alterations to filters  | 545 0 0   |

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Replacing 1" Media on 4 filters with new granite      | £192 11 3      |
| Provision of 26 new sludge drying beds                | 3,619 0 0      |
| Provision of pumping equipment and electricity supply | 245 0 0        |
| Provision of pumping main sump and pump chamber       | <u>650 0 0</u> |
|   | £7,175 0 0     |

RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan for £7,175 0s. 0d. and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £7,175 0s. 0d., and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

(Adopted at the meeting of the Council held on 2nd June, 1947).

251

#### **SELECTION COMMITTEE.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman), the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Green, Waite and Ward, Councillor) Addis, J. Bendall, Bettridge, Compton and Fisher.

1466—Vacancies on Committees—The Committee considered the vacancies on the various Committees of the Council created by the deaths of Alderman P. P. Taylor and Councillor H. C. Grimwade, together with other vacancies and after taking into account the wishes of the members of the Council expressed in November last and also the indications given by the new Councillors, it was RESOLVED, to make the following recommendations for appointments to fill the vacancies:—

Public Health Committee ... One vacancy (Councillor Waite wishes to retire as this Committee meets on the same day as Allotments and Parks Committees of which he is also a member). Councillor Irving.

Housing Committee One vacancy Councillor Ward.

Maternity & Child Welfare Committee One vacancy Councillor Biggs.

Street & Highway Committee One vacancy Councillor Ward.

Town Improvement Committee One vacancy Councillor Waite.

Electricity & Lighting Committee Two vacancies Councillors Irving and Ward.

Rating Committee One vacancy Councillor Ward.

Public Library Committee One vacancy Councillor Irving.

Finance Committee One vacancy Councillor Bishop.

Education Committee Two vacancies Councillors Irving and Ward.

Selection Committee Two vacancies Councillors Biggs and Readings.

1467-Fire Prevention Committee-The Committee also considered the possible discontinuance of this Committee which had not met for a considerable time and whose duties would merely be the winding up of matters connected with fire prevention. They suggest that, subject to any views which the General Purposes Committee may wish to express thereon, the functions formerly undertaken

by such Committee be transferred to the General Purposes Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended accordingly.

1468—Guardians Committee—RESOLVED, That Councillor Ward be appointed as a representative of the Council to serve on this Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Councillor H. C. Grimwade.

1469—Delancey Hospital Trustees—RESOLVED, That Councillor Irving be appointed to serve on the Delancey Hospital Trustees to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Councillor H. C. Grimwade.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

(Adopted at meeting of the Council held on 2nd June, 1947).

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**23rd May, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Alderman Green Councillors S. Bendall, Compton and Fisher.

1470—Land, Alstone Lane—The Council had some time ago agreed to acquire a strip of land in Alstone Avenue which gave access to the land at the back being used for a Drill Hall site, it being the Council's intention that the event of their being able to acquire the back land if the Drill Hall proposals were not proceeded with: this strip of land would be most desirable to facilitate the layout of the land. Terms had therefore been agreed by the District Valuer with the owners, and application made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the proposed acquisition. The Town Clerk now submitted letter from the Ministry, stating that as this district is closely developed, the back land between Alstone Avenue and Alstone Croft is not considered to be suitable for housing development so that the Minister would not be prepared to agree to the acquisition by the Council of the strip of land in question. Also as the strip of land had a very narrow frontage, it was not regarded as a very satisfactory site for the erection of the present day type of Council house and in the circumstances the Council were asked to reconsider their proposal to acquire the land. RESOLVED, That having regard to the Ministry's views, the Council's proposals to acquire the land be not proceeded with.

1471—Selkirk Gardens—Read letter from the occupier of No. 2 Selkirk Gardens asking the Committee to re consider their decision not to fence in the open end of his garden, between the house and wall at the rear. Nuisance was caused by children, resulting in damage to plants and it was pointed out that only about 4 or 5 yards of fencing would be required. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out such fencing work as he considers necessary in this instance.

252

1472—St. Mark's Community Association—The Town Clerk reported that it was now desirable to consider terms for the tenancy of the land and huts at the Community Centre and to determine the area of land to be leased to the Association. He suggested that a Sub-Committee be appointed to meet representatives of the Association in order to discuss these matters. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors Bayliss and Fisher be appointed to meet representatives of the Association to discuss these matters.

1473—"Hutton Raufe," Fairmount Road—Read letter from Messrs. Watterson, Moore & Co. making formal application for permission to use part of these premises for purposes other than residential purposes. The whole of the property would be used as living accommodation with the exception of one room, to be used as an office, and the basement, to be used as a store. RESOLVED, That in

pursuance of Defence Regulation 68 CA the Committee consent to the use of the specified parts of these premises for purposes other than residential purposes.

1474—Lynworth Farm Estate—Eight tenders were received for the electrical installation of the 72 houses in Scheme No, 2 on this estate. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. F. G. Huband, of Evesham, amounting to £1,520 16s. 6d. being the lowest, be accepted.

1475—Permanent Prefabricated Bungalows—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health, intimating that it had been decided to extend the programme of aluminium prefabricated houses in order to provide housing accommodation for workers in industries of national importance in certain areas, of which Cheltenham was one The bungalows would be regarded as permanent and would be substantially similar to the aluminium bungalows produced under the temporary housing - programme, the design having been improved in a number of details. The bungalows would be offered to selected local authorities, who would be responsible for providing sites fully developed with roads and services. The local authority would enter into a direct contract with the manufacturers for supplying and erecting the houses and also laying foundation slabs, the price to be paid being fixed by the Ministry. Exchequer and rate contributions under the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946, would be payable and in addition a capital grant would be made to bridge the gap between the cost of the houses and that of traditional houses of comparable size. Allocations would be made to enable accommodation to be available for workers of particular industries and although the allocating would be left to local authorities they must ensure that the number of new houses provided for industrial workers after the date of the allocation of the bungalows to them would be equal to the number of bungalows allocated. Thus if a number of traditional houses were allocated to industrial workers with large families, a corresponding number of the new bungalows could be allocated to non-industrial workers on the local authority's priority list. In order to avoid breaking production, the manufacture of bungalows in this new programme must immediately follow on completion of the temporary programme now in progress. The Ministry expected that delivery of the bungalows would begin in some districts in November next and as an interval of six months must be allowed for laying down foundation slabs it was imperative that developed sites in considerable numbers should be available in the near future. It would be necessary for the bulk of the sites to be used for this purpose to be available before the end of the year. No site which was not capable of accommodating at least 20 houses should be selected and it was advisable to select developed and existing permanent housing sites wherever possible. Information would be required as soon as possible and definitely not later than 30th May as to whether the Council desired an allocation of these bungalows.

The Town Clerk reported that he had ascertained that the Ministry of Supply would nominate the local industries for whose employees housing accommodation was required and it would then be left to the entire discretion of the Council as to which of the employees of these firms would be provided with the accommodation.

The Borough Surveyor reported that he had carefully considered the question of sites for these bungalows. The area comprised in the Rowanfield Road Compulsory Purchase Order was already earmarked for Wimpey " No Fines " houses and with regard to the land comprised in the Hesters Way Compulsory Purchase Order he submitted preliminary sketch layout plan of the whole of the Hesters Way Estate. He was of the opinion that owing to the nature of this layout and the various levels of the land it was very undesirable to site these bungalows on this estate. He had spent considerable time inspecting and examining various alternative sites, details of which he now submitted to the Committee.

After careful consideration the Committee came to the conclusion that of the sites suggested by the Borough Surveyor, the most suitable site was one in Alma Road beyond the railway bridge.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Ministry be informed that the Council desire an allocation of 300 permanent aluminium bungalows on the lines indicated in the Ministry's letter.

(b) That the site in Alma Road be selected and that it be left to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in consultation with the Planning Committee to settle the precise boundaries of the land which will be required with a view to a Compulsory Purchase Order being made at the next Meeting of the Council. (c) That the Town Clerk make application to the Regional Planning Officer and Land Utilisation Officer for approval and clearance of the site as quickly as possible.

1476—Licensing—(a) Montal Watch fitting Co. Ltd.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the architects were unable to reduce the price per house to less than £1,227 18s. 2d. which they considered was comparable with the houses erected by local authorities. They therefore asked that a supplementary licence should be issued in addition to that for £6,000 for six houses already issued. The Town Clerk suggested that the leasehold rental should be deducted from the maximum of £1,300 per house. RESOLVED, That the views of the Ministry of Health be obtained on this matter.

(b) Chemist's shop, Hewlett Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted a letter from the Ministry of Works with an application for a building licence in respect of a proposed Chemists shop in Hewlett Road, which would include living accommodation. The proposal was supported by the Gloucester Insurance Committee and the Ministry of Health and the Council's views were asked. RESOLVED, That in view of the fact that a Chemist's shop already exists in Whaddon Road, the Council are unable to support this application at the present time.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

(Adopted at Meeting of the Council held on 2nd June, 1947).

253

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

[?]th June, 1947. Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman), Aldermen Green and Smith; Councillors Compton, Fildes, Midwinter, Waite and Yeend ; Messrs. Ball, Barlow and Roe.

1477—National Allotments' Society—Min. 734—The Cheltenham and District Allotments' Society appointed Councillor Yeend their delegate to the National Society's Annual Conference, and he also acted as the Council's proxy as requested. A report of the proceedings was now circulated to the Committee. RESOLVED, That Councillor Yeend be thanked for his excellent and interesting report.

1478—Colorado Beetle—Read letter from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries stressing the possibility of the appearance of the colorado beetle in this country. It was imperative that suspected outbreaks should be promptly notified to the Ministry, the present need for vigilance being greater than ever. A leaflet with coloured illustration of the beetle was enclosed and it was asked that cards bearing such illustration should be displayed wherever possible. The Gardens Superintendent reported that he expected to receive 100 illustrated cards and that as soon as they arrived they would be displayed. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1479—Land adjoining 85 Brooklyn Road—A complaint was received from the owner of 85 Brooklyn Road of the condition of the allotment land adjoining this house. The Gardens Superintendent reported that it was not possible to find tenants for these allotments in view of the fact that they could not be guaranteed security of tenure as applicants feared the land might be used for building.

The cutting down of the weeds had now commenced and the land would be ploughed immediately afterwards. If in the very near future tenants could not be attracted, the Gardens Superintendent proposed to cultivate and plant this land. RESOLVED, That the action of the Gardens Superintendent be approved and that the visitors report on the general state of allotments at the next meeting of the Committee.

1480—Elmfield Road Allotments—(a) The Town Clerk reported that a complaint had been received from the tenant of Plot No. 7, that the tenant of Plot No. 10 was dumping large quantities of turf, rubbish, etc., on the path leading to the allotments, causing obstruction so that other tenants found the utmost difficulty in reaching their allotments. The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had acquainted the offending tenant with the complaint who had promised to take steps to abate the nuisance.

(b) Read letter from the tenant of one of these allotments complaining that the railings between Swindon Road Schools Playing Field and the allotments had been damaged by children who were now causing considerable damage to crops. The Borough Surveyor reported that the fencing in question was the property of the Education Committee and he had discussed the matter with the Education Officer who had promised to have the railings repaired as soon as possible. It was thought that the repairs might be more quickly effected if they were carried out by the Borough Surveyor for the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That this suggestion be made to the Education Officer. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Committee feel that a useful purpose might be served by the Headmaster of Swindon Road Schools warning the children against trespassing on these allotments.

1481—Rebates in Rent--RESOLVED, That the following tenants be granted 3 months tenancy free of charge in view of the bad condition of the plots on the commencement of their tenancies :— 13, 15, 47, 57 and 67 Shelley Road, 18 Elmfield Road and 67 (b) Hatherley Park.

1482—Lettings and Terminations—The Gardens Superintendent reported that since the last meeting five tenancies had been terminated and 21 allotments let.

1483—Fencing—(a) Hatherley Park Allotments—Fencing had been torn down on these allotments and it was asked that it should be re-erected. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to erect chestnut pale fence. on these allotments.

(b) Folly Lane—The Borough Surveyor reported that work had been commenced on the erection of fencing

(c) Agg Gardner Allotments—The Borough Surveyor reported that the erection of the gates was in hand.

1484—North Ward Allotments—The Chairman reported that the roadway leading to the North Ward allotments from Marsh Lane needed repairs as in wet weather it was almost impassable. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor have the necessary repairs executed as soon as possible.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

254

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**9th June, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Green (Chairman) and Smith ; Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Compton, Fildes, Midwinter and Waite.



1485—Land lying between Lansdown Road, Douro Road and Lansdown Crescent—(Min 1105)—The Committee further considered the question of repairing the fencing round this site, The Chairman and Vice-Chairman with the Borough Surveyor had inspected this but they found that so much of the fencing had been removed, and so many other sections were in bad repair, it would not be practicable to repair it without providing considerable lengths of new fencing, and they recommended all the fencing be removed, leaving the stone plinth. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved, and that the portion of Min. 1105 authorising the repair of the fencing be rescinded.

1486—St. Peter's Recreation Ground—(Min. 1404)—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan shown proposed allocation of land as between the Electricity, Street & Highway and Parks Committees of the land purchased by the Street & Highway Committee known as Ark Gardens. The Street & Highway Committee de retain a strip, 30 feet wide along the frontage to Tewkesbury Road, and an adequate depth adjoining the railway line so as to give access to the remainder of the site which had been reserved for the Depot. The Borough Surveyor proposed a separate entrance should be made for the vehicles going to and from the proposed Depot and Destructor so as to avoid any danger to children using the recreation ground. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting and that the Borough Surveyor submit a plan showing the proposals as now approved in principle by the Committee.

1487—Land, Albert Road—(Min. 1398)—The Committee considered recommendation of the Street & Highway Committee that they should afford the Gloucester Co-operative Society Ltd. access to their proposed Sports Field across the verge in Albert Road. RESOLVED, That so long as the field is used as a playing field, the Committee are prepared to afford access from Albert Road on payment of a contribution of 10s per foot towards the cost of piping in the ditch, but that the Society be informed that if the land or any portion of it is required or sold in future for building, the Committee will require a contribution towards the cost of making up the road and footpath. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Society be asked to cut the hedge to a low level to afford the public views of the surrounding landscape.

1488--Sandford Park Sale of Ice cream—(Min. 1377) --The Town Improvement Committee were unable to under-take the sale of ice cream at this park and advertisements had been issued inviting offers for the months of July, August and September. Only one offer had been received, namely, from the Cotswold Dairy, who offered £20 for this period. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted, the van to stand in a position to be approved by the Gardens Superintendent. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Entertainments Sub-Committee be recommended to consider the provision of refreshments for the public in Pittville Gardens, particularly at weekends, and that if they are unable to undertake this, offers for the right to provide refreshments be invited by public advertisement.

1489—Athletic Ground—(a) Cheltenham Schools Sports Association. RESOLVED, That the application of the Cheltenham Schools Sports Association for the full use of the ground on 10th July, or if wet, 17th July, for the annual school relay races be granted.

(b) Cheltenham Youth Council. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham Youth Council be granted the free use of the ground on the 16th July for an athletic rally.

(c) Motor Cycle Gymkhana—RESOLVED, That the application of the Hawks Motor Club for the use of the ground for a motor cycle gymkhana on one day in July to raise funds for the G.I. Brides Association be not granted.

1490—St. Mark's Recreation Ground—RESOLVED, That the application of the Rev. G. R. Woodhams for permission to use the ground on the 5th July for St. Mark's Sunday School Treat be granted.

1491-56 St. Paul's Road—(Min. 1103)—The Town Clerk reported the Estates Management Sub-Committee had now offered Mr. Mansell the tenancy of 49 Whaddon Avenue when the present tenant had vacated it. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor proceed with the decoration and renovations to the property as soon as possible.

1492—Staff—The Gardens Superintendent reported letter from the National Union of General & Municipal Workers claiming back pay for a former employee. The employee in question was engaged in July, 1946, as a part-time patrolman, and his hours were from 4.45 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Union accepted this position until October, 1946, when he was put on day work for other duties, such as double digging, wood sawing, concreting, etc., and since when his hours had varied from week to week. The Union claimed he was entitled to the guaranteed week of 47 hours, excluding Sundays, from October 7th, 1946 to April 13th, 1947, and that all hours worked on Sundays should be paid for at double time, together with extra time for Good Friday and Easter Monday. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Gardens Superintendent investigate the matter and report to the next meeting of the Committee thereon.

1493—Alstone Croft Playing Field—RESOLVED, That the application of St. Paul's Youths Club for permission to use this Playing Field on Tuesday evenings for cricket be granted.

1494—St. Mark's Playing Field—RESOLVED, That the application of the Flower Show Committee of the St. Mark's Community Association for permission to hold their Third Annual Flower & Produce Show on a portion of the St. Mark's Playing Field on August 30th be granted, subject to no inconvenience being caused to other users of the Playing Field.

1495-Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—Children's Paddling Pool—The Boroughs Surveyor submitted letter of 5th June from the War Damage Commission approving the Council's claim for the cost of reinstatement of this Pool at the price of £1183 9s. 9d. subject to any necessary variation to cover the net cost of the rise and fall, in labour and materials, and to adjustment on completion of the provisional sum of £70 11s. 9d. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. E. L. Squire amounting to £1183 9s 9d. be now accepted, and that the Com-mon Seal be affixed to contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman,

255

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

10th June, 1947. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor, Alderman Green, Councillor Midwinter.

1496—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of May was read—

#### **DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS**

| Spring          | For month ended<br>31st May, 1947 | Average for corresponding<br>period during last 3 years |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Hewletts Spring | 229,000                           | 147,000   |
| Dowdeswell      | 968,000                           | 586,000   |

## CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 100,448,000 gallons.

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 5 weeks ended 1st June                        | 56,160,000 |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 5 weeks ended 1st June                         | 16,596,000 |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown front 1st April, 1947 | 94,005,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947                     | 29,418,000 |
| Average daily consumption for May  | 3,382,000  |

| Rainfall for May. | During month. | Average monthly rainfall. |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Sandford          | 1.03"         | 2.13"                     |
| Hewletts          | 1.63"         | 2.26"                     |
| Dowdeswell...     | 1.81"         | 2.36"                     |
| Tewkesbury ...    | 1.74"         | 2.14"                     |

### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS Spring For month ended 31st May, 1947 Hewletts Spring 229,000

1497—Dowdeswell Court—(a)—Gardener's Cottage—The Town Clerk reported this cottage had now been let to the Commandant of the R.A.F. Chaplain's School at Dowdeswell Court for occupation by one of the staff on a service tenancy at a rent of £5 per month inclusive, the tenancy to terminate on the de-requisitioning of the mansion house. RESOLVED, that this be approved and the Common Seal affixed to the agreement.

(b) Grazing rights—When the Council purchased Dowdeswell Court, grazing rights over two fields were let to Messrs. Chandler Bros. and Mr. R. W. Gillett respectively from the 25th March, 1946, to the 18th March, 1947, and the Town Clerk reported he now proposed to instruct Mr. Castle on behalf of the Council to negotiate terms for the continuance of the tenancies for the ensuing year. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1498—British Waterworks Association-RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Engineer be authorised to attend the Annual General Meeting and Conference to be held at Harrogate from the 18th to 21st June.

1499—Freshwater Biological Association—An invitation had been received for members to attend a luncheon and the Annual General Meeting in London, on 27th June. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

1500—Model Bye-Laws—The Borough Engineer submitted his proposals on the model bye-laws which he considered suitable for use by this undertaking. In view of the work involved in their detailed examination, the Town Clerk suggested a Sub-Committee should be appointed to consider the draft and report thereon. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Councillors Morris and Strickland be appointed a Sub-Committee.

1501-Rural Water Supplies—(a) Down Hatherley—[Min. 1409(d)]—The Town Clerk submitted copy of a letter from the Ministry of Health which the latter had sent to the Gloucester Rural District Council suggesting that in view of the alleged conditions and the known shortage of water in the area, the Rural District Council should discuss with the Town Clerks of Cheltenham and Gloucester respectively, the possibility of constructing a pipe through the village and the taking of a temporary bulk supply under Section 12 of the Water Act, 1945, from the Gloucester Corporation. As

authorised at the last meeting, the Borough Engineer had expressed the willingness of the Council to provide a public tap at the end of the existing main, and he was in consultation with Gloucester City Engineer with a view to seeing if it was possible for a tap to be provided at the Gloucester end of the main at Twigworth. The scheme for supplying this Parish had been with the Ministry since August last year, and if this was approved by the Ministry, the scheme could be put in hand and a supply furnished at a reasonably early date. It was always the intention of the Committee to lay first the section of the main to supply the village, and continue to take water from the Gloucester Corporation near the Rotal Works until the whole scheme was completed. RESOLVED, That the District Council be in-formed accordingly, and that the Ministry of Health be urged to approve the scheme.

(b) Pershore Supply. The Committee considered the report of the Borough Engineer of the Public Inquiry held at Pershore into the application by the Pershore R.D.C. for a loan in connection with proposed extensions to the Parishes of Defford and Besford. The Pershore Rural District Council obtained their water from springs at Overbury, supplemented when the yield fell below the demand, by a bulk supply from this Council. This bulk supply was afforded to the Air Ministry through a main laid by them and connected to the general mains of the Pershore R.D.C. from which system Defford Air Station drew its supply.

The Consulting Engineer to the Pershore R.D.C. envisaged a future demand of 314,000 gallons per day compared with 207,000 gallons per day at present, including 52,000 gallons to the Air Station, which it was anticipated would be supplied by taking an average of 154,000 gallons per day from the Overbury springs, and 160,000 gallons from either Cheltenham or Coventry. The Borough Engineer pointed out that if the yield of the springs fell to the previous minimum of 103,000 gallons, it would mean Cheltenham or Coventry would have to supply 211,000 gallons per day, whilst at times like the present, no water would be taken and consequently no revenue derived therefrom. The Inspector holding the Inquiry had been in-formed the Council were quite willing to supply the water subject to terms being negotiated. During Inquiry it transpired that the water supplied by the Council through the main laid by the Air Ministry as was being resold by the Pershore Rural District Council at a considerable increase in price to certain consumers. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Air Ministry with a view to a new agreement being negotiated for the supply of water to the Pershore Rural District Council.

256

1502—J.I.C.—The National Council of the for Waterworks Undertakings industry had now adopted a national holiday agreement on similar lines to that already adopted by the Electrical Undertakings and Non-trading J.I.C's, which provided that qualified day workers should be allowed two consecutive weeks holiday with pay. There was also provision for day workers to be allowed a holiday with pay on each public holiday irrespective of length of service, but that any worker required to work on a public holiday should be paid double time, instead of paid double time and time off in lieu as hitherto. This agreement had been adopted by the South Midlands J.I.C., as was a scale of wages for watchmen. An amendment to the Sick Pay Scheme was also adopted, but as this was still not so advantageous to the employees as the Council's existing Scheme, it would not affect the Council's Waterworks employees, so long as the Council's existing Scheme was in operation.

1503—Water Mains—Lynworth Farm—A request had been received on behalf of the Montal Watch Fitting Co. for the main to be laid in front of three pairs of houses about to be constructed for them on Priors Road extension. Up to the present, service mains had only been laid in gardens of houses under the control of the Housing Committee, but the Borough Engineer recommended an exception

be made, and the mains laid in the garden as in the case of the Council houses on either side and so avoid any deviation of the main. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Town Clerk include provision in the lease of the land for a wayleave to the Council for the maintenance and repair of the main.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**10th June 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Alderman Waite ; Councillors J. Bendall, Fildes, Irving, Midwinter, Thompson and Ward.

1504—Lighting of Car Parks—(Min. 965)—The Town Clerk submitted further letter from the Chamber of Commerce, asking that the Committee should reconsider their previous decision to defer until the Autumn, consideration of lighting the car parks at Imperial Square and Crescent Place so that the Chief Constable could issue his certificate for the parking of cars without lights. They pointed out that car parks in Gloucester and Bristol were so lit. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that under the present system, the lamps lighting these car parks were on the ordinary street lighting circuit and it would be difficult to arrange for these alone to be lit when street lights generally were not at present lit. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee and that the Borough Electrical Engineer submit an estimate of the cost involved in arranging for the lighting of these car parks without illuminating the whole street lighting system involved.

1505—Consent to Loan—(Min. 966)—Internal telephone system, Southwood. The Town Clerk reported that consent had been received from the Electricity Commissioners to a loan of £750 for the provision of an automatic internal telephone system.

1506--Fuel Economy Campaign—Circular letter from the Electricity Commissioners was submitted with a memorandum from the Ministry of Fuel and Power concerning the setting up of Local Fuel Economy Committees to secure coal economy by reducing consumption of gas and electricity. The Electricity Supply Joint Committee recommended that the proposals should be supported and the British Gas Council had made similar recommendation to Gas Undertakings. The co-operation of Undertakings was asked for in implementing the proposals and assisting Local Working Committees. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Electrical Development Association approved of the proposals and recommended that support should be given. RESOLVED, That this Committee is prepared to co-operate fully with any Local Fuel Economy Committee that may be set up.

1507—Land at Ullenwood—(Min. 125/44)—The Town Clerk reported that it was agreed in November 1944 to purchase a piece of land at Ullenwood for the erection of a sub-station at a future date at the District Valuer's valuation. The purchase price had now been agreed at £25 plus Vendor's solicitor's costs and the purchase was about to be completed, RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the cost of the land be charged to revenue.

1508—Alternative Tariffs for Hotels and Commercial Premises.—The Borough Electrical Engineer had consulted the Electricity Commissioners to ascertain the possible attitude of the National Tariff Committee on this matter, and was advised that no further changes should be effected until the report of the Tariff Committee was Published. He therefore recommended that the matter should be deferred until this report was published. RESOLVED, That consideration of the proposal be adjourned until the October meeting of the Committee.

1509—Jubilee of Undertaking—The Borough Electrical Engineer proposed that, since the Golden Jubilee of the Undertaking had occurred at a time when it was not possible to celebrate it suitably, a celebration exhibition should be arranged in conjunction with the Cheltenham Branch of the Electrical Association for Women, which this year celebrated its 21st Anniversary. It was suggested that the exhibition should take the form of "Fifty years of Progress" in electricity and that the Ministry of Fuel and Power should be asked to co-operate. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle and that the Borough Electrical Engineer report further thereon at the next meeting of the Committee.

257

1510—Substation, " The Knole 509)—Three tenders were received. for the erection of a substation at " The Knole." RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. amounting to £1,245 13s. 0d., being the lowest be accepted, subject to the approval of the Electricity Commissioners, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for approval thereto and for the issue of loan sanction for which application has previously been made.

1511—Transport--The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted proposals for replacing existing vehicles and purchasing further vehicles in order to improve the general transport system of the Undertaking, necessitated by the increase in the demands made upon it. With the introduction of the car allowance scheme, the essential officers had now cars of their own and he recommended that the three private cars belonging to the Department should be sold. As authorised, he had sent the Rover car to the works for reconditioning and this had now been completed at a cost of £249. The Morris and Vauxhall cars could be disposed of when the other vehicles now recommended had been purchased. He also recommended that the old Vulcan and Morris lorries should be sold and that two utility trucks, one 5-ton lorry, two 2 ½ ton lorries and two 15 cwt. trucks should be purchased. The 5-ton lorry, the two utility trucks and one of the 2 ½ ton lorries would be purchased from the Ministry of Supply and their cost would be defrayed from the sale of the vehicles which it was proposed to sell:

The cost of the three new vehicles would be about £2,000 and it was recommended that this should be defrayed from loan. RESOLVED (i), That the proposals of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved.

(ii) That the -Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to advertise for offers for the three cars and that the account for the reconditioning of £249 be passed for payment.

(iii) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £2,000 for the cost of the new 2 ½ ton lorry and the two new 15 cwt. trucks.

(iv) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £2,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

1512—Staff—(a) Accident to Jointer--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported an accident to a jointer when a live 11,000 volt cable was cut. It was understood that this employee was making good progress but so far he had not returned to duty.

(b) Damage to Spectacles— While handling a cooker at the Bath and West Show, Mr. H. Poulston had damaged his spectacles, the cost of repairing which amounted to 27s. 6d. RESOLVED, That an ex-gratia payment be made for this amount.

(c) Technical Assistant—Mr. Taylor, formerly of Stalybridge, had commenced his duties as Technical Assistant on the 19th May.

(d) Service and Development Engineer—Mr. Davis, Service and Development Engineer, had now purchased a house and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a telephone should be installed. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1513—Canteen Facilities—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it had been suggested that facilities should be provided at Southwood for the establishment of a self-supporting canteen to provide a mid-day meal and packed meals for employees working in the rural areas. It was understood that the Ministry of Food would be prepared to issue a licence for such a canteen and suitable accommodation was available in the basement. It was recommended that kitchen utensils and canteen furniture should be purchased at a total cost of £200, this amount to be charged to working expenses. It was also recommended that the formation of a Canteen Committee from among the employees should be authorised and that the wife of the caretaker to be appointed should be employed as part time cook and canteen manageress. RESOLVED That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1514—Old Electricity Works--The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted plan showing division of the land at the old Electricity Works as between Street & Highway Committee and this Committee as agreed with the Borough Surveyor. It was proposed that the Electricity Committee should retain the site of the old Electricity Works comprising approximately 1.2 acres and that in return the land purchased by this Committee for extension of the works in 1921, containing approximately 2.4 acres, be transferred to the Council for recreation ground purposes. A permanent way leave would also be given to the Council through' the land retained by the Electricity Committee for the laying and maintenance of existing and future sewers. RESOLVED, That the plan be approved and forwarded to the Electricity Commissioners for approval.

1515—E.D.A. Sales Conference—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report of the Sales Management Conference of the E.D.A. which he attended with the Service and Development Engineer. RESOLVED, this be approved. That

1516 —Bath and West Show—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that 42 applications were received for electricity supply at the Bath and West Show, the revenue obtained from service charges amounting to £233 18s. 0d. It was expected that the net cost of distribution allowing for recovery of materials after dismantling would amount to £850.

1517—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported 5 interruptions of supply which occurred during the month of May.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

258

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**10th June, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Deputy Mayor, and Alderman Green, Councillors Addis, S. Bendall Bishop, Bayliss, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Morris, Strickland, Ward and Yeend.

1518—Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported that the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch had been included in the area served by the Local Rent Tribunal as from 5th June, 1947.

1519—Sites—Brunswick Street—(Min. 1199)—Recommendation was submitted from the Street and Highway Committee that the Council should acquire the three cleared sites others. Brunswick Street in respect of which complaints had been received of nuisance caused by children and others. This was a re-development area, the acquisition of these sites was desirable and it was suggested that they might temporarily be fenced and let to adjoining occupiers for cultivation at a nominal rent. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to negotiate for the purchase of these sites.

1520—B.I.S.F. Houses--The Town Clerk submitted a letter from the Ministry of Health with regard to price variations, Various alterations had been made from time to time which affected either all the houses in the programme or a substantial part and if the settlement of prices for such variations were left to local authorities a great deal of unnecessary work would fall on technical staffs, and at the same time different prices might be settled for the same variation. The Ministry would, therefore, negotiate a price for each variation from the original specification with British Steel Houses. The various contractors had agreed to accept these prices in every case and it was hoped that local authorities would be willing to accept these prices also. RESOLVED, That the Council approve of prices for variations being negotiated by the Ministry.

1521—Brayton—Prestbury Road--Read letter from the owner of Brayton, Prestbury Road, stating that it was his intention to erect a house at the end of his garden which fronted the new road on the Lynworth Farm estate. To gain access to the site it would be necessary to cross a strip of land between the road and the boundary of the garden. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that it was desirable if possible to acquire the whole of these frontages with a view to houses being erected thereon at some future date since the adoption of wide fronted houses had decreased the proposed density on the estate. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to approach the owners of houses in Prestbury Road whose gardens extend down to the new roads on Lynworth Farm estate to ascertain if they would be willing to sell sufficient portions of their gardens to enable the Council to build on the frontage to the roads adjoining their gardens.

1522—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Permanent Houses—The Borough Surveyor reported that of the number of houses which the Council were permitted to build during the year no decision had yet been reached with regard to the erection of the 26 which still remained. Intimation had been received that three more small builders were prepared to reconsider their tenders with a view to their reduction to a figure which would be acceptable by the Ministry, but even if this arrangement was satisfactorily concluded, 20 houses still remained. Since Messrs. Chivers Ltd. the contractors for the B.I.S.F. houses were already on the site with a labour force of 60 to 70 men the Borough Surveyor recommended that they should be invited to tender for the erection of the 26 houses, which while not precluding the three small builders from tendering would put them in competition with Messrs. Chivers. He further recommended that the standard of house finally adopted for erection under the small builders scheme should be adhered to for the 26 houses now under consideration. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor ascertain whether the three small builders were prepared to erect 3 pairs of houses at a price acceptable to the Ministry. RESOLVED ALSO, That Messrs. Chivers be invited to tender for the erection of the remaining 20 houses to be increased to 26 in the event of negotiations with the small builders referred to not being satisfactorily concluded.

(b) Supply of Building Materials—The General Contractors had reported that they were without plaster for the houses on Scheme 1 and that although eight houses on Scheme 2 were up to eaves level there was no timber for the roofs, On taking this matter up with the Ministry the Borough Surveyor had received an assurance that plaster would be delivered immediately, but that there was not sufficient timber in the country at the moment, though it was expected shortly, The Progress Officer for this area had been instructed to keep in touch with the suppliers so that this timber could



be delivered at the earliest possible moment. Since the commencement of the contract on Scheme 2 in October last, £11,789 13s. 8d. had been certified for payment, of which £7,472 represented the value of materials on the site. During the eight months that the contract had been in progress, therefore, the value of constructional work completed amounted only to £4,317.

The Town Clerk reported that the question of progress was discussed fully at a meeting with Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell Ltd., and the Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose. The Contractors then stated that the chief cause of the present slow rate of progress was lack of materials, especially timber and cement, no roof timbers being available until the end of July. It was not economical to erect houses up to roof level if the scaffolding was to be left idle for a considerable time. If timber became available every effort would be made to push on with the brickwork. The Contractors would, however, agree to continue with the foundations of more houses, bringing them up to first floor window cill level which would not entail the use of scaffolding on the understanding that the Council would meet them in respect of any increased costs incurred by this. The Sub-Committee raised the question of labour and asked for an assurance that by tendering for, and accepting other work in the locality, the Contractors were not diverting men from Lynworth Farm Estate. The Sub-Committee were assured that during the whole of the contract no labour had been moved from Lynworth Farm to other contracts and furthermore the acceptance of the contracts for the re-decoration and conversion of Southwood House for the Electricity Committee would not entail the use of any labour from this site.

The Contractors referred to the remarks made by the Minister of Health at the Margate Conference of the Labour Party in reference to the bonus system and stated that they were commencing such a system at Evesham. They would like to commence a similar system at Lynworth Farm Estate but it was pointed out to Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell that no official communication had been received on this matter and that difficulty might arise if the system was put into operation before negotiations with the Building Trades' Operatives had been concluded.

259

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the slow rate of progress was in fact due to the shortage of essential materials and had instructed the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor to draw the attention of the Ministry to the matter and ask for steps to be taken to speed up supplies of materials, in particular timber and cement. The Sub-Committee had also agreed that there was no objection to Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell Ltd., under taking the work at Southwood House. RESOLVED, That the report of the Sub-Committee be approved.

(c) Scheme 2--Extra work in foundations—The Borough Surveyor reported that foundations had been completed for 22 houses and those on which the contractors were now engaged were situated on bad ground. It had been foreseen however that this type of ground would be encountered and a sum of £2,500 for extra work in foundations was included when tenders were submitted to the Ministry. This sum however had been deleted by the Ministry's Quantity Surveyor who ruled that such extra work should be measured and paid for as an extra as required. This procedure had been adopted and special foundations had been designed, details of which had been supplied to the contractor.

(d) Scheme 1.—Claims for extra payment.—The Borough Surveyor reported on his examination of the claims made by Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell in respect of loss of time, non-delivery of materials and increased cost of materials, He recommended as follows :—

Claim No. 1.—This claim was for £1,945 for loss incurred by non-delivery of essential materials. While under the contract the Council were under no obligation to meet this claim the Borough Surveyor was of opinion that the Contractor had been seriously delayed by non-delivery of essential materials which had involved in some cases duplication of work and he recommended that a sum of £6 per house should be allowed on this contract.

Claim No. 2.—This was in respect of £487 7s. 2d. for increased costs on timber prior to the 1st May, 1947. There had been no increase in the controlled basic price of timber to that date and the Borough Surveyor therefore recommended that the claim be disallowed. It appeared that quotations were obtained from suppliers when the tender was submitted but the merchants were unable to supply the grades for which they quoted when delivery was asked for. Since the specification gave a complete range of qualities of timber it was felt that the contractor should have allowed for such circumstances.

Claim No. 3.—This claim was for increased cost of materials and included a sum of £501 8s. 2d., in respect of materials not incorporated in the schedule of basic prices. If this claim were allowed it would form a precedent and many similar claims might be received. It was, therefore, recommended that this part of the claim be disallowed. The remainder of claim No. 3, amounting to £760 13s. 1 d. was in respect of increased costs incurred for doors and joinery. Since the doors were subject to an increase in controlled price and English plywood which was more expensive than foreign plywood had to be used, the Borough Surveyor was generally satisfied with the claim but had asked the contractor to furnish further particulars.

Claim No. 4.—This claim was in respect of increased costs of roofing tiles which was admissible since a basic price was included in the contract and there had been increases in the price of tiles and haulage rates since the submission of the tender. The Borough Surveyor had, however, instructed the contractor to supply him with a complete set of invoices for scrutiny.

The whole of the claims had been summarised and a percentage added to cover overheads and bank charges. This had been assessed at 10% from which had been deducted the 2 ½ % agreed in respect of increased rates of wages. A further charge of 3% was made in respect of Surveyor's fees for preparing the claim. The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that neither the 10% nor the 3% was justifiable and recommended that this claim be disallowed. He reported that the increased cost to date on Scheme No. 1 amounted to £9,748 comprised of items covered by the contract or allowed by the Committee. RESOLVED (i), That a sum of £6 per house (62 houses) in respect of Claim No. 1 be paid to the contractor, subject to no objection being made thereto by the Ministry of Health.

(ii) That Claim No. 2 be not allowed.

(iii) That consideration of Claims Nos. 3 and 4 be deferred pending a receipt of further information.

(iv) That the claim for 10% for overheads and bank charges, etc., and 3% for Surveyor's fees be not entertained.

(v) That the Borough Surveyor submit an estimate of the excess costs which would ultimately be incurred on this contract in order that application might be made to the Ministry of Health for excess loan sanction.

(e) Electric Light Installation-Scheme 2.-The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. F. G. Huband of Evesham whose tender, being the lowest, for the electrical installation for the 72 houses had been accepted subject to their being registered contractors, were not so registered. The next lowest tender amounting to £1,695 18s. 4d. was submitted by the Alpha Manufacturing Co., Ltd., and the

Borough Electrical Engineer had informed the Borough Surveyor that if their tender were accepted for this work he would also recommend the acceptance by the Electricity Committee of their tender for the additional appliance outlets although it was not the lowest. This would ensure that only one electrical contractor was engaged on this site. RESOLVED, That the tender of Alpha Manufacturing Co., Ltd., amounting to £1,695 18s. 4d. be accepted, and that the previous minute be rescinded.

1523—Temporary Housing—(a) Priors Farm—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Ministry of Works were in, a position to supply 86 electric refrigerators for the bungalows on this estate. He had arranged for them to be delivered to the Highways Depot and the Council were asked to arrange for their fixing, reasonable costs incurred being reimbursed by the Ministry. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the refrigerators should be fixed by an electrician employed by bins RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Knole—The Borough Surveyor reported on progress at this site. Originally the Ministry had suggested roads of 10' in width but after excavation had taken place it appeared that this was too narrow and would result in serious difficulty with traffic, possibly with damage to fences and footpaths. Following the conversation with the Ministry an increase in width to 16' was approved, thus increasing the cost of the by £774 10s. 4d. This had since been confirmed by the Ministry. The roads had, therefore, been widened to 16' and the under-beds completed, 24 foundation slabs were completed, 12 of which were ready for house erection. In all 20% of the total work was now, completed. RESOLVED, That the Committee express their appreciation of the excellent progress made by the Borough surveyor and his staff in the preparation of this site

260

1524- Permanent Prefabricated Houses—(a) Alma Road—The Town Clerk reported that application had been made to the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Agriculture for clearance of the site.

An interview had now been arranged with the Regional Architect of the Ministry of Health and the Regional Planning Officer. Circulars had been sent to owners and occupiers of the land in order that the Borough Surveyor could enter and make the necessary survey. The Town Clerk reported that several owners had already indicated strong objection to the proposal on grounds of severe hardship.

(b) The Town Clerk submitted letter from Dowty Equipment Ltd., asking for an allocation from the bungalows which were to be made available to the Council. The bungalows would be required to enable the Company to accommodate transferred key workers who were in need of accommodation and other workers who were unsatisfactorily housed.

RESOLVED, That Messrs. Dowty Ltd. be informed that the Council understand that the firms to whose employees accommodation was to be allocated would be designated by the Ministry of Supply and that accordingly their application should in the first instance be addressed to that Ministry.

1525—Conversions—(i) Oldfield Court—It was originally planned that this should be converted into three all-electric flats but the tenant of the first floor flat who had been in occupation for some time had installed certain gas equipment, as the electric cable was then insufficient for his needs. A new cable had now been provided but this tenant wished to retain these gas appliances. The original estimate included £2 for removing existing gas piping and if this were retained and altered to serve one flat an extra £10 would be involved. Alternatively separate gas services could be provided to three flats at a cost of £24 16s. 0d. This tenant had also asked for windows in several rooms to be

repainted. This had not previously been considered necessary and was not included in the estimate. The paint in question was on stonework and was now flaking off and the Borough Surveyor observed that this stonework should never have been painted. RESOLVED, (a) That gas be provided to each of the three flats at an estimated cost of £24 16s. 0d.

(b) That the paint be scraped off the stonework and the stonework not re-painted.

(ii) 103 Montpellier Terrace—Four tenders were received for the conversion of the ground floor flat at this house. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. H. J. Trigg amounting to £255 being the lowest be accepted and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract, RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the acceptance of this tender.

(iii) 13 Lansdown Crescent—The Borough Surveyor submitted a letter from the Ministry of Health with regard to the proposal to improve the four flats at this house. In view of the policy of the Ministry that each flat should be self contained and that the general standard should be raised certain improvements had been included in the scheme including the provision of lavatory accommodation and bath.

The Ministry stated that, in view of the present necessity for the saving of fuel and the consequent undesirability of installing four gas geysers, they were unable to agree to improvements which would also necessitate materials and appliances in short supply being diverted from new houses. Moreover, owing to the limited life of requisitioning powers, it was felt that a less expensive scheme than that proposed would be justified in the case of this property. The Borough Surveyor pointed out, however, that the proposals regarding sanitary accommodation were necessary in view of the existing sanitary arrangements. RESOLVED, That the Committee were of the opinion that the proposals with regard to sanitary accommodation were necessary and that the Ministry be asked to approve of these proposals. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Town Clerk ascertain from the Ministry whether the reference to the limited life of requisitioning had any special significance which would influence the types of property which might be requisitioned in the future.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**13th June, 1947.**—Present-----Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Fildes and Yeend.

1526—Superintendent's Report—During the month of May there were 63 Interments and 53 cremations. Grave-spaces sold : 1st position 1 ; 2nd position 1 ; 3rd position 1 ; 4th position 16.. New memorials erected 10. Additional inscriptions 20.

1527—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,522 to 11,540 inclusive.

1528—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4369 to 4383 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

1529--Records of Cremation—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk give facilities to the Superintendent to extract from the applications for cremation, details of next of kin and applicants so that he may forward them literature in regard to the Book of Remembrance and other recordia provisions.

1530--Cremation Fees—The Superintendent recommended that where desired the Council should be prepared to accept cremation fees in advance. Some persons when leaving written directions for

cremation expressed wish to pay the fees in advance. He had as instructed, consulted the Borough Treasurer on the matter, who was of the opinion this could be arranged, and that he would be able to keep the necessary records of payments. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to allow persons to pay cremation fees in advance.

261

1531-Priors Farm Housing Estate-The Committee considered the suggestion made at the last Council Meeting that a screen of trees or shrubs should be planted along the boundary of the Cemetery and this housing estate. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle and that the Gardens Superintendent be asked to make a recommendation to the Committee at their next meeting.

1532-Memorial Plaques-The Borough Surveyor reported a letter had been received from Messrs. H. H. Martyn & Co. Ltd. giving details of increased prices for engraving bronze plaques, and the prices now quoted represented a substantial increase over the tender originally accepted by the Committee. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain fresh tenders for the engraving of plaques.

1533-Association of Cemetery & Crematorium Superintendents-The Chairman and Superintendent reported their attendance at the Conference held at Scarborough. Several papers on Cemetery and Cremation matters were read, and the discussion thereon proved most interesting and informative.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**9th June, 1947.** Present--Councillor Biggs (Chairman) ; the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Waite, Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner and Irving.

1534-National Smoke Abatement Society-RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector attend the annual conference of this Society at Edinburgh from 1st to 3rd October, 1947.

1535-Royal Sanitary Institute-RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health attend the sessional meeting of this Institute at Worcester, on 12th July.

1536-Public Health Act, 1936-(i) Statutory Notices-(a) 16 Waterloo Street-The owner of this property had not complied with the Court Order to carry out works in accordance with the statutory notice served upon him under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936. RESOLVED, That the Council carry out the works in default and that estimates be obtained, the Chairman accepting the most favourable. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to take the necessary proceedings to recover the expenses.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon defects at 37, Montpellier Terrace and cottage rear of the Royal Nursing Home, Parabola Road. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days from the date of such notices, and that failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(c) Dustbins-(i) RESOLVED, That notice be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owner of 38 Upper Norwood Street, requiring him to provide a regulation dustbin for such premises.

(ii) The owners of 19 Fairfield Parade and Wellington House, Wellington Square, had not complied with statutory notices to provide regulation dustbins for these premises. RESOLVED, That new

dustbins be provided by the Council and that the Town Clerk recover the expense incurred from the owners in pursuance of Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(iii) 4 Carlton Street and St. John's Cottage, Carlton Street-RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. R. Towell amounting to £93 16s. 8d., being the lowest, for the provision of a new drain to these premises for which the Council were responsible, be accepted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk prepare the contract and that the common seal be affixed thereto.

(iv) Beechmount, Pittville Circus Road-[Min. 1359(iii)]-RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to instal an anti-flood trap at these premises.

(v) Smoke Observations-(a) Cheltenham Original Brewery-Further observations and investigations of the plant and furnaces at the Cheltenham Original Brewery had been made. Modifications had been made to the boilers and instructions given to reduce the use of force-draught fans, and every effort was being made to abate the alleged nuisance. It appeared, however, that the complaint was due to the supply of low-grade fuel. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector continue his observations and report further to the next meeting.

(b) Crooks Laundry, Croft Street-This firm was installing a grit arrester to the boiler in order to avoid further complaints. The fuel supplies were still of poor quality and no further progress had been made by the Company at the present time to convert the plant to oil fuel owing to the attitude of the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

(vi) Sewer, Wellington Passage-The Committee have had under consideration a report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector upon the condition of the sewer. The Borough Surveyor reported that the estimated cost of renew-ing the sewer was £1,900 and recommended that the work be carried out by direct labour. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan for £1,900 and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £1,900 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and receipt.

(vii) Elmwood Garage, Montpellier-[Min. 765(iii)]-The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the caravan had been removed from these premises. The owner had however, been unable to obtain alternative accommodation and was now living in the office at the garage. There was inadequate ventilation, and overcrowding so as to constitute a nuisance in accordance with the provisions of Sections 93 and 168 of the Public Health Act, 1936. RESOLVED, That notice be served on the owner in pursuance of Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to abate the nuisance.

262

1537-Housinh Act, 1936—Re-licensing of Premises-Unfit Houses- RESOLVED That the licence for the re-occupation of 52a St. Georges Place be renewed for a period of 6months from the 18th July, 1947.

1538-Proposed Sewer, Leckhampton to Shurdington - (Min 100) The decision of the Housing Committee to develop the Alma Road site immediately to the South-West of the Great Western Railway by the erection of 300 permanent prefabricated rendered it necessary to construct the portion of this sewer lying between the Hatherley out-fall sewer, near Hatherley Tank and Warden Hill Road as soon as possible. Whilst it was not necessary for the sewer to be extended beyond Warden Hill Road into the Rural District Council's area, subject to a satisfactory agreement with the Rural District Council, it might be desirable to do this in view of pending development and the Borough Surveyor recommended that this should be borne in mind when preparing the scheme for

the above sewer. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved and that he be authorised to prepare plans and estimates and invite tenders for the carrying out of the work.

1539-Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938 The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms, one of which was unsatisfactory, due, in his opinion, to the absence of a flow diversion valve on the pasteurising plant. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the firm in question indicating the Council's concern, and requesting the immediate provision of this valve.

1540--Diphtheria Immunisation—Campaign—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health setting out particulars of a new trailer film which was being circulated throughout the country in support of the immunisation campaign, The letter also pointed out that the 12 minute film " Defeat Diphtheria 1945 " was now available in 35mm. size. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the managers of the local cinemas request-ing their co-operation in showing these films.

1541—Food and Drugs Act. 1938—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted report of the Public Analyst upon samples Nos. 874-881 and 891 (Milk, vinegar, cooking fat and other commodities) all of which were genuine.

(ii) Ice-cream—(a) RESOLVED, That the registration of Nos. 240 High Street and 24 Winchcomb Street for the sale and manufacture of ice cream be cancelled, the premises being no longer used for this purpose.

(b) RESOLVED, That the application of Messrs. Burrow & Co., 282 & 283 High Street and of Mr. F. Brookes, of 194 High Street for registration of these premises for the sale of ice-cream, be approved.

1542—Slaughterhouse--RESOLVED, That the application for renewal of the licence from Mr. W. A. Davis in respect of the slaughterhouse in Dunalley Street for the year ending 31st March, 1948 be granted.

1543—Public Abattoir—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that during the Conference at Bournemouth, he discussed the question of the abattoir with Councillor C. E. Canham, Chairman of the Hitcham U.D.C. Public Health Committee, a retired Local Government Officer with considerable experience in this work. He had invited Councillor Canham to inspect the Public Abattoir and submit his observations and any advice he might care to give which would be of assistance. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(ii) Horse—The horse at the abattoir had been awarded second prize at the Bath and West Show. RESOLVED, That the driver in charge be congratulated upon this success.

1544--Whitehall Farm—(Min. 589)—The Ministry of Health had deferred consideration of the application for loan sanction for the proposed works for the improvement of the house and buildings at this farm, pending a report by the War Agricultural Executive Committee. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the War Agricultural Executive Committee pointing out the urgency of the matter and asking for their fullest co-operation.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**14th June, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Waite (Chairman), Green, Smith and Ward; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Fildes, arm, Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite ; Mr. E. Baring.

1545-Entertainments' Sub-Committee—The Entertainments' Sub-Committee met on 22nd May (report circulated herewith).

Item 5—The Parks Committee had accepted an offer for the right to sell ice cream in Sandford Park during the months of July, August and September, They recommended this Committee to consider the provision of refreshments at the Pittville Gardens, particularly at week-ends, failing which it was proposed to invite offers by public advertisement. RESOLVED, (i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That, whilst agreeing in principle with the recommendation of the Parks Committee, in view of the absence of amenities at Pittville Gardens this season, the Entertainments Sub-Committee be asked to report upon the proposal before further steps were taken in the matter.

263

1546—Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee--The Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 3<sup>rd</sup> June (report circulated herewith).

Item 6 (Conferences)—The Royal Aeronautical Society had now decided to hold their conference in London in September.

Item 7(l)—(Alstone Baths—Proposed Improvements)—The Committee recorded that the tentative proposals now under consideration did not indicate approval, in principle, of the scheme and they awaited the submission of more detailed information. They agreed, however, that, due to the unsatisfactory condition of the existing washing baths, it was necessary for early consideration to be given to improved facilities during the period which must elapse before erection of a new baths installation.

Item 7(m) (Broadcast)-----The B.B.C. had been invited to broadcast commentaries of matches at Sandford Pool including that between the Swedish Water Polo Team and the Cheltenham Club on 13th August. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1547—Playhouse Sub-Committee—The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 6th June (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Council record their appreciation of the excellent work and services rendered to the Playhouse by Mr. G. Hannam Clark during the time he has acted as Consultant Producer.

1548--Music Festivals Advisory Committee—The Music Festivals Advisory Committee met on 2nd June (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1549—Vacancies on Sub-Committees—Councillor Waite was appointed a member of the Entertainments, Health & Holiday Resort and Playhouse Sub-Committees to fill vacancies caused by the death of Councillor H. C. Grimwade.

1550—Services Club—(Min. 1175)—The Town Clerk reported upon the informal discussions which had taken place on 3rd June between representatives of the Council and representatives of Cavendish House Ltd. and also upon his subsequent discussions with the District Valuer. The Company had asked that until the position was finalised and a joint statement agreed upon, no public announcement should be made. The Town Clerk was, there-fore in communication with the Company and would report further upon the whole position.

1551—Alstone Baths—(a) Reservations—Applications for reservations had been received from the St. Mary's College for Life Saving Society's Examinations on the morning of 21st June ; the North



Gloucestershire Technical College for their Annual Gala on the afternoon of 3rd July ; and the Cheltenham Girl Guides' Association for their Annual Swimming Gala on the evening of 21st July. RESOLVED, That the applications be granted, subject to payment of the usual hire charges.

(b) Charges for Schools—With reference to Item 7 (k) of the report of the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee, the Borough Surveyor and Borough Treasurer had now discussed the charges to schools and colleges which varied from 1.58d. per head to 3.12d. per head, and had taken into account the fact that no increase had been made since the war. They felt that in view of the additional overhead expenditure recently necessitating increased charges to the public, the charges for schools and colleges should be revised and fixed at 3d. per head in lieu of the present lump sum payments. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham Education Committee, the County Council, and the Grammar Schools, be informed accordingly, the revised rate to operate from 1st July next.

(c) With reference to Item 5(f) of the report of the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee on 6th May, the National Union of General & Municipal Workers asked that Mr. S. Hooper be paid 10s per week when in charge of the Baths, in the Superintendent's absence, from mid-April to mid-October being the same period as the appropriate additional payment was made to the Superintendent for supervision at Sandford Pool. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to. ALSO RESOLVED, That as the duties undertaken by Mr. Hooper were not included in the J.I.C. schedule, the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended to treat this employee in a similar manner to other employees so placed, and grant him the recent J.I.C. awards amounting to 8s per week, as from the operative date.

1552--Sandford Pool—The Cheltenham Swimming & Water Polo Club were temporarily without Headquarters and asked if the cafe might be used for Club receptions after each Gala the Club being responsible for their own refreshments and exercising necessary supervision. RESOLVED, That the application be granted in the first instance for two occasions free of charge, the Chairman of the Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee being empowered to grant further applications should he consider this desirable, the arrangement in any case to terminate at the conclusion of the summer season.

1553—Montpellier Pavilion—Roller Skating—(Min. 1371)—The Entertainments Manager stated that when the proposal for the adaptation of the Pavilion as a roller skating rink was under consideration he understood that, to make it revenue producing, the facilities would be available both to children and adults, to which the Borough Surveyor could not agree. His proposals for floor levelling and surfacing amounting to £100 would only provide a skating rink suitable for children and young people. The Committee felt that before further work was undertaken the Entertainments' Sub-Committee should review the position. RESOLVED, That work be suspended for the time being to enable the Entertainments' Sub-Committee to submit a further report.

T. WILFRED WAITE. Chairman.

264

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**12th June, 1947.** Present— Alderman, Ward (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillor: Bayliss and Mann; Mrs. Atherton; Lady Victoria Majors Beale Browne, Mitchell and Shakspeare ; Messrs. Clegg and Harris.

13th June, 1947. Present-- Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillor; Bayliss and J. Bendall.

1554—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or other-wise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name.                         | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 5628        | Mesdames Harris and Ballinger | Revised elevations semi-detached houses, 204-206 Old Bath Road             | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 5734        | E. T. Stinchcombe & Son       | Pair of semi-detached houses, Gloucester Road.                             | Approved in January, 1946.   | Approved subject to the access being constructed to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor. |
| 6055        | A. W. Watkins                 | Garage, Gloucester Road.   | Approved in February, 1947.  | Approved as in Plan No. 5734.   |
| 6103        | Steels Ltd.                   | Alterations and additions, 47-51 Albion Street                             | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6113        | J. H. Basson                  | Rebuilding of sanitary wing, 44 Bath Road                                  | Approved subject to sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. | Approved.   |
| 6114        | A. Barnett                    | Rebuilding of conservatory, 68 Marle Hill Parade.                          | Approved.  | Deferred.   |
| 6155        | Mrs. A. Horwood               | Replacement of shop-front, 255 High Street                                 | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6156        | Governors, Dean Close School  | Temporary classrooms and Corps quarters, Dean Close School, Shelburne Road | Approved subject to the roof water being carried to the existing drainage system.                    | Approved.   |
| 6157        | T. W. Caudle                  | Conservatory, 14 Milton Road   | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6158        | C. Cull                       | Garage, Westborough Western Road.  | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6159        | E. L. Ward Ltd.               | Caretakers flat, 139 High Street.  | Approved as in Plan No. 6113.  | Approved.   |
| 6160        | N. P. Barton                  | Garden shed, 54 Brooklyn Gardens   | Disapproved.   | Disapproved.  |
| 6161        | W. Stanton                    | Motor cycle shed, 48 Mersey Road.  | Exempt.  | Disapproved.  |
| 6162        | Mrs. S. Brooks                | Conservatory, 76 Milton Road.  | Exempt.  | Approved.   |

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|------|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 6163 | K. Theyer          | Garage, 406 Gloucester Road.  | Exempt.                       | Approved.  |
| 6164 | R. Pick            | Alterations, Branksomedene, Queen's Road.                             | Approved.                     | Approved subject to new windows being of the same type, design and materials as the existing windows and to the new work harmonising with the existing building. |
| 6165 | L. K. Holtam       | Coal and tool shed, Bamford, Hewlett Road                             | Exempt.                       | Approved.  |
| 6166 | A. H. Kearsey Ltd. | Alterations to sanitary accommodation, Hanover House, Hanover Street. | Approved as in Plan No. 6113. | Approved to the 31st December, 1957.   |
| 6167 | S. A. Such         | Greenhouse. 80 Hales Road.  | Exempt.                       | Approved.  |
| 6168 | L. R. Griffiths    | Cycle and perambulator shed, 20 Cromwell Road.                        | Exempt.                       | Approved.  |

265

| No. of Plan | Name                      | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 6169        | B. C. Kempson             | Workshop, 5 St. George's Road.                         | Disapproved.                  | Disapproved.  |
| 6170        | Chargrove Properties Ltd. | Extensions to 238 Hatherley Road                       | Approved as in Plan No. 6156. | Approved subject to the brickwork being rough-casted to match the existing building ; to the windows being of the same type, design and materials as the windows in the existing building and to coping stones being used on the parapet. |
| 6171        | Electricity Undertaking   | Alterations to out-buildings, Southwood' Lypiatt Road. | Approved as in Plan No. 6113. | Approved subject to the bricked up window openings being finished off   |

to match the existing building.

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| 6172 | Electricity Undertaking                 | New Sub-station, The Knole, St. Mark's.                              | Approved subject to satisfactory disposal of surface water. | Approved.   |
| 6173 | Lockes' Bakeries Ltd.                   | New confectionery bakery, The Bakery St. George's Place.             | Approved.   | Approved for a period of 15 years from the date of consent, as the site is in a proposed re-development area. |
| 6174 | Cheltenham Newspaper Co. Ltd.           | Alterations to sanitary accommodation, Echo Office, Clarence Parade. | Approved as in Plan No. 6113.                               | Approved.   |
| 6175 | L. S. Williams                          | Extensions to bakery, 12 Lypiatt Street.                             | Approved.   | Approved as in Plan No. 6173.   |
| 6176 | F. H. Watts                             | Garage, Berrivale, Arle Drive.                                       | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6177 | Amos Wilson & Son                       | Greenhouse, 2 Lypiatt Terrace.                                       | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6178 | Cheltenham Old Peoples' Housing Society | Alterations, Northerwood. Pittville Circus Road.                     | Approved as in Plan No. 6113.                               | Approved.   |
| 6179 | F. Hinds Ltd.                           | Installation of roller shutter, 148a, High Street.                   | Referred to Street and Highway Committee.                   | Referred to Street and Highway Committee.   |
| 6180 | T. Clapton                              | Greenhouse, 335 Swindon Road.  | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6181 | G. Orloff                               | Garage, Bedford Lodge, College Road                                  | Exempt.   | Approved.   |
| 6182 | F. J. Gray Ltd.                         | Extension of bakery, 49 St. George's Road                            | Approved as in Plan No. 6113.                               | Approved as in Plan No. 6173.   |
| 6183 | Dentons' Ltd.                           | Caretaker's flat, 366-7 High Street.                                 | Approved as in Plan No. 6113.                               | Approved.   |
| 6184 | T. L. Thompson                          | Greenhouse, Tose-land, The Park.                                     | Exempt.   | Approved.   |

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| 6185 | Mrs. L. Hacker | Garage, 107<br>Gloucester Road                                  | Exempt.  | Approved.                        |
| 6186 | W. Bullingham  | Conversion of coach<br>house, Camperdown<br>St., Stephen's Road | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6113  | Approved.                        |
| 6187 | H. Eager       | Alterations and<br>additions, 296<br>Gloucester Road.           | Approved subject to<br>a ventilating grid<br>being provided in the<br>external wall. | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6164. |
| 6188 | R. F. Curtis   | New bathroom<br>2 Marsh Terrace,<br>Marsh Lane.                 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6113.   | Approved.                        |
| 6189 | A. E. Trigg    | Garage, 7 Pittville<br>Crescent.                                | Approved subject to<br>the doors opening<br>inwards.                                 | Approved.                        |

266

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Minute 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of<br>Plan | Name                         | Description  | Recommendation under Interim<br>Development Order.                         |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| T.P.2289       | R. S. Ames                   | Proposed Nissen hut for use<br>for industrial purposes, New<br>Barn Lane, Prestbury. | Approved for a period of<br>3 years, from the date of<br>consent.          |
| T.P.2290       | G. J. Paton                  | Proposed garage, and garden<br>shed, Troon, Okus Road,<br>Charlton Kings.            | Approved.  |
| T.P.2291       | Mrs. Dandy                   | Proposed garage, Park Grange,<br>Moorend Road, Charlton Kings                        | Deferred.  |
| T.P.2292       | L. H. Boulton                | Proposed alterations, The<br>Grange, The Reddings.                                   | Approved subject to new<br>work harmonising with the<br>existing building. |
| T.P.2293       | W. H. Cooke and<br>Arkwright | Alterations to a further cottage<br>and outbuildings, Boddington<br>Manor.           | Disapproved.   |
| T.P.2294       | W. H. Cooke and<br>Arkwright | Alterations to cottage and<br>outbuildings, Boddington Manor.                        | Disapproved.   |
| T.P.2295       | G. A. Ballinger              | Proposed sanitary accommodation<br>and fuel store, The Firs,<br>The Reddings.        | Approved.  |
| T.P.2296       | J. H. Jenkins                | Proposed greenhouse,<br>Kidnappers Lane.   | Approved.  |

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| T.P.2297 | C. J. Woodard                     | Proposed alterations, Howe Cottage, Church Road, Leckhampton. | Approved.   |
| T.P.2298 | Lt. Col, C. W. Davey              | Proposed pig sty, Bushcombe House Farm, Woodmancote.          | Approved.   |
| T.P.2299 | M. R. Webb                        | Garage, 11 Noverton Avenue, Prestbury.                        | Approved.   |
| T.P.2300 | Cheltenham Rural District Council | 4 pairs of houses, Gotherington.                              | Approved subject to the proposed widening being to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor. |
| T.P.2301 | C. G. Bentley                     | Proposed garage, The Gables, Gretton Road, Winchcombe.        | Deferred.   |
| T.P.2302 | R. L. James                       | Proposed garage, 8 Glebe Road, Prestbury.                     | Approved.   |
| T.P.2303 | Cheltenham Rural District Council | Proposed 6 houses, Coberley.                                  | Approved.   |
| T.P.2304 | Cheltenham Rural District Council | Proposed pair Swedish Houses, Southam.                        | Approved subject to satisfactory siting.  |
| T.P.2305 | P. T. Smith                       | Proposed garage, 24 Noverton Lane, Prestbury.                 | Approved.   |

1555—Development Plans—(a) Bishops Cleeve—Application from Mr. L. Holme to open a wet fish business at premises previously used as a butchers shop adjoining Greyholme. The Committee had agreed with the Bishops Cleeve Housing Association that no new shopping centre would be established within half a mile of the proposed centre on the housing estate, but this would not be established for some considerable time. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for a period of 3 years from the date of consent.

(b) Lynworth Farm Estate—Mr. H. E. Bradshaw applied for permission to erect a house at the end of his garden in Prestbury Road adjoining Lynworth Estate. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, subject to the Housing Committee granting an access across the narrow strip of land to the new road on the Estate, and to detailed plans being submitted to, and approved by, the Committee.

(c) The Reddings, Badgeworth—Application was submitted from Messrs. G. A. Wood and R. G. Fortman for permission to use the old stabling at Cambria, The Reddings, for producing high-class tools and small precision components. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for a period of 2 years from the date of consent, as the buildings were in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes, subject to no nuisance being caused by noise, smoke, fumes, dust or smell.

(d) Fairmount Road—Application was submitted to use one room at Hutton Raufe, Fairmount Road, as an office, and the basement as a store. The area was proposed to be scheduled for residential purpose only, and the proposed use of the building was likely to detrimentally affect the amenities of the area. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(e) Montpellier villas—Mr, W. H. Parkin applied for permission to erect a meeting room for religious pur-poses on the site of the bombed houses in Montpellier Villas. That site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for general residential purposes but owing to the close proximity of surrounding houses, residential amenities would be detrimentally affected. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(f) Elmstone Hardwicke—Application was submitted for permission to erect 8 houses on a portion of field No. 339, Elmstone Hardwicke. The site was in a rural area and the proposed development would affect the amenities of the area. The County Surveyor opposed the proposal as it would be dangerous to traffic. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(g) Osborne House—Lansdown Road—Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons Ltd. applied on behalf of the owner for Permission to remove the existing cornices and other features, and substitute a flat band, RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

267

(h) Upper Park Street—Application was submitted from Messrs. F. W. Tandy and J. W. Herbert to use premises in Upper Park Street, formerly a motor engineers workshop, for the purpose of an upholstery business. RESOLVED, That the application be approved for a period of three years from the date of consent as the site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for redevelopment, subject to no nuisance being caused as by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.

1556—Thirlestaine House [Min. 1300 (k)]—The Town Clerk had communicated with the Gloucestershire County Council and the Cheltenham College in connection with the proposed compulsory purchase order for the lease of this property. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred, and that the Town Clerk forward copy Council for copy of the letter received from the College as reported in Min. 1437 to the County Council for their observations.

1557-Building Restrictions (War-time Contraventions) Act 1946—Crown Factory, Stoke Orchard (Min. 933)—The Council made a formal determination under this Act in respect of war factory at Stoke Orchard on the 9th April, 1947, on the application of the Ministry of Supply. The determination provided that the works be deemed to comply with planning proposals subject to the following conditions :—(a) That the works should be used for the purpose of aero-engine and motor-car research and development only, and not for production work of any kind. (b) That the application be granted for the period of the lease referred to in the Ministry of Supply's letter dated the 4th February, 1947, i.e., 10 years with an option to continue in occupation under a new lease for a further period of 50 years. This determination was given in the terms asked for in the application.

A letter was now submitted from the Ministry of Supply stating that changing circumstances made it necessary for a fresh determination. Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd. had used the premises mainly for development of an aero-engine for which the Company had a contract with the Ministry. A recent review of the Ministry's financial commitments for aero-engines had shown that it was no longer justifiable to proceed with the project, and the contract had been cancelled with effect from the 30th June, 1947. The Company now proposed to operate as a light engineering firm, and to undertake production work, although some development work would continue.

The Company could not yet indicate the type of light-engineering to be undertaken but the proposed change would not affect the amenities or rural nature of the district to any greater extent than that anticipated by the present determination.

The Company's proposals to undertake light-engineering required the approval of the Board of Trade and, on the assumption that allocation of the premises to the Company for this purpose would be forthcoming, it was hoped that the Council would determine that the premises could be used for that purpose for the period of the lease that it was proposed to grant to Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd., i.e., 10 years with an option to continue in occupation under a fresh lease for a period of 50 years.

The application for a new determination had been submitted at the earliest possible stage at the request of the Company, as until they knew whether the premises could be used for production, they were unable to formulate plans on a firm basis, or make the necessary financial arrangements. The Town Clerk pointed out that the Act required the application to be advertised, and that a period of 14 days must elapse between the advertisement and hearing the application by the Committee, in order that representations might be made by persons, or bodies of persons, wishing to do so, and that he had already advertised the application. The time for representations to be allowed expired on the 26th June.

RESOLVED, That having regard to the urgency of the matter, a special meeting be held on the 27th June, 1947, and that representatives of the applicants (Ministry of Supply) and any persons or bodies of persons who made representations be given an opportunity of attending in support of them.

1558—Liaison between Planning Authorities and Land Drainage Authorities—Circular 31/47 Ministry of Town and Country Planning, was submitted drawing attention to the importance of maintaining the closest liaison with Local Drainage Authorities. The Minister considered there were many points upon which Planning Authorities and Land Drainage Authorities could co-operate in formulating plans for future works, and he was anxious that Planning Authorities should at an early stage consult the local Land Drainage Authorities to find out which parts of their areas were likely to raise problems of drainage. The Planning Officer reported that he already worked in close liaison with the Land Drainage Authorities.

1559—Notice-Board—Holy Apostles (Min. 540—Permission was granted in January, 1947, for the erection of a board near the Holy Apostles School, advertising the Bath and West Show. The Charlton Kings Urban District Council had forwarded an application on behalf of the Holy Apostles Church, Charlton Kings, for permission to use the board for details of services and other matters.

The County Council, as the highway authority, opposed the proposals and were requesting its removal. RESOLVED, That the application be not granted.

1560—Casino Place, Andover Road (Min. 1300 (f))—Application of Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell Ltd. to use Casino Place as a builders' yard and to erect a garage and storage premises was deferred at the last meeting, to obtain the views of the Street and Highway Committee, who now recommended (Min. 1397) that the application be refused. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation.

1561-34 and 34a North Place—Messrs. Costelloe and Kemple had now removed the temporary and their materials from this site. RESOLVED, That the Street and Highway Committee be recommended to purchase this site for future street widening.

1562—Regency architecture— Observations of the Committee (Min. 1137) upon the representation of the Georgian Group in respect of Alma House, Rodney Road, and Mersea House, Bath Road, had been forwarded to the Group. They now stated that whilst they appreciated the difficulty in granting licences at the present time, it was hoped that applications for licences to carry out necessary maintenance work to this type of house, would receive most careful consideration in view of the rapidity with which stucco deteriorated. Importance of reproducing small architectural features when reparative work was carried out was emphasised, as replacements were being effected omitting small, but none the less highly significant decorative devices, an example of which could be seen in Wolseley Terrace, where the moulded bases of the pilasters had been renewed with plain pieces of stucco.



The Group also drew attention to the importance of entablatures and cornices, and asked if they could be supplied with details of the modified cornice designed by Messrs. Healing and Overbury, which it was understood had been used in several instances in the town.

The Planning Officer reported that the question whether features could be restored was largely dependent on the granting of licences for the work to be carried out. Frequently alterations to architectural features, the cost of which did not exceed £10, were carried out without reference to the Planning Department, and it was impossible to supervise all work to Regency buildings in the town. His department had endeavoured to discourage the obliteration of architectural features of Regency houses, but there was a reluctance on the part of the owners to spend large sums of money on the restoration of these features which was chiefly for the benefit of the town and community. He had examined the pilasters in Wolseley Terrace, and whilst the removal of the moulding was quite wrong, work had been carried out which appeared to fit in with the string-course on that side of the terrace, but it was clear that the work had not been carried out recently. With regard to the modified cornice, this had only been used in one instance and he was confident that only an expert would be able to detect that it was not the original cornice.

The Borough Surveyor reported that the Georgian Group had approached the Ancient Monuments Section of the Ministry of Works for the granting of special licences for work to these houses, and the matter was receiving consideration. RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer carry out a survey of buildings and terraces of Regency architecture report.

1563—Hadley House, Bayshill Road— The Committee further considered the question of the reinstatement of the cornices of this property. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the owner be requested to mitre and return the front cornice around the end of the front wall only. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyors recommendations be approved.

1564-384 and 386 Gloucester Road—Proposed Garage—Letter was submitted from Messrs. Midwinter and Adams on behalf of the owner of this property submitting alternative suggestions for the provision of access from these premises to the Gloucester Road, as required in the approval of the Ministry of Transport. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the suggestion of a common entrance to the properties 384 and 386 Gloucester Road was satisfactory, provided the land in front of the improvement line was added to the high-way, the opening out of the access road was placed behind the improvement line and the foot-path crossing was constructed to his satisfaction. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved.

1565—Alma Road—Proposed Housing Site (Min. 1475)—The Borough Surveyor submitted a plan of site proposed by the Housing Committee for the erection of 300 permanent prefabricated bungalows. RESOLVED, That no objection be made to the proposed development of this area.

1566-7 St. Georges Road--Letter was submitted from Mrs. M. Hazell for permission to convert these premises into a cafe. The Town Clerk reported that this property was situate in the area affected by the Direction made in respect of the Royal Well Chapel site. RESOLVED, That having regard to the proposed future development of this area, and the unsuitability of the premises for purpose proposed, consent be refused.

1567—Town and County Planning Bill—The Town Clerk reported on communications received from the Association of Municipal Corporations with regard to the progress and amendments to this Bill, and that he had been in communication with the Member of Parliament for the Borough thereon.

1568—Preservation of Trees—Birdlip—The Planning Officer reported upon the importance of the woods at Birdlip, Nos. 6, 10a, 51, part 52, 64, part 65 and 66 in the Parish of Cowley ; No. 217 in the Parish of Coverley and No. 530a in the Parish of Badgeworth. The Committee gave careful consideration to the desirability of the retention of these features. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that it was expedient to make provision for the preservation of the above-mentioned woods, an Order be made in pursuance of Section 8 of the Town and Country Planning General Interim Development) Act 1943, for the interim protection of the above woods and that the Common Seal be affixed to such order. ALSO RESOLVED, That such Order be submitted to the Minister of Town and Country Planning for approval.

1569—Council Houses, Winchcombe—The Planning Officer had requested observations in connection with the proposed electricity supply to the Council Housing Estate at Winchcombe and it had been recommended that this should be laid underground. A meeting had since taken place with representatives of the S.W.S. Electricity Supply Co. Ltd. who pointed out that it was proposed to site the poles immediately behind the houses in the positions recommended, where they would not be visible from the road. If an underground line was required it would entail a long delay, owing to the present shortage of insulated cable. RESOLVED, That no objection be now made to the proposal for an overhead line, but that the Company be recommended that supplies for the opposite side of the road be laid underground.

1570—Representatives—The Northleach Rural District Council have appointed Major G. Beale-Browne as their representative for the ensuing year.

1571---Barrow Wake, Birdlip—The Committee considered the desirability of preserving this piece of land as an open space, having regard to its high amenity value. RESOLVED, That the County Council be recommended to purchase this land as an open space.

1572--Cleeve Common (Mins. and 1464)—The Committee considered letter from the Cotswold Hills Golf Club, enclosing copy of a letter forwarded to the War Office, together with a letter from the Cleeve Common Board of Conservators, enclosing copy of a resolution which they had addressed to the Rt. Hon. W. Morrison, M.P., in whose constituent the Common was situate, the contents of which were reported to the last meeting of the Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps to pursue the objections to the use of Cleeve Common for the purposes proposed.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

269

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**16th June, 1947.** Present--Alderman Trye (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Aldermen Green and Ward; Councillors. Addis, Biggs, Readings, Strickland and Ward.

1573—Street Lighting—(a) Damaged Lamp Post, St. George's Place—This post was damaged by a Cheltenham District Gas Co. lorry, and a claim had been made for the cost of replacement.

(b) Parking Places—The Chamber of Commerce Transport Committee had considered the Council's decision that during the present lighting restrictions they were unable to improve lighting at Imperial Square and Crescent Place parking places to enable the Chief Constable to exercise his discretion and permit cars to park without lights. The Transport Committee urged reconsideration as at Bristol and Gloucester adequate lighting was provided for parking places and there seemed no reason why Cheltenham should not make similar provision.

The Borough Electrical Engineer stated that if the parks were lighted during restricted hours, it would necessitate separate circuits, but he was looking into the matter, and would report thereon, including cost to the Electricity Committee who would in due course make recommendations. RESOLVED, That the matter be deferred pending the Electricity Committee's report.

1574—Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 4th June (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1575—Labour Sub-Committee--The Labour Sub-Committee met on 5th June. RESOLVED, That the report be received.

1576—Pittville Street and Winchcomb Street Properties (Min. 1389)—The Town Clerk had prepared and circulated, a report upon the tenancies of these properties to enable the Committee to consider whether the time was opportune for the same to be reviewed. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to the next meeting.

1577—Parking Place, Bayshill Road—The Ladies' College Council adhered to their objection to the Council's proposal to prescribe a parking place for private cars on the east side of this road from its junction with St. George's Road to its junction with Queens Parade but excluding the entrance drives to the College premises, Fauconberg Road and opposite the Nursing Home at 21 Royal Parade, They had instructed their Solicitors to apply to Petty Sessions for re-consideration of the decision on the ground that serious nuisance would be caused to College amenities.

Mr. Carr Hamond who had forwarded a memorial from 85 residents in Bayshill Road, also applied for the matter to be reconsidered and suggested as an alternative the use of Parabola Road.

The Police Superintendent considered that Parabola Road was too far distant from the town's centre and too difficult for visitors to locate. In his view the use of Bayshill Road was not likely to be so extensive as to cause nuisance or annoyance, as motorists would continue to prefer parking places nearer to the town's centre. RESOLVED, That the Council adhere to their decision.

1578---Park Place and Andover Road Junction—Read memorial from five residents in Park Place urging, that in view of the recent fatal accident, either traffic lights or "Halt" signs be provided as the four Slow notices painted on the roads were inadequate and ineffective. Councillor Bayliss also stressed the need for traffic lights.

The Town Clerk stated that at the request of the Police the Council were represented at the Inquest when the Jury had recommended more adequate safeguards, such as a roundabout or traffic lights to prevent similar accidents. The views of the Police Superintendent had been obtained when he pointed out the difficult problem of regulating traffic at this point as at one time of the day Andover Road carried the most traffic and at another time the greater amount was on Park Place. If road widths permitted he favoured a small round-about and as the pavements on each of the four corners were approximately 16 feet wide, these might be reduced to 8 ft. which would give the required space.

The Committee recalled that owners of properties at the junction had already surrendered land for rounding the corners. The Borough Surveyor thought a roundabout might be possible and if there was insufficient space, the abutting owners might be willing to give up a further small area.

In the meantime the Committee agreed that further warning signs should be erected but as the Ministry of Transport's approval was necessary to " Halt " signs delay would occur. RESOLVED, That

pending the Borough Surveyor's report to the next Meeting as to the practicability of a roundabout, " Slow, Major Road Ahead signs be erected forthwith.

1579—High Street/Promenade--Traffic Restrictions—The Minister of Transport had forwarded copy of a notice which had been inserted in the local press intimating his intention to make an Order under the Road Traffic Act, 1930 and the Trunk Roads Act, 1936 relating to a portion of the London/Fishguard Road, namely, certain lengths of Promenade and High Street.

1580—Reddings Road—Diversion—(a) The County Surveyor forwarded details of this Council's liability it-, with the diversion of Reddings Road due to the quadrupling of the Gloucester/Cheltenham amounting to £700, plus an agreed proportion of any claim the Great Western Railway Company might present for the cost of diversion of water mains. This was in accordance with the arrangement made between the County Surveyor, a representative of the Railway Company and the Borough Surveyor in December 1941 and subsequently approved by the Council. RESOLVED, That the apportionment be accepted.

270

(b) The Great Western Railway Co. were acquiring a small site adjoining this road and enquired whether the Council wished to rent or purchase the same. The Borough Surveyor reported that this was now a spoil heap and its condition considerably detracted from the amenities of the neighbourhood. He recommended that the Council should, if possible, acquire the site and carry out levelling and planting. The Town Clerk advised that this was a matter for consideration by the **PLANNING COMMITTEE**. RESOLVED, That the Planning Committee be recommended accordingly and that in the meantime the purchase price be ascertained.

1581--Road Safety—The Ministry of Transport stated that a grant of £686 would be made for the preparation and conduct of a scheme of local road safety propaganda activities in the year 1947/48, being 50% of the total expenditure amounting to £1,371.

1582—Alstone Lane—This road for a distance of 172 yards from its junction with Brooklyn Road had now been made up to the specification of the Borough Surveyor and all charges paid by abutting owners. RESOLVED, That notices be erected in accordance with Section 152 of the Public Health Act, 1875, of the Council's intention to take over and maintain this portion of the road.

1583—Selkirk Gardens Housing Estate—The Housing Committee had received a memorial from tenants on this Estate calling attention to the bad condition of the two access lanes. They recommended that this Committee carry out immediate repairs.

Mins. 1471/46 and 655 authorised the taking over of the roadways between Pittville Circus Road and the Estate and at the rear, including the resurfacing of the footpath from Whaddon Road to Pittville Circus Road, and the Borough Surveyor was authorised accordingly. He estimated the cost of making up the road from Pittville Circus Road at £1,146 and to provide a suitable road margin on one side and a footpath on the other, he suggested the removal of the row of poplar trees. RESOLVED, That the estimate be approved, work to proceed as soon as possible and to include patching of the passage-way from Whaddon Road and the removal of poplar trees.

1584—Osborne House (Min. 1289/46)—The owner (Mr. C. Dickens) had now agreed to surrender to the Council without cost the land required for the improvement of the junction of Lansdown Road and Queens Road, but asked for fencing to the new boundary line and gates to the entrances in both roads. Owing to the difficulty in obtaining materials he was willing to accept a privet and thorn hedge, the Council undertaking to erect gates when these were procurable.

RESOLVED, (i) That the offer be accepted and the Council's appreciation conveyed to Mr. Dickens.

(ii) That his views be obtained as to the type of gates he considers suitable.

(iii) That the common seal be affixed to the conveyance.

1585—Sites of Nos. 34 and 34a North Place—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate for the acquisition of the sites of these properties for future road widening purposes.

1586—Rodney Road Car Park—Amended Bye-laws (Min. 1205)—The Ministry of Health were prepared to confirm a bye-law in the form now submitted, amending the Bye-law dated 7th July, 1936, so far as they relate to charges at this car park. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make a bye-law accordingly ; that the Common Seal be affixed thereto ; and that the confirmation of the Ministry of Health be sought.

1587—Supervision of Car Parks—Read, letter from the British Legion National Car Attendants Company Ltd. asking if the Council would permit them to take over the supervision of car parks and take the receipts. The Committee were of opinion that it was desirable for the Council to retain control of car parks and the Borough Surveyor stated that the attendants were all ex-service men in receipt of disablement pensions. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed accordingly.

1588—Cycle Park, Manchester Street—The St. Mary's Training College, the owners of this site, had given 6 months' notice terminating the Council's tenancy in accordance with the Agreement dated 16th October, 1946. Their Solicitors stated that the College would like possession as soon as possible. As little use had been made of the amenity the Borough Surveyor recommended that the cycle blocks be removed and the site handed over at an early date. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1589-149 High Street (Min. 1009)—The Town Clerk had been authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of these premises for road improvement purposes and the owners now intimated that they were agreeable thereto subject to a satisfactory purchase price being agreed upon. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk continue his negotiations on the basis of the District Valuer's valuation.

1590--Roller Shutters, 148a High Street—The Planning Committee had considered an application from the owners to erect roller shutters with a two-inch projection over the footpath and asked for this Committee's observations thereon. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal subject to the owners entering into an undertaking to remove the projection immediately road improvements are undertaken and the building set back to the new line.

1591—Annual Fuel Contracts—The Borough Surveyor reported that the existing contracts expired on 30th June. The Contractors were agreeable to renew their contracts on the same basis as last year subject to authorised increases or decreases in price. As prices were stabilised by the Ministry of Fuel he recommended that the contracts with the Cheltenham District Gas Co. Ltd., Messrs. Webb Bros. and Messrs. Alleyne E. Davies Ltd. be renewed for a further period of 12 months. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

271

1592—Central Depot—Horse Transport [Min. 1405 (b)]—(a) The Borough Surveyor had now listed the horses, harness and vehicles and recommended that Messrs. Charles C. Castle & Son be authorised to offer the same for sale by auction. The Health Department, however, wished to acquire one set of harness, all hay and forage and to exchange a cart used for Abattoir work, and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the request be acceded to. RESOLVED, That the

recommendation be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That in due course Messrs. Castle be instructed as suggested but that the sale be deferred until delivery of a motor vehicle, which it is intended should carry out the work now undertaken by horse transport, has been obtained.

(b) Purchase of 2/3 ton motor vehicle—The Borough Surveyor submitted prices of vehicles which he considered suitable for carrying out the work previously undertaken by horse transport. RESOLVED, That the quotation of Messrs. Haines and Strange amounting to £541 10s. 0d. for a new Telehoist End Tipper be accepted, with delivery date towards the end of 1947 or early in 1948.

(c) Garage Equipment—Members of the Committee drew attention to the lack of equipment connected with the maintenance of vehicles and to the obsolete type of petrol pump now in use, and were of opinion that an electric pump would prove a valuable saving of time. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain and submit quotations for a washing machine for vehicles and also terms upon which an electric petrol pump can be obtained.

(d) Garage Accommodation (Mins. 1405 (a) and 1459 Finance Committee)—The Finance Committee had approved, subject to loan sanction, the provision of garage accommodation for six refuse vehicles and concurred with this Committee's recommendation that the work be undertaken by direct labour at a cost of approximately £1,000.

The Borough Surveyor now submitted detailed estimate amounting to £1,090. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan accordingly, and that application also be made to the Public Works Loan Board to the borrowing of the sum of £1,090, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order, and form of receipt.

1593—Highways Department—Bricklayers Apprentice—A. R. Dix had now completed his apprenticeship period and had attained the age of 15. The Borough Surveyor recommended, therefore, that he be accepted as a bricklayers' apprentice. RESOLVED, That his indentures be signed accordingly.

1594—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported works completed during the month which included re-surfacing Duke Street ; gravelling Sandford Pool Car Park ; surfacing Rodney Road Car Park ; widening, surface dressing, and haunching of carriage-ways ; re-paving footpath Lansdown Road ; widening footpath Oriel Road ; reinstatement of footpath and roadway openings ; manholes repaired ; surface water drain laid in Gloucester Road ; trees felled, trimmed and pruned ; street gullet's emptied ; direction signs repaired and re-painted ; school signs, street name plates, safety lines and slow signs re-painted ; and 11 cars and lorries repaired. 1081 ½ tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1162 ½ tons in May.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**17th June, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Green, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge and Readings.

1595—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—The Market and Public Control Sub-Committee met on the 4th June, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1596—Establishment Sub-Committee--The Establishment Sub-Committee met on the 13th June, 1947 (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1597—Labour Sub-Committee—The Labour Sub-Committee met on the 5th June (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1598—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—The Staff Joint Advisory Committee met on the 13th June (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1599—Non-County Boroughs Association—A letter and report of a special general meeting of the Association was submitted intimating the decision to terminate the functions of the Association and that in future the interests of non-county boroughs would be dealt with by a new Committee working through the medium of the Association of Municipal Corporations. The Town Clerk reported on his attendance at the meeting, and pointed out that for some time past it had been felt that the Association was not strong enough to fully safeguard the interests of non-county boroughs and that a strong Committee on the lines now proposed would be more beneficial.

1600—South-Western Provincial Council for Staffs of Hospitals and Allied Institutions—On the formation of this Provincial Council, it was decided to appoint two representatives of non-county boroughs in the South-Western area and Councillor Biggs was nominated. Seven persons were finally nominated for the area, and the voting arrangements were left to the South-Western Branch of the Non-County Boroughs Association. The Town Clerk had pursued enquiries as to the agreed nominations and eventually it was found that the Branch had appointed Mr. Alderman C. T. Bowden, Torquay, as a representative to the Count Branch, which did not include non-county boroughs in this portion of the South-Western area, had also intimated to the main Association that, if in future two nominations were required, one should be submitted from the three counties in the Branch's area and one from this portion of the area. The Town had written indicating the procedure was unsatisfactory and whilst there were no further steps which could be taken at the present time, it was anticipated that the procedure would be more satisfactory in future.

272

1601—House of Commons (Redistribution of Seats) Acts, 1944 and 1947—Letter, dated 10th June, 1947, was submitted from the Boundary Commission for England indicating the proposed alteration of the area of the Parliamentary Borough Boundary of Cheltenham by the inclusion of those parts of the Borough at present in the Cirencester and Tewkesbury and Stroud Division with a resulting increase in the electorate as at the 15th March, 1946, from 49,152 to 50,515. The Council were entitled to make representations within one month. RESOLVED, That the Council approve of the proposed alteration of the boundaries.

1602—Women's Voluntary Service—The Home Office had indicated that as many tasks existed for this service, consultations were taking place in regard to its continuation but that in the meantime the existing Government financial arrangements would stand. It was hoped local authorities would continue to make full use of the service where necessary and take an early opportunity of discussing with the local officer the best means of giving assistance. The Mayor had previously interviewed the Centre Organiser, Cheltenham, and discussed in general the work of the service, and a further appointment was being arranged in view of the circular now received.

1603-109 Old Bath Road (Min. 1226)—The owner of this property had now decided not to sell the property and in these circumstances the proposal for its conversion into flats for members of the staff could not proceed. The Housing Committee were, however, retaining the requisitioning with a view to the conversion of the property into flats for ordinary housing applicants.

1604—St. Mark's Ward, Polling Station—The St. Mark's Community Association had suggested that one of the polling stations at Roman Road Schools should be transferred to Christ Church Junior School, Alstone Lane, for the convenience of electors in the Arle Road district. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed that the Council view the suggestion with favour but that arrangements to this end should be deferred until improvements had been carried out to the road and better access provided.

1605—Contracts of Local Authorities—Fair Wages Clause—(Min. 400/46)---Circular 90/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted referring to a previous circular dated 16th November, 1946, forwarding model standing orders in regard to the application of the fair wages resolution passed by the House of Commons on 14th October, 1946, to contracts of Local Authorities. New model standing orders in this respect relating to rates of pay, hours and conditions, trade union membership, sub-contracting, disputes, and breach of contract, were now submitted and local authorities were asked to apply them to all contracts entered into after the date of adoption of the standing orders. The model now submitted varied little from that previously adopted by the Council. RESOLVED, That the standing orders of the Council be amended accordingly, and that Min. 400/46 adopting the previous model be rescinded.

1606—Charitable Trustees Acts, 1853-1939—A letter was submitted from the Charity Commission, dated 10th June, enclosing a Scheme further varying a Scheme of the Commissioners in the matter of a charity known as " Bucklehaven," near Cheltenham, in respect of certain almshouses in Charlton Kings. The charity does not affect this Council. RESOLVED, That no observations be made upon the proposed variations.

1607—Chief, Deputies and Principal Officers—Salaries—The Committee has had under consideration for some time the salaries of Chief, Deputies and Principal Officers of the Council who were outside the scheme adopted by the Council in July, 1946, for the administrative, technical, professional and clerical staffs.

The Establishment Sub-Committee who had undertaken a careful review of the position have now reported to the Committee thereon with their recommendations. The Committee have also borne in mind that Local Government Associations and Associations of Officers have been in negotiation for some time in regard to the formation of scales. Difficulties have no doubt been encountered and though it might be that agreement as to the setting up of machinery might be within measurable distance it seemed clear that a considerable time would elapse before any agreement upon a scale or scales could be eventually agreed upon and be adopted by Local Authorities. In the meantime it was felt that it was only right that the special circumstances relating to particular officers should be dealt with and that certain anomalies should be adjusted. Before making their recommendations the Establishment Sub-Committee had subjected the individual position in each case to careful scrutiny.

The report of the Establishment Sub-Committee was submitted to the Finance Committee, but this Committee had not however found themselves in agreement with all the recommendations of either the Sub-Committee or the **FINANCE COMMITTEE**. RESOLVED, That, on the above basis and without prejudice to the consideration and implementation of any scale or scales which may be arrived at on a national basis at a later date, the following recommendations be submitted to the Council for adoption :—

Officer

F. D. Littlewood. Town Clerk. Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £1,500 X 50 X £1,750  
Present Salary £1,750 Recommendation



Maximum to be increased to £2,000 p.a. to be reached by annual increments of £50.

(Remuneration in respect of additional appointments are already consolidated with the salary).

That in view of the difficulties adherent in the expenses incurred on occasions by this officer on Council business in connection with special entertainment and hospitality he be paid a sum of £100 for this purpose.

R. Board, Deputy Town Clerk

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £900 p.a. fixed Present Salary £900

Maximum to be increased to £1,100 p.a. by annual increments of £50.

273

Officer

S. D. Morris, Borough Treasurer Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £1,000 X 50 X £1,250  
Present Salary £1,050

Recommendation Maximum to be increased to £1,500 p.a. by annual increments of £50 and that one increment be awarded immediately.

(Remuneration in respect of additional appointments are already consolidated with the salary).

H. Hargreaves, Deputy Borough Treasurer.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £700 X 50 X £750  
Present Salary £750

Maximum to be increased to £900 p.a. by annual increments of £50.

G. Gould Marsland, Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £1,350 p.a. (fixed)  
Present Salary £1,350

Salary to be consolidated at £1,500 p.a. Mr. Marsland to still be allowed to take two pupils and retain fees.

(In addition to basic salary of £1,350, Mr. Marsland is at present permitted to retain fees as Engineer to Delancey Hospital Trustees (£25 p.a.) and Local Fuel Overseer (£100 p.a.).

W. E. C. Bird, Deputy Borough Surveyor.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £800 p.a. (fixed)  
Present Salary £800

Maximum to be increased to £900 p.a. by annual increments of £50.

Dr. D. E. Morley, Medical Officer of Health.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment £755 p.a. (fixed)  
Present Salary £755

Salary to be consolidated at £1,400 p.a.

(In addition to basic salary of £755, Dr. Morley is permitted to retain fees as M.O., Delancey Hospital (£225 p.a.) M.O.H. Schools (£95 p.a.) and Medical Referee, Cremations (£260 p.a.).

Note.—Had Dr. Morley's salary been in accordance with the Asquith agreement and the interim revision of the scales under the agreement approved by the Ministry of Health his minimum salary would now have been £1,080, plus any normal increments from the date of his appointment which might be expected to bring his present salary to something in excess of £1,400 p.a.

F. R. Jefford, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment                      £700 p.a. (fixed)

Present Salary    £700

Salary not to be consolidated at the present time but that the maximum be increased to £750 p.a. by annual increments of £25. Mr. Jefford being permitted to retain the fees paid to him.

(In addition to basic salary of £700, Mr. Jefford is permitted at present to retain his salary as Food Executive Officer (£125 p.a.) and National Registration Officer (£50 p.a.).

Note.—In the cases of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector the recommendations are also subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health).

R. W. Steel, Borough Electrical Engineer.

Salary governed by special scale for Chief Electrical Engineers. Scale does not provide for cost of living bonus.

That in accordance with the practice of many local authorities, though not required to pay bonus by the scales the Electrical Committee be asked to recommend that this officer be paid the appropriate bonus.

G. A. M. Wilkinson, Entertainments Manager.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment                      £850 p.a. (fixed)

Present Salary    £850

Maximum to be increased to £900 p.a. by annual increments of £25.

J. W. Smith, Gardens Superintendent.

Existing Salary attaching to Appointment                      £500 X 25 X £650

Present Salary    £650

Maximum to be increased to £750 p.a. by annual increments of £25.

D. W. Herdman, Librarian (Min. 1436 (ii))

The Committee further considered the recommendations of the Public Library and Art Gallery Committees submitted to the last meeting and approved by the Council, that the services of Mr. Herdman be extended to 31st July, 1948, when in view of the consideration being given to the salaries of chief, deputies and principal officers the salary to be paid to Mr. Herdman was deferred. The Joint Committee had recommended payment of an additional £200.

The approximate rate charge in the current financial year, after charges to trading undertakings and the Government, if the recommendations of this Committee were put into effect would be £214.

RESOLVED, That the Committee were unable to agree to the recommendation in regard to Mr. Herdman but that in the special circumstances the salary to be paid to him be increased from £700 to £800 p.a. and that in the event of his services being further extended after 31st July, 1948, the matter be reviewed.

ALSO RESOLVED, That, with the exception of the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer, Deputy Borough Treasurer and Gardens Superintendent, who received increments this year, the operative date of the increments recommended for the above increased salaries be 1st April, 1947, the operative date in the case of the exceptions being 1st April, 1948.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman

274

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**16 June, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman), Alderman Ward; Councillors Bettridge and Biggs.

1608—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the first instalment of this rate was sub-mitted. Amount collected £82,387, amount outstanding £169,173.

1609—Water Rate and Charges—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 30th September, 1947, was submitted. Amount collected £9,201, amount outstanding £20,970.

1610—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £16,792 0s. 8d. had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £372 4s. 3d. for re-chargeable works carried out and £582 17s. 11d. for electricity supplied.

1611—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date           | Proposal   | Amount  | Term     |
|----------------|--|---------|----------|
| 16th May, 1947 | Purchase and conversion of huts as youth centres on St. Mark's and Whaddon housing estates | £2,402  | 10 years |
| 2nd June       | Electricity—automatic internal telephone system, Southwood House                           | £750    | 10 years |
| 11th June      | Erection of houses by small builders, Lynworth Farm Estate ...                             | £26,748 | 60 years |
| 14th June      | Purchase of No. 6 Clarence Parade for extension of public conveniences                     | £1,363  | 20 years |
|                |  | £152    | 60 years |

1612—Loans—(i) Interest—The Borough Treasurer referred to an announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer whereby the surplus on the conversion of the 3% local loans stock would be used in reduction of interest rates upon existing loans by the Government to local authorities in excess of 4 ¼ % to that figure. Loans for schemes under the Housing Act, 1919 mainly at high rates of interest were specifically excluded as the cost in excess of 1d. rate was reimbursable each year by the Government. Prior to the requirement for obtaining loans from the Public Works Loan Board this Council only borrowed from the Government when it appeared more advantageous and adopted a policy of short term borrowings from private lenders. This enabled the Council to con-vert their loans when interest rates fell, instead of having to continue payment of a Government rate of interest varying from 5 to 6 ¼ % for 60 years on loans taken up during 1920-25. Cheltenham had only two old loans from the Government and the proposals would save a total of £23 13s. 6d. per annum,

for the whole period until they were redeemed in full. The advantage to the Council and the ratepayers of the town due to the action of the Finance Committee and the Council during the period 1920-25 would now be appreciated, when having regard to the inevitable fall in interest rates, the Committee, instead of accepting single loans from the Government for 60 years at high rates of interest, adopted a policy of borrowing from hundreds of small investors for short terms. Whilst it was not possible to assess the saving, the figure was probably in excess of £100,000 over the last 25 years.

(ii) Loans renewals--Since the operation of the Local Authorities Loans Act, 1945, it had been found generally possible to repay all private lenders as loans became due for repayment the Council borrowing from the Government at 2 ½ % for new capital works. The Borough Treasurer, reported on the effect of repayment of short term loans when they fell due for repayment before the expiration of the period of the loan sanction, and pointed out that the position of the loans account now made it necessary to re-borrow on a limited scale. The Government were only prepared to loan money for this purpose up to 7 years and he considered better terms could be obtained in the open market. He suggested that in order to meet short term loans amounting to £6,700 falling due for repayment, he be authorised to accept new loans, or renewal of existing loans, for a period of 10-15 years at 24%. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1613—Insurance—(Min. 1276)—The Borough Treasurer referred to the arrangement approved by the Council under which the fire insurance business of the Council was scheduled and portions allocated to certain tariff being at the Council's discretion the largest holding company becoming the leading company and This responsible for carrying out the transactions as between the Council and insurers under the scheme. This arrangement and the schedule were subject to review and modification. New insurances would be undertaken by the "leading company " on its own behalf and re-allocated, if necessary at the next quinquennial period. Certain companies objected to this procedure as it withheld their interest in new insurances for an unreasonable time. It had therefore, been agreed that any new fire cover for an individual property below £500 or over should be undertaken by the leading company on its own behalf until the first quinquennial, but for cover £500 or over such insurances should be apportioned immediately. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that Min. 176 be varied accordingly.

1614---Superannuation—(i) A. refund of superannuation contributions, amounting to £10 1s. 4d. had been made to Mr. G F. Watkins, A Treasurer's department.

(ii) Transfer values had been received as follows:—

Hartlepool Corporation—Miss E. E. Parkyn (Wartime nurseries) £34 16 2

Lewisham Corporation—E. C. Beadle (Rates Department) £840 2 8

275

(iii) Miss B. A. Richards—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 July, 1938, a superannuation allowance was payable to Miss B. A. Richards, Public Health department, who retired on 31st May, 1947, amounting to £128 12s. 8d., based on 9 years 3 months non-contributory service and 21 years 5 months contributory service. RESOLVED, That this amount be paid.

1615—Pensions Increase Act, 1947--To avoid delay in dealing with applications for increases under the Act, the Borough Treasurer suggested that as applications were covered by statutory provisions

he should be authorised to deal with them immediately they were received. RESOLVED, That this be approved, the Borough Treasurer reporting such applications to the following meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE.

1616—Capital Expenditure—(Min. 588/46)—Circular 9/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted in regard to programmes of capital expenditure and referring to the previous programmes submitted by local authorities. It was requested that further consideration be given to this matter and revised programmes submitted indicating the actual capital payments during the year 1946/47, and programmes of capital expenditure for each of the years 1947/48 to 1949-50. The previous programmes dealt with the years 1946/47, 47/48 and 48/49. A programme was now submitted, for each of the years under review, a copy of which is circulated with this report. In the main, the programme consisted of expenditure included in the original programme, but which it had not been possible to carry out having regard to difficulties of labour and materials. The Council would appreciate that the provisions made for carrying out works of capital expenditure now submitted were only provisional and dependent to a large extent upon changed circumstances. The bulk of the expenditure actually incurred during the year 1947/48, and to be incurred in the years covered by the programme, related to housing. RESOLVED, That the programme now submitted be approved.

1617—Chief, Deputies and Principal Officers—Salaries--The Committee gave careful consideration to the recommendations of the Establishment Sub-Committee to the General Purposes Committee on this matter and made a number of recommendations thereon.

THEO. L. THOMPSON. Chairman.

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**18th June, 1947** Present—Councillors Bettridge (Chairman) ; Fildes and Ward.

1618—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee

1619—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears

1620—Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society—The Town Clerk submitted further letters from the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society applying for a remission or reduction in rates They asserted that they were aware of cases in which other Rating Authorities had made such remissions or reductions. The Town Clerk pointed out that the Council were only empowered to remit rates on grounds of poverty, and although a case of poverty might be made out for an individual it was doubtful whether this could be applied to the Society. RESOLVED, That the Committee were unable to remit any of the rate, but that the application be referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration of making a grant from the Rate Fund.

1621—Valuation of Crown Property—The Borough Treasurer submitted letter from the Treasury Valuer with regard to the recommendation that the Fire Station, Lansdown Road, should be assessed at £150 rateable value. He was now prepared to accept this figure and to recommend that a contribution in lieu of rates should be made on this basis. The Borough Treasurer had also received a contribution in respect of the premises occupied by the National Savings Committee at 99 Promenade.

1622—Remission of Rates—The Committee interviewed and dealt with 5 applicants and 1 application for a reduction or remission of rates on grounds of poverty.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman

**HOUSING COMMITTEE.**

**18th June, 1947.** Present—Councillor Compton (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Gardner, Strickland and Ward,

1823-6-12—Kew Place—The Town Clerk reported that the District Valuer had now come to terms with the owners of 6, 7 and 8 Kew Place for purchase of these houses by the Council and was now in negotiation with the owners of Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12. The Chief Sanitary Inspector pointed out that it was desirable to determine whether the houses should be reconditioned or only necessary repairs carried out and submitted alternative estimates for this work. He estimated that the cost of reconditioning would be approximately £343 per house, while the cost of carrying out the necessary repairs would be approximately £276, per house. If reconditioning were carried out the houses would be made habitable for up to 20 years RESOLVED, That these houses be reconditioned, that the Chief Sanitary Inspector be instructed to invite tenders and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to accept a tender. RESOLVED, also, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to this work being carried out and for consent to a loan for the cost of work and purchase of the houses.

1624—Staff—(a) Overtime—The Housing Manager reported further on the overtime worked by a member of her staff. Most of the overtime had been necessitated by the application of the differential rent scheme to the houses at St. Mark's Estate. A certain amount was also found necessary owing to the fact that the same member of the staff was responsible for the collection of rents of nearly all requisitioned houses and the Housing Manager was of the opinion that the situation might be eased if a member of the Borough Treasurer's Department could undertake the collection of some of these rents on one day per week. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager discuss this suggestion with the Borough Treasurer and report to the Estate Management Sub-Committee.

(b) Student Assistant—The Housing Manager reported that Miss Harries had terminated her appointment as Student Assistant.

(c) Manageress—Innsworth Grove Estate—The Mayor and the Housing Manager had interviewed applicants for this post, but as none of the applicants interviewed appeared suitable for the position they had decided to promote Miss Bridges, so that the position formerly held by her was now vacant and would be filled in due course. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(d) Interviewing Assistant—Miss Moore, one of the Interviewing Assistants, was now ill and the Housing Manager anticipated that she might be away for a considerable period. There was no other member of the staff who could be diverted to this work. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager endeavour to make a suitable re-arrangement of the staff to cope with this contingency and report further to the Estate Management Sub-Committee.

1625—Lynworth Park Estate—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on Schemes 1 and 2. He submitted letter from Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell Ltd., stressing the serious position with regard to supplies of cement and plaster. He had taken up the question of supplies of these two materials with the Ministry on a number of occasions, and although a supply of plaster had been promised but not yet delivered they were unable to take any action to ensure the supply of cement RESOLVED That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to point out to the Ministry of Health

the serious shortage of essential materials and ask that all possible action be taken to ensure an adequate supply, especially of cement and plaster.

(b) Scheme 2. Sub-Contractors—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell wished to employ Mr. A. Bendall and Mr. O. Barrett as sub-contractors for brickwork on this Scheme, who would employ four and six bricklayers respectively.

This application appeared to be a direct result of the meeting between the general contractors and the Sub-Committee to discuss the question of progress and the Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that they had previously refused to consent to the employment of the latter sub-contractor owing to the lack of information and experience as to his work. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that a Clerk of Works was employed on the site to ensure that all work carried out was of good standard As the general contractors would be responsible for the carrying out of the terms of the contract by any sub-contractors employed by them, and since any unsatisfactory work would have to be demolished and rebuilt or made good. the Committee felt that, in order to ensure that all possible progress was made on this site, consent should be given to this application, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to consent to the employment of the two sub-contractors for brickwork on Scheme 2 and that Minute No. 1046 (c) be varied accordingly.

(c) Clerk of Works—Mr. R. Hughes—Mr. Hughes was appointed Clerk of Works in January, 1946, and had been employed on general maintenance work and conversions carried out by the Borough Surveyor until such time as further housing contracts were entered into. He had now taken up a permanent appointment as Building Works Supervisor in the Department and in view of the fact that work had commenced on the small builders' scheme, and that Messrs. Wimpey were expected to commence work very shortly, the Borough Surveyor recommended that another Clerk of Works should be appointed. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to advertise for and appoint another Clerk of Works at a salary of 8 per week, plus cost of living bonus.

(d) Injurious Weeds—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the County Pests Officer drawing attention to certain Weeds growing on the undeveloped portion of the Lynworth Farm Estate. The Council were requested to cut down and burn such weeds as quickly as possible, and advice or assistance with regard to their destruction could be obtained from the District Officer of the War Agricultural Committee or the County Pests Officer. The Chief Sanitary Inspector was of opinion that unless this nuisance was dealt with rats might be encouraged and the Borough Surveyor recommended that prisoner of war labour should be employed to destroy these weeds RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to make application for the necessary prisoner of war labour to destroy the weeds complained of as soon as possible

(e) House for Police—The Town Clerk submitted letter from Chief Constable accepting the tenancy of a house: on this estate, to be occupied by a constable with a suitable family. A house in Pennine Road was now ready for allocation to the Chief Constable. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the usual quarterly agreement With the Chief Constable for the tenancy of this house

277

1626—New Application Form—The Housing Manager reported that the sending out of the new form of application to applicants on the waiting list for houses, in order to bring the lists up to date, was nearly completed and many of the forms already been returned. They were being classified according to the size of houses required. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager report as soon as

possible on the final number of applicants for houses as a result of the sending out and completion of the new forms.

1627—St. Paul's Estate—Sheds—It had been observed that the corrugated iron roofs of the sheds on this estate were beginning to rust and needed tarring or painting with oxide of iron, RESOLVED, That the Repairs Superintendent inspect the roofs and report.

1628—Wood Block Floors—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that suitable storage had been found for the wood blocks on Lynworth Farm Scheme No. 1, but it had not been found possible to find accommodation for the blocks for the Brooklyn Road Houses and the Apprenticeship Scheme Houses. He had, therefore, after consultation with the Town Clerk made arrangements with the suppliers for the blocks to be stored by them and to be labelled the property of the Cheltenham Corporation. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Borough Surveyor had observed that in the case of some of the new houses at Lynworth Farm the floors had been covered with linoleum. He considered that this was unnecessary in view of the fact that the blocks had a smooth finish and he pointed out that since the timber was new and artificially seasoned it was liable to shrink or swell if they were completely covered and sealed with linoleum. RESOLVED, (i) That the Housing Manager approach tenants who have covered the wood block floors with linoleum and ask them to remove same. (ii) That it be a condition of letting further houses on the estate that the wood block floors shall not be covered with linoleum.

1629—Priors Farm—Open Spaces (a) South Avenue—The Borough Surveyor reported that a piece of land abutting on South Avenue which it was understood the tenants of the bungalows in South Avenue would cultivate was still only partly cultivated and he suggested that it should be ploughed up and seeded by the Gardens Superintendent, The Housing Manager understood that the tenants in question still intended to cultivate the land. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager report to the Estate Management Sub-Committee as to whether the tenants intend to cultivate this land and if not that the Gardens Superintendent be instructed to plough up the land and seed it.

(b) Central Avenue—The Borough Surveyor reported that a plot of land on the east side of Central Avenue was overgrown with weeds and it was essential that these should be cut down before they seeded and the land ploughed up and scuffled up periodically to kill recurring weeds. This plot and the other adjacent to Central Avenue could be prepared in the autumn for seeding and the Gardens Superintendent estimated the cost of this work including the planting of a few trees at approximately £90. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to proceed with this work.

1630—Allocation of Steel for Housing Purposes—Read Circular 106/47 from the Ministry of Health that the allocation of steel for housing purposes for the period April to June, 1947, was now exhausted. No further "M" Forms for steel should therefore be issued for this period against the Department's allocation. It was expected that nearly all steel orders due for delivery in the current quarter would have already been authorised but these instructions did not preclude the issue of " M " Forms for the following period. Local Authorities were reminded of the need for strict economy in the use of steel for housing purposes.



1681—Estate Management Sub-Committee—The report of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 31st May was submitted. The following matters, inter alia, were dealt with:-

(a) 7 applications were considered and 10 applicants interviewed.

(b) 12 new three-bedroom houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate were allocated

(c) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversions of requisitioned and various other properties :—

| Address.                | Progress and Estimated Completion.         |
|-------------------------|--|
| 36 Lansdown Crescent    | 4-6 weeks.                                 |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas  | 2 weeks.                                   |
| Clayton House ...       | 10 days.                                   |
| 103 Montpellier Terrace | Tenders due 10.6.47.                       |
| 13 Lansdown Crescent    | Awaiting Ministry approval.                |
| Oldfield Court ...      | Direct labour, 2-3 weeks.                  |
| 13 Montpellier Parade   | Completed 21.5.17.                         |
| 3 Sydenham Villas Road  | Completed 13.5.47.                         |
| 2 St. George's Parade   | Direct labour, awaiting Ministry approval. |

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1632—Requisitioning Sub-Committee—Reports of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 23rd may and 10th June were submitted.

(a) 3 properties had been requisitioned but were released on representation.

(b) Clayton, Douro Road—The Sub-Committee had refused to accede to the owner's application for the release of this property in order that it could be converted into a guest house.

RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

278

1633—Permanent Prefabricated Bungalows—The Borough Surveyor reported meeting at Bristol on the 16th June when the Deputy Borough Surveyor, Planning Officer and Chief Architectural Assistant met representatives of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, and Ministry of Agriculture and discussed at length the proposed site for the 300 permanent prefabricated bungalows. It was agreed at the meeting that the proposed site at Alma Road was the most suitable one. Consideration was also given to the proposed layout for the houses. It was agreed that in addition to the houses, it would be necessary to provide a site for shops, nursery school and possibly a building which could be used as a community centre or some other similar purpose. Consideration was also given to the two parcels of land where, as reported by the Town Clerk at the last meeting, it appeared considerable hardship to the owners might be involved by the acquisition of their land, and it was agreed that in the case of the owner of fields 587 and 588 (Mr. Swain) it might be possible

to exclude the greater part if not the whole of his land from the Order and still leave sufficient land for the 300 bungalows.

The representative of the Ministry of Agriculture had no observations to offer on the proposal, and stated there would be no objection from his Ministry in regard to the clearance of the land. The representative of the Ministry of Planning stated he hoped the Ministry would be able to issue formal clearance of the land in the course of a few days.

At the meeting, the representative of the Ministry of Health again stressed the very urgent nature of this matter in view of the fact that under the contract which the Government had entered into for the manufacture of the houses, delivery was to start in November next, and it was essential that from this date there should be no hold up by local authorities in taking delivery, as this would lead to congestion in the factories and bring production to a standstill. The Borough Surveyor had informed the Ministry that in view of the fact that the land was being acquired by means of a Compulsory Purchase Order which would no doubt result in a local inquiry being held, and the considerable time which would elapse before possession could be obtained in order that the road works might be commenced, he was of opinion it was unlikely a site for any considerable number of bungalows could be provided by November, and that it would take at least six months after possession was obtained before any substantial area could be handed over to the Contractors for laying foundation slabs. RESOLVED: (a) That no amendment be made in the area of land in respect of which a Compulsory Purchase Order was authorised at the last meeting of the Council but that Mr Swain, owner/ occupier of fields Nos. 587 and 588 be informed that while the Council propose to acquire his land they will be prepared to exclude his fields from the layout plan for the present, so as to leave him undisturbed, and to grant him a lease of the property for a reasonably long term to be agreed upon at a rent to be negotiated by the District Valuer.

(b) That the Planning Committee be recommended to approve the site for the purpose of the erection of the bungalows.

(c) That the Borough Surveyor prepare and submit layout plan on the lines now approved by the Committee with a view to this being submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval with as little delay as possible.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman.

279

#### **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 June, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, S. Bendall, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Carter, Compton, Tildes, Gardner, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite, Ward and Yeend. Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Green and Leigh James ; Councillors Bettridge, Brown and Fisher.

1634—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 2nd June, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1635—Death of the Mayor's Daughter---Prior to the commencement of the Council meeting, the Deputy Mayor referred to the tragic and sudden loss sustained by the Mayor and Mayoress in the death of their daughter, Miss Bridget Bush, as a result of a car accident, and to the serious injuries sustained by the Mayoress. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the Mayor and Mayoress the unanimous and heartfelt expression of the Council's deepest sympathy with them in the terrible loss experienced by this tragedy, and their sincere hope that the Mayoress would make a speedy recovery to health. Also that the Town Clerk convey to the Mayor the members' admiration of the manner in which he had continued to conduct his official duties during his bereavement.

1636—Alderman Captain Trye—On behalf of the members of the Council, the Mayor expressed the pleasure of the Council upon Alderman Captain Trye's recovery from his serious illness and his return to his official duties.

1637—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:—

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Allotments ...               | June 9       |
| Parks and Recreation Grounds | June 9       |
| Public Health                | June 9       |
| Water                        | June 10      |
| Electricity and Lighting     | June 10      |
| Housing                      | June 10 & 18 |

(Subject to the addition of the name of Mr. Councillor Yeend in the attendances for the meeting on the 18th June).

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. 1628 (b) (Lynworth Farm, wood block floors, be not approved " was not seconded).

(On consideration of Min. 1625 (b) (Lynworth Farm Estate—Scheme 2, Sub-Contractors) IT WAS RESOLVED, That the Council go into Committee.

Upon resuming in open Council, the proceedings of the Housing Committee were approved.

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Planning ... | June 12, 13 & 27 |
|--------------|------------------|

(With the exception that, in regard to Plan No 6181 (Garage, Bedford Lodge, College Road) approval under the Interim Development Order be deferred to enable the views of the Ministry of Transport to be obtained as to access to the trunk road under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935).

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Cemetery and Crematorium ... | June 13 |
|------------------------------|---------|

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Town Improvement and Spa ... | June 14 |
|------------------------------|---------|

Street and highway                      June 16

ALSO RESOLVED, That, in view of the necessity of proceeding with the laying of the Wyman's Brook culvert during the summer months and the fact that the District Valuer had not yet been able to negotiate the purchase of the adjoining land, application be made to the Ministry of Health for loan sanction for the sum of £3,654, the cost of laying the culvert through the land now owned by the Corporation,

ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for the borrowing of the sum of £3,654 ; that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and form of receipt, and that Min. 1216 be varied accordingly.

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Bayliss, seconded by Councillor S. Bendall, "That Min. 1758 (Park Place and Andover Road junction) be not approved, and that traffic lights be provided at this junction, but that in the meantime steps be taken as authorised in the minute as a matter of urgency"

Finance...                                      June 16

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.

General Purposes and Watch ...      June 17

On consideration of Min. 1607 (Chief, Deputies and Principal Officers--Salaries) IT WAS RESOLVED, That the Council go into Committee.

Upon resuming in open Council, the proceedings, of the General Purposes and Watch Committee were approved as mentioned above.

Rating    June 18

1638—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting held on the 13th June, 1947, be received.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**27th June, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman), the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Trye, Councillors Bayliss, Mann and Morris, Mrs. Atherton, Lady Victoria Forester, Messrs. Clegg and Harris and Major Shakspeare.

1639—Building Restrictions (War-Time Contraventions) Act, 1946—Crown Factory, Stoke Orchard (Min. 1557)—The Town Clerk reported that since the statutory advertisement of this application had been published and arrangements made for this special meeting to consider the application and any representations made thereon by interested persons or bodies of persons, he had received a letter dated 17th June from the Ministry of Supply stating that since a decision on the proposal to allocate the premises to Messrs. Roy Fedden, Ltd., for production purposes is expected to be reached in the near future, it was requested that the Council's determination be deferred pending the receipt of a further communication from the Ministry informing the Council of the Ministry's decision on the allocation question.

The Town Clerk had pointed out to the Ministry the steps the Council had taken to deal with the application and proposed to them that consideration of the application should proceed as arranged. In reply to this the Ministry of Supply agreed but pointed out that the reason behind the request to defer a determination was that it was felt that some qualification of the application might be necessary since it had now become clear that Messrs. Roy Fedden, Ltd.'s proposal to use the premises for production work would involve freedom to expand the existing labour force if the Company so desired. As arrangements had been made with the Ministry's Regional Controller and Sir Roy Fedden and persons responsible for making representations to attend the meeting it was thought the Council should be possessed of sufficient information for the application to proceed.

Subsequently a letter dated 25th June was received from the Ministry referring to the application and correspondence and pointing out that in the application it was stressed that the Company's proposals to undertake light engineering work in the factory would require the approval of the Board of Trade. The Ministry of Supply indicated that conversations between Government Departments and the Company on the future use of the factory were still in progress, and asked that consideration of the application should be postponed in the meantime. A further communication would be sent as soon as possible. The Minister expressed his regrets to the Council at any inconvenience caused by the upsetting of the arrangements made for the special meeting but at the same time explained that in the existing circumstances it was felt that the postponement of the hearing was unavoidable.

The Town Clerk had later been in telephone communication with the Ministry on this letter and understood that the Ministry did not now propose to send any representative to the hearing and they again expressed a strong desire that the hearing should be postponed.

After giving careful consideration to the application and in view of the terms of the Ministry's request and the absence of any representative of the applicants, namely, the Ministry of Supply, IT WAS RESOLVED That the Committee feel they have no alternative but to agree that consideration of the application be deferred. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be asked to take such steps as may seem open to enable consideration of the application to take place at the earliest possible moment.

1640 —Thirlestaine House Olin, 1556)---The Town Clerk reported he had now heard from the County Council in reply to a letter he had written on the instructions of the Committee.

It was recalled that on 26th April the County Architect had written to the Planning Officer stating that the County Council was proposing to acquire this property for office accommodation for certain county staff, and (he made formal application for a change of use of the premises and asked if he could be informed as to whether there was any likelihood of objection being raised thereto by the Borough Council. The County Council would, of course, be responsible for the removal of any legal covenants which might be found in acquiring the property. The Town Clerk in a letter to the Clerk of the County Council dated 8th May had referred to this application and stated that it was laid before this Committee when they were very surprised to learn of the proposal, particularly as Council themselves had been interested in the property over the last few years and as recently as January this year. The Town Clerk went on to say that the policy adopted by the Council was that the premises, in view of their situation, architecture and suitability, would be best in the hands of the Cheltenham College and the Borough Council had, therefore, stood aside in order not to compete with the College, which circumstances arose when both bodies were in active negotiation. A written assurance had been received from the College to inform this Council when and if their negotiations failed so that the Borough Council might resume theirs. The Council were always of the opinion in

this connection that the paramount need, in the interests of the town and neighbourhood. was that of the College, and in these circumstances, the County Council were informed that the Planning Committee had deferred consideration to their next meeting to enable the fullest possible information to be given them with regard to the proposed and future use of the property.

It was also pointed out to the County Council that in a number of previous instances, when dealing with matters of like importance, the views of persons or bodies in the vicinity of the building in respect of which a change of user was applied for, were obtained, and the Committee felt that the views of the College should be sought on this matter, as the College were not only interested, as mentioned above, but also in their capacity of considerable and special owners of property adjoining and in the immediate vicinity of Thirlestaine House.

On 9th May the Town Clerk had received a letter from the Bursar stating that if the College appeared to have broken faith with the Council they regretted this as they were deeply grateful for the Council's attitude both concerning Thirlestaine House and the College. They stated that the College acquired the Lease before the County Council decided to do so, and presumably the County Council now that it was aware of the position, would withdraw. If not he thought the matter would go to a Public Inquiry. It was pointed out that the College could not be expected to respond to pressure from the Ministry of Education to take 25% pupils from Government schools unless there was sufficient accommodation, The College would do all in its power to retain the lease but they had not been in a position to let the Council know that negotiations had failed, when as a matter of fact they had succeeded.

The Town Clerk had again written to the County Council and had now received their reply in which it was stated that it had been appreciated the observations of the County Council were desired, but as no request to this effect was made the County Council were awaiting the Borough Council's decision, after their consultation with the College authorities. The County Council observed that reference was made in the Bursar's letter to the fact that the College had bought the lease before the County Council decided to do so and that presumably the County Council would withdraw. It would be appreciated that the application made to the Planning Authority was for change of user under the Planning Acts and the County Council were, therefore, not called upon to comment on the Bursar's statement, It was, nevertheless, their wish to be as helpful as possible to all parties concerned and from the information in the possession of the County Council, it appeared that no assignment of the lease from the present lessee to the College was entered into before the County Council decided to acquire the lease themselves, and that the position remained unchanged at the present time. The County Council readily appreciated the difficulties of the College owing to the demands made upon them for increased accommodation by the Ministry of Education and the College, on their part, also understood the equal difficulties of the County Council who were called upon by the Government to administer many new services with no accommodation for the staff required to deal therewith. The County Council had made repeated attempts to obtain suitable accommodation in the Gloucester' neighbourhood. without success, and numerous applications had been made to the Ministry of Works and other Government Departments to assist them to this end, again without success.

The letter also referred to the application to the Planning Authority, as the Interim Development Authority, and it was pointed out that since the date of application the County Council had made a Compulsory Order which had been submitted to the Minister for approval. Under Article 4 (i) of the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946, it would appear that no approval was required the Borough Council to the change of user of the premises in the event of the Order being confirmed. At the same time the County Council naturally desired, as a matter of

courtesy, to receive the Borough Council's approval notwithstanding the effect of the General Interim Development Order.

The Committee gave most careful consideration to this application. They were extremely conscious of the difficulties of the County Council and bore in mind not only the recent Acts by which the County Council's duties have been substantially increased, but, in particular, the Town & Country Planning Bill now before Parliament under which their own planning powers would pass to the County Council. They also had in mind the position which arose from the fact that the premises were at the moment scheduled in the draft "order for special residential purposes with education purposes by consent of the Council, and they fully themselves the implications in that the premises had been used for war-time purposes for offices and they themselves might have made an application for a change of user if they had not stood aside in what they believed to be the greater need of the town and College. They had in mind also as to whether they should not leave the matter as indicated by the Clerk of the County Council, namely, in the hands of the Minister to be dealt with automatically in connection with the Compulsory Purchase Order. The Committee were anxious not only to extend as much courtesy and indeed help to the County Council as possible but in view of their consistent policy for many years they felt they had no alternative but to come to the conclusion that the

283

application be refused on the grounds mentioned below. RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That in view of the situation and architecture and suitability of these premises as evidenced by the Council's own actions and bearing in mind the fact that the paramount need in the, interests of the town and neighbourhood was that of the College, the application be refused.

1641—Cleeve Common (Min. 1572)--The Planning Officer reported a letter from the County Planning Officer referring to a meeting which the Chairman of the County Council had had with the Army Authorities, at which the courtesy of inviting the Town Clerk had been extended and at which certain alternative proposals had been tentatively and confidentially discussed.

The County Planning Officer had enclosed plans of the areas concerned. Whilst the Army Authorities still preferred Cleeve Common, other proposals had been discussed and inspected but were subsequently rejected by the Ministry of Agriculture. However, it did seem possible that the Wistley Hill area, adjoining Chatcombe Pitch and including the Seven Springs Rifle Range, might possibly serve as a training area and be used in conjunction with Ullenwood Camp. Training would take place at the weekends and the Army Authorities had assured the Chairman of the County Council that no live ammunition of any description would be used. It was recalled that part of this area had been successfully used during the War by the Home Guard for training purposes. RESOLVED, That strong objection to the use of Cleeve Common as a training ground be continued but that the County Council be informed that this Committee are prepared to approve the Wistley Hill area to be used in conjunction with Ullenwood Camp, for training purposes provided no live ammunition of any description is used.

1642—Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Housing Compulsory Purchase Order—The Town Clerk submitted copy plan showing the land comprised in this Order. Before the Ministry of Town & Country Planning were able to issue their clearance of the site they desired to know whether the Interim Development Authority approved the proposed development of that portion of the land outside the Borough, namely the portion of the site on the east side of Warden Hill Road in the Parish of Leckhampton. The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Deputy Clerk to the Cheltenham

Rural District Council stating that his Council's Housing Committee did not see any objection to the Council's proposals. RESOLVED, That the Committee consent to the proposal to use this land for the erection of permanent pre-fabricated aluminium bungalows.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

(Adopted at the meeting of the Council held on the 30th June, 1947).

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**7th July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman); the Mayor ; Alderman Smith ; Councillors Compton, Tildes, Midwinter, Waite and Yeend; Messrs. Ball, Barlow and Whittall.

1643—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 3rd July (report circulated herewith). Item 7—The Committee were concerned at the demand for allotments for which no suitable land was available. RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That consideration be given in the autumn to the acquisition of additional land for permanent allotments.

(iii) That in the meantime the Town Clerk resume negotiations for the purchase of Brighton Gardens.

1644—Arrears of Rent--The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement of arrears. Generally, the arrears were small and not of long standing. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take steps to recover the amounts outstanding and institute legal proceedings where necessary. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Gardens Superintendent report to the next meeting upon the arrears still outstanding, and the state of cultivation of plots affected.

1645-Report of Visitors—The visitors reported that, from a recent inspection, the general condition of allotments was satisfactory.

1646—Housing Site, Alma Road-The Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society asked for consideration in the lay-out of this estate for the appropriation of an area for allotments to meet the demands of the tenants of the proposed 300 pre-fabricated houses. The Committee were reminded that the area of the estate was restricted and provision for the houses, together with sites for a hall, nursery school and shops, would require careful planning. It had been necessary to reduce the depths of some plots below the standard for good development and whilst the need for allotments was realised it was not possible to include a site on this estate. It was suggested that land in the immediate vicinity should be acquired. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to the next meeting when a layout plan of the estate would be submitted, after which the Committee would inspect adjacent land considered suitable for acquisition for allotment purposes.

1647—Unemployed Allotments Association-The Association stated that Mr. E. G. Whittall had been appointed a Trustee in place of Mr. G. M. Paterson, retired. The Town Clerk reported that in 1937 a considerable number of plots at Marle Hill were let to the Association under an agreement for use by unemployed members at the reduced rate of 8s. 8d. per perch. In view of changed circumstances, however, criticism was expressed from time to time that certain tenants, not now unemployed, were permitted to use land at a lower rate than others, and it appeared that the agreement might, without hardship, be terminated, and the allotments re-let to existing tenants at the normal rent of 1s. per perch. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed accordingly, and failing concurrence, 12 months' notice be given on 25th March next to terminate the agreement.



1648-Cleevelands Drive Allotments—The owner of " The Cleevelands " again complained that allotment tenants were using his private drive and had damaged the five-bar gate leading to the allotments. The tenants had previously been warned against this practice. RESOLVED, That regret be expressed for the nuisance and damage caused and the owner informed that the Council will issue a further warning to their tenants.

1649—Gong Furlong Allotments—The owner of 174 Old Bath Road had purchased a strip of land 20 ft. wide adjoining his property, forming part of these allotments. It was understood that the site was the grass verge and footpath and de-requisitioning was requested to enable him to fence off the land and to permit cultivation. The Gardens Superintendent reported that five allotments, in good cultivation, would be affected. RESOLVED, That in view of the disturbance to tenants, the application be not acceded to at the present time.

1650—Greenhills Road Allotment., (Min. 1085)—The Ministry of Agriculture had now released from requisitioning the area comprising plots Nos. 1, 4 and 8 now cultivated by the owner and the compensation rental would be adjusted.

1651—Allotments, Parish Church Old Churchyard—Complaints were received of alleged trespass and damage by children and others climbing the low boundary wall and obtaining access to the site. RESOLVED, That barbed wire be place on top of the wall and adequate notices erected warning trespassers of the penalties incurred.

1652—North Ward Allotments—RESOLVED, That additional warning notices be placed near to the brook in an endeavour to prevent further trespass and damage.

1653—Rebates in Rent—RESOLVED,

(i) That the following tenants be granted three months' rent free period in view of the bad condition of the plots on the commencement of their tenancies :—Nos. 66 Cleveland Drive, 1, 5 and 6 Greenhills Road, 16 Charlton Lane, and 12 Agg Gardner Recreation Ground.

(ii) That the tenants of Nos. 4 Hatherley Road and 18 Severn Road be granted 3.3- months' rent free period.

(iii) That the tenant of No. 2 Creamery Piece be granted a further rent free period to 31st March next in view of the extremely had condition of this plot.

1654—Lettings and Terminations—Since the last meeting 20 tenancies had been terminated and 22 allotments let.

1655--Summer Competition—The Gardens Superintendent reported that approximately 2,000 allotments, including those belonging to the Council and those privately owned, had been inspected and 20 allotments selected for awards. The general standard of cultivation was higher than last year. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be asked to inspect the 20 allotments mentioned and make the final adjudication. ALSO, That arrangements be made for the presentation of the Alderman P. T. Smith Cup and the awards for this competition at a suitable time during the September Autumn Show H. ADDIS, Chairman. **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

4th July, 1947. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman); Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Bayliss and Yeend and Mr. J. S. Bond.

1656—Curator's Report for May and June, 1947—Visitors during May and June, 7,275 (May and June last year, 6,983). Daily average, 143 (last year, 140).

Receipts—Catalogues, post cards, etc., £4 14s. 7d Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account, £3 14s. 4d.

Curator's talks—Since the last meeting, the Curator had talked to the Women's Gas Council (Cheltenham) on " The Cotswolds " and to Eastcombe W.I. on "Cheltenham and Gloucestershire Celebrities."

Exhibitions—(a) Bath and West—The Curator reported that the old-time agricultural implements had all been safely returned to the Museum and a letter of thanks by Mr. Rudsdale on behalf of the Bath and West Show had been addressed to the Chairman of the Museum Committee. The Curator also reported on the Royal visit to the special marquee containing the exhibits.

(b) Cheltenham Art Club—The First Exhibition by this Club was held from the 3rd May to 2nd June, 1947. During the 25 days it was visited by 3,711 persons, an average of 148 per day. The Curator read a letter of thanks from the Hon. Secretary of the Club.

(c) Cotswold Art Club—The Sixteenth Annual Exhibition was now on view and would remain open until the 5th July, 1947.

(d) Charles M. Gere One-Man Exhibition—The work of organising this display was in hand, and the dates had been fixed for the 1st October-1st November, 1947.

British Silver—A choice collection had been placed on loan during the month of June by the kindness of Mr. E. Scott Cooper and the period of this had been extended to the 31st July, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Committee's thanks be conveyed to Mr. Scott Cooper.

285

1657—Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors :--Mr. H. D. Cassini (Neolithic polished flint axe-head, found when digging in Brooklyn Gardens. 6 ½ ins. long); Mr. J. H. Leared (plaster bust of the late Olive Hodkin—Mrs. J. H. Leared—done by the late Pittendrigh McGillivray); gifts received from Major G. A. Beale-Browne, J.P. ; the Rev. J. Gilchrist ; Mr. A. E. Jones ; Mrs. H. J. Lewis; Mr. A. Wyndham Payne ; Mr. J. Wall Pope Mrs F. Russell Smith ; Mr. J. Spreutels; Mrs. Williams; Mrs. Moy. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1658—Specimens Purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved :—

General Account—Wedgwood Tea Caddy (5s).

" Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum" Account—Two Wedgwood Jelly Moulds from the Rectory Sale at Bishop's Cleeve, c. 1795 (£5 10s. 0d.).

Herbert Bequest—The Curator submitted two Bilston Enamel Patch Boxes inscribed on the lids: (1) "A Cheltenham Toy " ; (2) " Cheltenham Toy." RESOLVED, That both these specimens be purchased for £13 10s. 0d. from the Herbert Bequest.

1659--Dymock Leaden Tablet—The Curator reported that this rare item was coming into the market and suggested that in the first place the matter should be left to the Chairman of the Gloucester Museum Committee, but that should Gloucester not be interested, the item then be considered for purchase by the Cheltenham Museum.

1660—Whinyates Collection—The Curator reported as to the Whinyates Collection of pictures and furniture which had been in the custody of the Art Gallery and Museum Committee since September, 1940. The Committee considered the possibility of this Collection being made over to them as a gift or a bequest. It was RESOLVED, That the matter be deferred for further consideration.

1661—August Bank Holiday—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be closed on August Bank Holiday.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

**9th July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Gardner (Chairman); the Deputy Mayor; Alderman Smith; Councillors Bayliss, Biggs, Brown, Carter, Compton and Yeend; Mesdames Mellersh and Booy.

1662— Health Visitors—(a) The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors:—

|  |                      |     |     |      |
|--|----------------------|-----|-----|------|
| No. of Children on Register  |                      |     |     | 4531 |
| “ “ Un-notified live births discovered (when checked with Registrar's Returns) |                      |     |     | 11   |
| “ “ Home visits paid by Health Visitors—                                       |                      |     |     |      |
|  | (a) 1 year and under |     |     | 2180 |
|  | (b) over 1 year      |     |     | 2480 |
| “ “ First visits paid by Health Visitors                                       |                      |     |     |      |
| “ “ Ante-natal cases visited by Health Visitors—                               |                      |     |     |      |
|  | (a) New              |     | 156 |      |
|  | (b) Return           |     | 48  |      |
| “ “ Special visits to Mothers  |                      |     | 191 |      |
| “ “ Chicken pox cases visited by Health Visitors                               |                      |     | 5   |      |
| “ “ Measles cases  | do.                  | do. |     | 10   |
| “ “ German Measles cases   | do.                  | do. | 6   |      |
| “ “ Whooping Cough cases   | do.                  | do. | 33  |      |
| “ “ Mumps cases  | do.                  | do. | 1   |      |
| “ “ Ophthalmia Neonatorum  | do.                  | do. | —   |      |
| “ “ Scarlet Fever cases  | do.                  | do. |     |      |
| “ “ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres                                  |                      |     | 101 |      |
| “ “ Cases reported to the N.S.P.C.C  |                      |     | 2   |      |

(b) Children's Act—

|   | Health Visitors | School Nurses |
|---|-----------------|---------------|
| No. of Children on Register at end of Quarter   | 81              | 10            |
| “ Foster Mothers on Register at end of (quarter | 19              | 9             |
| “ Visits paid under Children's Act              | 33              | 10            |

(c) Visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year ended 30th March last :—

|              | Total | New | Ante-Natal Visits |
|--------------|-------|-----|-------------------|
| Miss Goddard | 3444  | 320 | 36                |
| Miss Powell  | 3877  | 349 | 20                |
| Miss Martin  | 3528  | 304 | 28                |
| Miss Tatlow  | 3181  | 279 | 35                |

1663-Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—(a) Quarterly Report—Read report for the quarter ended 30th 1663 June, 1947. The attendance at the Centres had been as follows :

|                               | Infants | Toddlers |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|
| At Highbury (11 Meetings)     | 739     | 257      |
| At Bethesda (11 Meetings)     | 451     | 268      |
| At St. Mark's (11 Meetings)   | 605     | 218      |
| At Baker Street (11 Meetings) | 536     | 137      |
| At Whaddon (11 Meetings)      | 510     | 298      |

(b) Infant Welfare Centre, Whaddon Estate--The Town Clerk reported that at the beginning of May, the All Saints' Church authorities had notified the Infant Welfare Association that it had been decided to restrict St. Michael's Church to Church use only, and to discontinue as from 31st July, its use for any secular purpose. The Welfare Centre was held in the Church on one afternoon a week. Efforts had immediately been made to obtain other accommodation, without success. The position had been explained to the Vicar of All Saints' Church (Rev. Kenneth McPherson) and in view of the excellent work carried on at the Centre, he agreed the Centre must on no account close down, and although he asked the Council to continue to search for other premises, the Centre would not be turned out until other suitable accommodation had been found. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health and Town Clerk continue their efforts to obtain other accommodation, and that in the meantime, the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Rev. McPherson for his valued co-operation.

1664—Gynaecological Clinic---(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that seven clinics had been held, and the total number of attendances was 56, including 35 Borough patients.

(b) Following Dr. Brown's accident early in the year, she was going abroad for six months, and the Medical Officer of Health had therefore arranged for Dr. King to do her work for a portion of the period. and he would make other arrangements for the latter part of the year RESOLVED, That this be approved. RESOLVED ALSO, That the application of the Nurse in attendance at the clinic for an increase in her fee be granted, and that this be increased from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per session, and that the wages paid to the clerk be increased from 3s. 9d. to 5s. per session.

1665—Midwives' Acts—The Medical Officer of Health reported the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period 1st April, 1947, to 30 June, 1947, was £10 11s. 0d., of which £5 10s. 0d. was chargeable to patients.

1666—" Sister Bennett Maternity Belt "—The National Association of Maternity & Child Welfare Centres had for-warded a sample of this belt, which they recommended should be kept in stock at the ante-natal clinic. The belt had been inspected by the Doctors at the clinic and it was considered advantageous to keep a supply in stock. The retail price was 12s. 5d. reduced to 11s., when supplied to ante-natal clinics. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer be authorised to keep a stock of these belts at the ante-natal clinic, the belts to be sold at cost price.

1667—Puerperal Pyrexia Case—The Medical Officer of Health submitted account for a Specialist's fee of £4 4s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

1668--Maternity Fees (Min. 1262)—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported on the operation of the new scale of charges made by the Council for hospital treatment for maternity cases. He was finding that the new scale was in some cases too high and he submitted particulars of eight cases where, owing to complications necessitating a far longer lying-in period than the normal fourteen days, patients were unable to meet the fees in accordance with their assessment under the scale. RESOLVED, That the fees in these eight cases be reduced as now settled by the Committee. RESOLVED ALSO, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Vice-Chairman (Mr. Councillor Gardner) and Councillors Miss Bayliss and Tucker-Brown be appointed to deal with applications which arise from time to time so as to obviate waiting for the quarterly meeting of the Committee, and that their decisions on hardship cases be reported to this Committee at the quarterly meetings.

(b) The Committee considered Minute 1262 (b) which was withdrawn from the Council at their meeting in May last. The Borough Treasurer reported that after the last meeting, on further consideration of the new scale, it was found this would cause undue hardship in the lower income groups, and as arranged at the Council meeting, the matter had been discussed between the Mayor and Vice-Chairman, and they recommended that the following scale for assessing payment for the attendance of midwives or maternity nurse in domiciliary cases should now be adopted :—

B. Domiciliary Cases—Attendance of Midwives or Maternity Nurse.

| Net income per week after deductions |               | Fees per case |                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Over                                 | Not exceeding | Midwife       | Maternity Nurse |
| £ s. d.                              | £ s. d.       | £ s. d.       | £ s. d.         |
| —                                    | 5 0           | 10 0          | 7 6             |
| 5 0                                  | 15 0          | 17 6          | 15 0            |
| 15 0                                 | 1 5 0         | 1 5 0         | 1 2 6           |
| 1 5 0                                | 1 15 0        | 1 12 6        | 1 10 0          |
| 1 15 0                               | 2 5 0         | 2 0 0         | 1 17 6          |
| 2 5 0                                | 2 15 0        | 2 7 6         | 2 5 0           |
| 2 15 0                               | 3 5 0         | 2 15 0        | 2 10 0          |
| 3 5 0                                | 3 15 0        | 3 0 0         | 2 15 0          |
| 3 15 0                               | —             | 3 0 0         | 2 15 0          |

RESOLVED, That the above revised scale be approved, and that Minute 1262 (b) be rescinded.

287

1669—Children Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers for registration and recommended the maximum number of children allowed should be as follows :—

| Name                | Address                             | Maximum number of children allowed                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Mrs. Stevens        | 119 St. George's Road ...           | 1  |
| Mrs. j. A. Broom    | " Lyndhurst," 194 Pilford Avenue .. | 1  |
| Mrs. Groves         | 158 Whaddon Road                    | 1  |
| Mrs. Denby (Matron) | Girls' Orphanage ...                | 13 at present<br>(8 under 9 years, 5 over 9 years) |

RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1670—Nursing Home Registration Act—Applications were submitted for the registration of the undermentioned premises as Nursing Homes. All the premises had been inspected, and the Medical Officer of Health recommended the applications be granted.

| Proprietor      | Premises                     | Accommodation |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Miss Rook Green | Bargate, " St. George's Road | 6 patients    |
| Mrs. Perkins    | 61 Tennyson Road             | 1 patient     |
| Miss Richards   | 1 Lypiatt Lawn ...           | 14 patients   |
| Miss F. Hill    | 91 Church Rd., Leckhampton   | 1 patient     |

RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1671—Adoptions—The Medical Officer of Health reported the Committee was represented at the Cheltenham Police Court in connection with six cases, of which four were Borough Cases.

1672—Girls' and Boys' Orphanages--The Medical Officer of Health submitted two reports of a Health Visitor on her inspection of the Girls' Orphanage, Winchcombe Street, and also report of a School Nurse on her inspection of the Boys' Orphanage. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to act as now indicated by the Committee. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Medical Officer of Health arrange for Nazareth House to be inspected and submit written report thereon at the next meeting.

1673—Health Visitors—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that Miss Powell had now purchased a car, and he recommended she should be paid mileage allowance on the same basis as other Health Visitors, as he was of opinion it was desirable for Miss Powell to use her car to carry out her duties owing to the scattered nature of her district. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve this proposal.

1674—Orthopaedic Scheme—RESOLVED, That the account for provision of splints in sixteen special cases amounting to £18 1s. 8d. be passed for payment.

1675—Infant Welfare Centres (Min. 1255)—The Medical Officer of Health reported it was necessary for a qualified nurse to attend the Whaddon Infant Welfare Centre to relieve Miss Tatlow who, owing to increased birth rate in her district, found it difficult to carry out her ordinary duties, and he recommended that Nurse Smith, who was performing similar duty at the Bethesda Centre, should be engaged at a fee of 10s. 0d. per session. This arrangement was satisfactory to the Infant Welfare Association, provided that if at any time Nurse Smith found it impossible to attend, the Medical Officer of Health would arrange for the attendance of a Health Visitor. RESOLVED, That this arrangement be approved.

1676—Home Helps Service—(a) The report of the Home Helps Organiser for the quarter ended 30th June was sub-mitted. The number of cases assisted during the quarter were 62, and the number of hours worked by the Home Helps were : On maternity cases, 1734 ; domestic 1632 ; Day Nurseries, 1561. In addition 13 neighbours had assisted under the Neighbours Scheme. The number of Home Helps now engaged was five full time and eight part time. The Organiser had now resumed full duty following her accident, and the clerk had reverted to half-time.

(b) In view of the increase in pay given, the Home Helps the Organiser recommended the scale of income for assessing amounts payable by assisted persons should be revised. RESOLVED, That the scale as now settled by the Committee be approved. (A copy of the scale accompanies the, Minutes.)

1677—Nurses' Salaries—The Town Clerk submitted Circulars 76 and 82, Ministry of Health, containing revised recommendations of the Nurses' Salaries Committee and Midwives' Salaries Committee in regard to remuneration and conditions of service of various grades of the nursing service. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to implement these recommendations if he is satisfied the same are applicable to the nurses under the control of this Committee, including the midwives employed by the District Nursing Association.

1678—Midwives—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 115/47, Ministry of Health, that in view of the continued shortage of midwives and pressure on maternity accommodation, the Central Midwives Board had decided to extend the dispensation to midwives whereby a midwife need not normally attend a patient after the tenth day. The Board proposed to review the matter in January, 1948, and to decide in the light of the circumstances then obtaining, whether a further extension of the dispensation was necessary.

1679—Welfare Foods Scheme—The Town Clerk submitted Circular 119/47 that in order to bring Day Nurseries into line with nursery schools, liquid milk for drinking purposes would be available, free of charge, as from 1st July to all Day Nurseries ; cod liver oil compound would also be available free of charge, and orange juice would continue to be available at a Cost of 5d. a bottle.

From the 1st August, every mother would be entitled to vitamin A and D tablets free of charge for thirty weeks after the birth of a child. The arrangement was especially intended for the benefit of mothers who are breast feeding their babies, but all mothers with babies under thirty weeks old are eligible for the tablets, which would be in addition to the cod liver oil compound supplied for the baby. The Medical Officer of Health reported he had already taken the necessary steps to implement the circular.

288

1680-Nurseries sub-Committee—Read, reports of the meetings of the Nurseries Sub- Committee held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April, 22nd May and 19th June.

The usual high attendances at the Nurseries had been maintained, and there was still a great demand made on the Nurseries.

Difficulties were still being experienced in obtaining staff, and in reply to representations made to the ministry of Health to expedite the promised revision of salary scales, the Ministry stated a communication would shortly be circulated to local authorities. There was also a shortage of trained staff at Thirlestaine Court Residential Nursery. The Ministry had urged the appointment of Wardens at the Nurseries, and the Ministry of Education had devised a scheme for the training of Wardens, and efforts were -being made to obtain a Warden for each nursery as recommended by the Minister:

Owing to the shortage of staff, it had been found necessary to close the nurseries in turn in order to enable the staff to take their annual Summer holiday. Arrangements had been made to appoint a temporary qualified nurse to act as Supervising Matron to enable Miss Parsbo to take her holiday.

Councillor Fisher had written on behalf of residents in Clarence Square asking if it was possible for this nursery to be removed so that the Square could revert to its former state. The Town Clerk had explained the position fully to Councillor Fisher, who stated it would probably minimise complaints if some arrangements could be made in regard to the washing. The Matron had now chosen a place in the garden which was almost entirely screened by trees, for hanging out the washing, and the Sub-Committee were now considering whether it was possible to provide an electric drying cupboard in the nursery so as to dry the washing inside. The Sub-Committee were still endeavouring to find suitable premises in the centre of the town where a central nursery could be established in lieu of the three nurseries.

Whaddon Road Nursery had been burgled again, but the thief had been apprehended, and nearly all the articles stolen had been recovered. RESOLVED, That the reports of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED ALSO, That Councillor Miss Bayliss be appointed a member of the Sub-Committee in place of the Deputy Mayor, who wished to retire.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

#### WATER COMMITTEE.

**9th July, 1947.** Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman); the Mayor; Councillors Addis, Midwinter and Strickland.

1681—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Spring          | For month ended<br>30th June, 1947 | Average for corresponding<br>period during last 3 years |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Hewletts Spring | 148,000                            | 109,000   |
| Dowdeswell      | 494,000                            | 416,000   |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 86,000,000 gallons.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 2nd July                          | 49,380,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 4 weeks ended 2nd July                           | 12,812,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from<br>Churchdown from 1st April, 1947 | 143,385,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947                       | 42,230,000  |
| Average daily consumption for June   | 3,462,000   |

| Rainfall for June | During month | Average monthly rainfall |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford          | 1.61"        | 1.88"                    |
| Hewletts          | 1.61"        | 1.91"                    |
| Dowdeswell        | 1.91"        | 1.95"                    |
| Tewkesbury        | 1.44"        | 1.52"                    |



1682—Dowdeswell Court— Lodge—The Town Clerk submitted application for the tenancy of the vacant lodge. It was understood. however, that in connection with the County Council's proposals for the Mansion, they were anxious for the lodge, with vacant possession, to be included in their tenancy and the Town Clerk pointed out the difficulties in obtaining possession if the present application was acceded to. RESOLVED, That the application be refused and that it be suggested to the County Council that an employee connected with the future user of the Mansion should take early possession of the lodge on terms to be arranged.

1683--Home or Lower Farm—Drainage—(Min. 1414)—In connection with the drainage work to this farm it had been necessary to take pipes across land owned by Mr. O. E. Cannel and a wayleave had been negotiated at an annual payment of 2s. 6d. Mr. Cannel's Solicitors asked for their legal costs to be borne by the Council. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1684—Dowdeswell Reservoir—The Borough Engineer recommended that he be authorised to approach the Severn Fishery Board with a view to the Reservoir being netted for coarse fish as was done some years ago.. On that occasion all trout caught in the net were returned to the Reservoir and die Board took a proportion of the coarse fish for their own use,-and the remainder was transferred to Pittville, The Borough Engineer recommended that the same procedure he followed on this occasion. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

289

1685 Rural Water Supplies---(a) The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had communicated with the Cheltenham and Gloucester Rural District Councils asking if they would be prepared to give guarantees under Section 36 of the Water Act, 1945, in respect of the rural water supply extension schemes to parishes in their respective districts. He had also had conversations on the matter with the Clerks of both District Councils. He now submitted letter front the Clerk to the Cheltenham R.D.C. that this Council were prepared to co-operate with the Borough Council in the provision of these water supplies on terms and conditions which would not place his Council in a worse financial position than they would have been had they proceeded with the original proposal to submit the scheme direct to the Ministry based on the terms under which formerly it had been the policy to carry out such extensions.

They were therefore prepared to give a guarantee under Section 123 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of the annual loan charges to be incurred in respect of the schemes for Leckhampton Hill, the parishes of Twyning, Deerhurst Walton and Lower Apperley, and Little Shurdington, which were estimated to cost £24,044 subject to (a) that Council obtaining an adequate grant from the Ministry of Health and County Council, (b) to the details of the scheme and cost involved being submitted to and approved by the Rural District Council's Consulting Engineer, (c) that the Council's guarantee shall be in respect of loan charges on capital cost and shall not exceed the total sum of £1,000 per annum for the period of the loans, and (d) the Council shall assume liability for the proportions of such guaranteed loan charges, as revenue increases, on capital sums equal to eight times the annual revenue.

The District Council could not see their way to make any payment or guarantee in respect of Scheme B for which the parishes of Badgeworth and Staverton, as this was not a scheme which was of particular benefit to these parishes, but was mainly required in connection with the water supply system of the Borough Council's water undertaking. The loss estimated on the above schemes would amount to £1,514 p.a. RESOLVED, That the offer of the Cheltenham Rural District Council be accepted, but that it be pointed out to them that, by making the offer conditional on their obtaining

adequate grant from the Ministry of Health and County Council, this would no doubt tend to delay the putting in hand of the schemes, and that it be suggested to the Rural District Council their offer should be made without this condition in order that this Council may urge the Ministry to expedite the loan sanction and authority to carry out the work.

(b) Leckhampton Hill—Read, letter of 3rd July from the Clerk to the Cheltenham R.D.C. that his Council had received further complaints about existing water supplies available for use on Leckhampton Hill, and drawing the Council's attention to the particular urgency of this matter, and asking the Council to proceed with the Leckhampton portion of the above schemes at the earliest possible date without awaiting the decision of the Ministry of Health in regard to grants. The Town Clerk and Borough Engineer reported on the present position in regard to this scheme, which had now been with the Ministry of Health nearly 12 months and that the existing water supply system to Ullenwood comprising the main, pumps and reservoirs, had still not been transferred to the Council by the War Department. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Rural District be informed the Council were most anxious to carry out this scheme, but could not do so until they received loan sanction and authority from the Ministry of Health to do the work, and the existing main, pumps and reservoirs had been transferred to the Council.

(ii) That in order to expedite the matter, the Rural District Council be asked to agree to give a guarantee of £250 per annum, being a proportion of the -guarantee referred to in the preceding minute, in respect of this scheme.

(iii) That the Borough Engineer interview representatives of the War Department with a view to expediting the carrying out of the agreement to transfer the existing water supply system to the Council.

(iv) That the Town Clerk urge upon the Ministry of Health the great urgency of this matter, and ask for authority to carry out this work to be issued without any further delay.

(c) Gloucester Rural District—RESOLVED, That in the case of the schemes for the parishes of Down Hatherley and Norton' Forthampton, Chaceley, Tirley, Hasfield and Apperley in the area of the Gloucester Rural District Council, estimated to cost £36,000 and the loss being estimated at £1,537 p.a., the Town Clerk be instructed to inform the District Council that the Council are prepared to proceed with these schemes subject to Ministry sanction on the same basis as the schemes in the Cheltenham Rural District, namely that the District Council should undertake to guarantee to the Council the sum of £1,000 per annum in respect of loan charges on the capital cost for the period of the loans, and that the Borough Council should assume liability for proportions of such guaranteed loan charges, as revenue increases, on capital sums equal to eight times the annual revenue.

(d) Down Hatherley—The Town Clerk submitted correspondence with the Gloucester Rural District Council in regard to expediting the carrying out of the above mentioned schemes so far as the village of Down Hatherley was concerned. As previously reported, the Council had already agreed in order to expedite this scheme, to take a bulk supply from the Gloucester Corporation's main near the Rotol works so that the main could be laid in the village and a supply given without waiting for the whole of the schemes to be carried out, which would then link up with the Council's supply system. RESOLVED, That the Gloucester Rural District Council be informed that if the District Council were prepared to accept the offer mentioned in the preceding minute, the Council would do all they could to obtain the approval of the Ministry of Health to the carrying out of the work, and as soon as this was obtained they would at once proceed with the laying of main to Down Hatherley and temporarily take a bulk supply from the Gloucester Corporation to supply the village.

1686—Works Completed during, the Month—The Borough Engineer reported that during June 801 inspections had been undertaken when the Inspectors found 15 defective flush boxes, 49 leaking taps, 19 defective stop taps, and 10 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 75 draw taps ; 48 notices had been served on owners. 80 houses connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 48 supplies disconnected : and 45 meters changed or fixed.

290

With regard to general maintenance work, 132 yards of new main had been laid in Lansdown Place with an additional 100 yards to a 6 in. main in the footpath and a total of 496 yards at Lynworth and The Knole Estates and Kingsditch Lane ; mains repaired at Shurdington and Post Office Lane ; new sluice valves fixed in Hatherley Road and Lansdown Place ; and sluice valves repaired in Reddings Road, The Park, Hewlett Road, Leighton Road and Great Western Road. Mains had been washed out at Hayden, Arle, Evesham Road, Clevelands Drive, Pittville, Lower High Street, Tewkesbury Road, Gloucester Road, Staverton, etc. pumping, meter cleaning, repairing and testing had also been carried out at Sandford Works.

1687—Analyses—The Medical Officer submitted satisfactory analyses of the supplies.

1688—Red Wood Spring—Proposed Military Training Ground, Wistley Hill Area—The Medical Officer of Health reported that, as requested, he had undertaken periodical analyses of the water from this spring which had not been satisfactory since military occupation of a site in the vicinity of Chatcombe Pitch. The Committee were reminded that this spring had a considerable yield and was at one time the main supply for Charlton Kings area but during the war it had been necessary to exclude it from the mains supply. The Committee were concerned to see that no further pollution was caused by the proposed use of Wistley Hill area as a training area.

RESOLVED, That in concurring in the proposals for this site, the Council be recommended to qualify such approval by providing that any buildings and other arrangements should be sited in positions approved by the Borough Engineer.

1689—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

1690—Inspection—The Committee made their annual inspection of the Tewkesbury works and other areas of supply, including Dowdeswell.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**4th July, 1947**—Present—Councillor Compton (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss and Irving; Rev. E. C. Hanson; and Messrs. S. J. Clarke, H. J. Norris and F. Vernall.

1691—Librarians' Report for May and June, 1947 :—

Issues— Reference Dept. 10,238 ; Lending Dept. 65,891 ; Junior Dept. 8,871 ; Branch Libraries 3,490 ; School Libraries 8,266 ; Loan Collections 800. Total 97,556. (Max- and June last year 99,551).

Receipts amounted to £156 0s. 8d.

Replacements and Binding--296 volumes had been replaced, 775 volumes had been dispatched to the Binder and 1047 returned and placed in circulation.

South Western Regional Library System—The Librarian reported on a meeting of the Executive Committee held at Bristol on the 26th June, 1947. During the past year 316 volumes had been borrowed through this system for Cheltenham readers and 659 volumes had been lent. Of the towns in the South Western Regional Library System, Cheltenham was fourth from the top, having been exceeded in loans only by Bristol, Bath and Portsmouth.

Library Association Conference—The Librarian reported on the Conference of the Library Association held at Brighton from 9th-13th June, 1947. The annual subscription for this library's institutional membership would be £3 3s 0d., from 1948.

1692---Books--RESOLVED, (a) That 707 volumes published at £291 7s. 0d. be purchased for £260 17s. 3d. (b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding, (c) That the sum of £100 be spent on replacements.

1693--Donations----51 volumes had been received from 14 donors.

1694—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That " Common Room " (quarterly, 2s 4d. per annum) be purchased.

1695—August Bank Holiday--RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library close on August Bank Holiday.

1696—St. Mark's Branch Library—(a) The Librarian reported that the owner had asked the Council to bear a 1froportion of the increase in rates of the shop in Tennyson Road used for a branch library. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to the rent being increased by 1s 6d. per week.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that he had now been able to secure a suitable wooden but for the branch library at a cost of £20. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to purchase the same. RESOLVED, Also that the Housing Committee be approached with a view to a suitable site being provided on the St. Mark's Estate for its erection.

1697 Paper Allocation—At the annual general meeting of the Library Association in June, a resolution had been passed urging the Government to increase the allocation of paper to publishers in order that the supply of educational works, text-hooks and books required by public, university and special libraries might be sufficient to meet the increasing demands. It was also recommended that the paper allocated to the Moberley Pool be substantially increased and that the Committee responsible for the allocation of the paper be increased so as to include representatives of the Library Association. RESOLVED, That the Borough Member be asked to support the steps taken by the Association.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman.

291

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**7th July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman) ; Deputy Mayor, Alderman Leigh James; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Compton, Gardner, Irving and Strickland.

1698—National Health Service Act 1946—The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of this Act a copy of the proposals submitted by the County Council for the approval of the Ministry, had been received in connection with (i) arrangements for vaccination and immunisation, pursuant to Section 26 of the above mentioned Act.

(ii) Arrangements for the provision of ambulance services within the County, pursuant to Section 24 of the same Act;

(1) Vaccination and Immunisation--The proposals of the County Council for Diphtheria Immunisation provided for immunisation to be available at all infant welfare centres throughout the area, and in populous areas, special immunisation clinics would be set up. General Practitioners would also be invited to undertake individual immunisation of their patients.

With regard to vaccination, it was proposed in the first instance to undertake the vaccination of infants at clinics where medical practitioners were in attendance, and all general practitioners in the area would be invited to undertake individual vaccination of their patients. Arrangements were being made for vaccination propaganda to be carried out through various agencies, such as health visitors, midwives, teachers and registrars of births. In the event of an outbreak of smallpox, it was proposed to enlist the co-operation of all general practitioners so that vaccination would be obtainable at doctors' surgeries. Arrangements would also be made for vaccination to be obtainable at every health centre, clinic and any other premises which could be utilised. It was also proposed to institute controlled experiments in the use of immunisation against whooping cough, and experiments would first of all be made upon selected groups of children resident in nurseries and homes. Consideration would also be given to extending the experiments to include children attending welfare centres, whose mothers requested such immunisation, so long as a sufficient proportion did not make requests, as to interfere with the presence of adequate controlled groups.

The estimated annual expenditure for these services for the county was £852 for vaccination and £925 for immunisation. The Medical Officer of Health reported that he considered the proposals were adequate and satisfactory as far as the Borough and adjoining districts were concerned.

(2) Ambulance Services--The proposals of the County Council outlined the existing services available within the County, The great majority of the various districts were now served by voluntary bodies. The County Council proposed that for the service which would be operated for the County from the appointed day, there should be established a central controlling body to be known as The Gloucestershire County Ambulance Association which would consist of five representatives of each of, the British Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the local health authority, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of that authority as *ex-officio*. A County Ambulance Officer would be appointed by the local health authority to supervise the arrangements on behalf of the authority, but all other officers would be appointed by the Association to be employed either by them or by the authority. Existing premises would be used on a rental basis where possible, and the existing vehicles would be used by the new Association and the costs of maintenance, repairs and running expenses borne by the local health authority. A programme of replacements was included in the scheme, the new vehicles being provided by, and remaining the property of, the local health authority. There were, for non-infectious cases, 22 ambulances and 2 sitting case-cars, of which 8 ambulances and one car belonged to the Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters, and for infectious cases there were five ambulances. Conferences had taken place with authorities of adjoining Counties with a view to making arrangements for mutual assistance. A conference had also been held with the County Borough of Gloucester with a view to arranging for a joint service for the City and the County, but so far no agreement had been reached. The personnel to be employed under the scheme would be :—

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Administrative personnel | 8   |
| Depot Superintendents    | 2   |
| Station Leaders          | 12  |
| Driver/Attendants        | 113 |

The County expected that a saving of whole-time personnel might be made by the use of voluntary members of existing organisations, and of the personnel to be appointed, there would be stationed at the Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters, 2 telephonists, one Depot Superintendent, and 42 Driver/Attendants. With regard to the maintenance and servicing of the vehicles pending the establishment of a central depot, the existing arrangements would continue, namely. the use of the existing service at Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters, and use would be made of the Police Service Depots at Cheltenham and Gloucester as well as of an existing Depot at Stroud.

The proposed plan was based on the assumption that a joint service would be established with Gloucester, and for mutual assistance with Bristol, but failure to complete such arrangements would entail the provision of further main or sub-stations, additional vehicles and personnel. It was hoped to establish in due course a central ambulance and repair depot either in conjunction with the fire service or otherwise. The estimated cost of the scheme for a year ending 31st March, 1949, would be £65,000 which provided £10,000 for replacement of vehicles and purchase of 8 additional sitting case cars, administrative costs, salaries and wages £38,200 ; running costs, including depots, rent, maintenance and uniform £12,500 : re-placement of existing vehicles £5,000.

At present the 9 ambulances and one car at Cheltenham were operated by the Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters, with a full-time staff of a Manager ; a clerk ; a driver-mechanic ; 2 driver-attendants and one driver-custodian, and 15 drivers and 19 attendants voluntary part-time.

292

Towards the annual cost of this scheme, under the Act, the County would be entitled to a grant from the Government which would be related to the block grant formula. The exact amount of the grant was not known, but under the Act it could not be less than three-eighths nor more than three-quarters of the cost. Assuming, therefore, the County obtained a 50% grant, the amount to be provided by the County rate would be £32,500, so that the Borough's proportion would probably be within a 4d. or 5d. rate. It was understood the County Council had consulted the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance organisations, but the Chairman of the Board of Management who was a member of this Committee, stated that the Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters Board of Management had not been consulted, but they had recently been supplied by the County with a copy of their proposals.

RESOLVED—(a) That the Council have no representations to make on the proposals of the County Council in regard to vaccination and immunisation.

(b) That the Committee were of opinion the Ambulance Service proposals were grossly extravagant, both from the point of view of man-power and cost.

(c) That further steps should be taken by the County Council to secure the co-operation and assistance of the existing voluntary organisations who was believed, have provided an adequate and excellent service in many districts of the County and in particular in the Borough and adjoining districts.

(d) That the present man-power position does not justify the employment of 113 paid whole time drivers and in the opinion of the Committee this number could be reduced considerably by securing the co-operation of the voluntary associations as above mentioned.

(e) That the Ministry's attention be draw to the fact that apart from maintenance of vehicles, no provision had been made in the scheme for the combination of the service with the fire brigade services if and when these were transferred under the Fire Service Bill to the County Council, and that the Council were of the opinion the Minister should require the County Council to consider such a combination after they have obtained some experience of the fire brigade services.

(f) That the views of Cheltenham Ambulance Headquarters be obtained on the proposals, and that these be submitted to the Minister with the Council's representations.

1699-Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements, 20 Evesham Road, 14 London Road, Sligo House, Wellington Square, 31 Fail view Street, 9 Montpellier Villas, and 30 London Road. Further consideration was given to making closing orders in respect of the above basements. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of tins working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal of the Council in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than storage purposes.

(ii) Basement, 35 Clarence Square—[Min. 1355 (iii)]—The owner had carried out the works required to lender this basement fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That the undertaking given by the owner that the basement would not be occupied until the works had been carried out to render the basement habitable, be cancelled.

(iii) 17, St. George's Street—The Committee considered representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to this property. The owner had given an undertaking that the premises would not be occupied until works had been carried out to render them fit for human habitation.

13a Commercial Street—An undertaking was also submitted from the owner that these premises would not be occupied until works had been carried out to render them fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That the undertakings be accepted, and that notices of intention to consider the making of demolition orders be not served in these instances.

(iv) Unfit Houses—Re-licensing of premises—RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of Fern-side, 307 Gloucester Road, be renewed for a further period of 6 months from the 26th July, 1947.

1700—Public Health Act 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported on defects at Nos. 12 and 16 Northfield Terrace. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owners of the properties under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to execute the necessary works within 21 days from the date of such notices and that failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

(ii) Dust Bins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of the following properties, requiring them to provide regulation dustbins:-26 Lypiatt Street, 47 Moorend Crescent, 6 Suffolk Square, (3 bins), Grove House, Montpellier Grove (2 bins).

(iii) 63 Sun Street-Offensive Trade—(Min. 643)—Memorial was submitted from residents in Sun Street requesting the closure of the premises used by a rag and bone dealer in Sun Street, on the grounds that nuisances were being caused prejudicial to health. The Chief Sanitary Inspector had inspected the premises, and, in his opinion no nuisance was being caused. The premises were approved for this purpose until 31st December, 1947. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at present, but that further observations be kept -on the premises.

(iv) Corinth House, 117 Bath Road—A complaint was submitted of alleged nuisances from the above premises, which were being used as a Latex Factory. Consent to the use of these premises as a factory had been granted by the Planning Committee, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, fumes or smell. RESOLVED, That the Standing Sub-Committee inspect the premises and report.

(v) Camping Site, Gloucester Road—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. H. A. Davis for permission to use land at the rear of The Bungalow, Gloucester Road, as a camping site for one caravan, be granted.

(vi) River Chelt—Pollution—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that analyses of samples of water taken from the River Chelt in the vicinity of Moors Avenue had shown that the water was polluted. The Borough Surveyor reported that this would be eliminated when the proposed Chelt sewer was laid, but he considered that the cleaning of the bed of the river would eliminate much of the nuisance. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out this work.

293

(vii) Common Lodging House—Cumberland Villas, Grove Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon the condition of these premises and recommended that the keeper of this lodging house should not be re-registered at the expiration of the period on the 31st December, 1947. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(viii) 8 Grosvenor Street—Fried Fish Shop—Mr. P. W. Pugh made application for permission to re-open the above premises as a fried fish shop. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the premises were not suit-able for this purpose, owing to absence of light, secondary means of access, suitable rooms for the preparation of food and proper ventilation. RESOLVED, That the application be refused.

1701—Food and Drugs Act 1938—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon samples 892-907 (malt-cup, curry powder, nutmeg, gelatine, milk and other commodities). With the exception of 904 (milk) which was slightly deficient in fat, all were satisfactory.

(ii) Ice-cream---29 Henrietta Street—Reported, that a number of water ices were stored in a refrigerator at these premises for sale for human consumption. The sale of water ices was an offence under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947. The Vendor stated that he was not aware of the provisions. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk draw the attention of the Vendor to the seriousness of the offence, and warn him that proceedings would be instituted in any future offence.

(iii) Prosecution—The Town Clerk reported Mr. R. A. Burroughs, Kate Farm Dairy had been prosecuted for filling milk bottles in the street and fined £2.



(iv) Slaughter House, Dunalley Parade—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that these premises had been temporarily converted for use as a chitterling boiling and food preparation -establishment. RESOLVED, That no objection be made to the proposed use.

1702—Fluorine in Food Order 1947—Circular F.S.L./32/47, Ministry of Food was submitted, forwarding copy of Fluorine in Food Order 1947, prescribing maximum limits for the Fluorine contents of (a) calcium acid phosphate, sodium acid pyrophosphate or other acidic phosphates intended for use in the composition or preparation of food and (b) foods containing acidic phosphates. The Order also dispensed with the Ministry's consent being required before instituting proceedings in respect of infringements.

1703—Pharmacy and Medicine Act 1941—The Town Clerk reported receipt of a report from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain of an action taken to the High Court and the Court of Appeal, as a test case in respect of the interpretation of the terms " Substance recommended as a medicine " and Proprietary Designation," which would form a useful guide in, deciding whether or not proceedings should be taken in future cases brought to the notice of the Committee.

1704—Sewage Works—Motor Vehicle—(Min. 1454)---An offer of £20 had been received from Mr. S. H. Williams for the second-hand Austin truck. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted.

1705—Public Convenience—The Borough Surveyor reported he had considered the proposal for the erection of an additional public convenience in Royal Crescent and had inspected three sites. He considered the most suitable was in the rear of No. 59 Promenade. He recommended that the existing conveniences at the rear of No. 77 Promenade be converted to serve women only, and that a men's convenience be erected in the garden of No. 59 Promenade. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved and that he be authorised to prepare plans and estimates for consideration.

1706—Vital Statistics—The population of the Borough estimated by the Registrar General for the mid-year 1946 was 60,540 as compared with 59,030 for 1945. Births during 1946 were 2282 including 69 still births; number of births to permanent residents was 1,223, including 29 still births, giving a live birth rate of 19.7 per 1,000 population. Illegitimate births were 140, a rate of 114 births per 1,000. Deaths were 886 giving a mortality rate of 14.6 per 1,000 population. The Registrar General had not yet been able to provide accurate comparable figures owing to the magnitude of local movements during the year. Using the last figures furnished the mortality rate was 12.0 compared with 11.5 for the whole country and 12.7 for the great towns, in which group Cheltenham was included. 52 infants under 1 year of age, born to residents, died during 1946 giving an infant mortality rate of 43.5 per 1,000 as compared with 46 for the great towns and 43 for the whole country. One resident had died from causes associated with child birth giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.82 per 1,000 as compared with 1.24 for the whole country.

1707—Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938—The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms both of which were satisfactory. (ii) Application was submitted from Mr. G. F. Gratton, 249 Swindon Road, to bottle and retail milk wider the designation of Tuberculin Tested. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the premises were well designed and suitably equipped, with the exception of facilities for sealing or capping of bottles as required by the order. The applicant was negotiating for such apparatus. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until this apparatus was installed.

1708—Public Abattoir—(Min. 1543)—The Chairman reported that the Vice-Chairman the Chief Sanitary Inspector and himself had discussed with Councillor C. E. Canham, a member of the Hitchin

R.D.C., the probable development of the abattoir. Mr. Canham was of the opinion that the present building was well situated for adaptation and conversion into a modern abattoir. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey the best thanks of the Committee to Councillor Canham for his assistance. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector be authorised to prepare an outline scheme of the future development of the abattoir for submission to the next meeting.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

294

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**8<sup>th</sup> July, 1947**, Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Smith and Waite; Councillors Carter, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, Thompson and Ward.

1709—Restrictions in Power Supplies—Adjustment of Tariffs—Read circular from the Electricity Commissioners in which the Commissioners put forward various recommendations to compensate industrial consumers who were not permitted to take their normal supply in the restricted period. In future, where the terms of supply include a standing charge based on the highest demand taken over a period longer than a month, it was recommended that consumers should be given the alternative of having this charge based on the highest demand in each month. This concession might operate for any future 12 month period at the consumer's request and the monthly charge per unit should not in any case exceed one-twelfth of the existing annual charge plus 10% or such higher figure as may be agreed with the Commissioners.

Where private generating plant was installed and connection maintained to the public mains for stand-by purposes the charge for this stand-by connection should not exceed the capital charges appropriate to the distribution capacity reserved for such a connection, supplies taken being charged for at the normal tariffs. Where terms of supply limited installation or use of private plant these terms should be waived under present circumstances except insofar as they might be necessary on technical grounds.

The Borough Electrical Engineer pointed out that the restrictions during the period mentioned did not apply to industrial consumers in this area and he was in communication with the Commissioners to obtain clarification of this point. With regard to the other recommendations he was of the opinion that the under-taking should do all in its power to alleviate difficulties caused by restrictions. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer report further on this matter when further information has been received from the Commissioners.

1710—Renewals Fund—(Min. 1330)—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Electricity Commissioners that the resolution of the Council to transfer the Renewals Fund to the surplus revenue account had been noted and the Commissioners had no comments to make.

1711—Limehurst Sub-Station—Painswick Road—The Town Clerk reported that a sub-station was erected on land at this house by agreement and it had now become necessary to enlarge this sub-station. The Borough Electrical Engineer had negotiated with the owner for the sale of the land he required including the land occupied by the existing sub-station. The owner was only willing to sell the whole property. The price asked was considered to be excessive and the Town Clerk had, therefore, written to the agents stating that he did not consider the Council would be able to purchase the house and asking the owner to re-consider his decision not to sell the land required for the sub-station. There was now a possibility of the owner and tenant agreeing to negotiate for the

land required. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate terms either for leasing or purchasing the strip of land required.

1712—Electricity Bill—Read letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations setting out amendments which the Association hoped to have set down and discussed on the report stage of this Bill. The Town Clerk had forwarded these amendments to the Member of Parliament for the Borough and asked him to give them all possible support.

1713—Certification of Meters—Read circular from the Electricity Commissioners intimating that Regulation 60CB which suspended certification of electricity meters would be revoked with effect from 1st October, 1947. After that date it would be obligatory for all meters installed, otherwise than by special agreement, to be certified and undertakers who had not yet replaced uncertified meters or were not in a position to recommence certification should take the necessary steps forthwith. Certification of meters at the manufacturers' own testing stations would continue to be permissible temporarily but the testing of meters and apparatus should be resumed on a normal basis with approved methods.

Relaxations formerly allowed were now withdrawn with certain exceptions. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Undertaking had maintained the standard of testing throughout the war and the Commissioners had agreed to accept this standard afterwards so that all the meters now in use were deemed to be certified.

1714-Re-organisation of Administrative Section—The Borough Electrical Engineer was anxious to carry out a re-organisation of the administrative section of his department but owing to the complex nature of this matter it would require consideration of questions relating to the functions not only of the Electricity Department but also those of the Borough Treasurer's Department. RESOLVED, That a sub-committee consisting of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, and the Chairmen of the Electricity and Finance Committees be asked to consider the reports of the officers concerned, and report in due course.

1715-I.M.E.A. Conference—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report of the annual conference of the at Bournemouth in June.

1716-Southwood—(a) Progress—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that good progress was being made with the repairing and re-decoration of Southwood. It was hoped that occupation of the first floor offices to be possible at the end of July or early in August and that the rest of the department would be able TO move at the beginning of September.

(b) Cycle Racks—Two quotations were submitted for the supply of cycle racks which it was proposed to fit into one of the existing five courts. RESOLVED, That the quotation of Messrs. Clarkes Smithy Ltd., amounting to £40, being the lowest be accepted.

295

(c) Central Records Office—In order to obtain additional accommodation for this office it had been found necessary to demolish a partition wall between one of the smaller rooms and a landing and erect a partition wall to enable this landing to be divided into a room and a passage. The Borough Electrical Engineer had obtained a quotation from Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell, amounting to £53 10s. Od., for carrying out this work in order that it could be done before the re-decoration and had accepted this quotation. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

(d) 3 Phase Supply—It would be necessary for a three-phase supply to be connected to the meter test room and it was also intended to connect Southwood with the proposed sub-station telephone system run over the existing underground pilot cables. It was estimated that the cost of running the three-phase service cable and a four pair pilot cable into Southwood would be £120. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to carry out this work and that the cost be charged to the Unspecified Cable Loan.

1717—Central Consumers' Records—The present card index system of keeping consumers records was obsolete and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that it should be replaced by a modern index system. The new system would facilitate the operation of the scheme and was elastic to allow for the rapid growth of the undertaking.

Six quotations were received for the supply of the necessary apparatus and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the quotation of Messrs. Remington Rand amounting to £1,255 should be accepted. The Borough Treasurer pointed out that it appeared doubtful whether a loan could be obtained for this and even if this were granted the loan would only be for a maximum of 5 years. This would lessen the likelihood of obtaining the annual contribution from surplus revenue, amounting to 1 ½ % of the outstanding debt, to the General Rate Fund. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for 12 months.

1718—Distribution Extensions—(a) Tewkesbury Road and the Runnings--In order to provide alternative supplies to Swindon Village, Swindon Railway Bridge and Marle Hill Court Road substations and to obtain a duplicate supply to the new substation at the Runnings to cater for new development, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a cable be laid from " The Runnings " to " The Moors substation and a four-core low voltage cable from The Runnings to a link box at the corner of Kingsditch Lane to Tewkesbury Road. This latter cable would be used to supply service to a factory in Kingsditch Lane. The estimated cost of the extension was £2,700. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £2,700. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £2,700 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and receipt.

(b) Additional Main—Lypiatt Lane to Montpellier Sub-Station—While the additional feeder already authorised was being laid from Alstone Lane to Montpellier Terrace sub-station it would be possible to lay a 11,000 volt cable and a four-pair pilot cable from Montpellier Sub-Station to Lypiatt Lane making use of the same trench. This additional main would enable discriminating protection to be installed on the Montpellier Terrace to Westal Green Feeder and enable a duplicate automatic supply to be available for Leckhampton Depot sub-station. It was estimated that this work would cost £1,500. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to carry out this work and that application be made to the Electrical Commissioners for consent to a loan of £1,500. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £1,500 and that the Common Seal be to the mortgage order and receipt.

(c) Birdlip—The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a pole type sub-station be erected at the opposite end of the village from the existing sub-station to meet the increased demand. The estimated cost of this work was £335. RESOLVED, That the proposed extension be carried out and that £235 being the cost of the sub-station be charged to Unspecified Switchgear Loan and that £100 being the cost of mains extension be charged to the Unspecified Mains Loan.

(d) Lypiatt Road Change Over—The existing single phase distribution in Lypiatt Road was inadequate meet increased demand and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a four-core cable be laid from the existing distributor which at present terminated at Imperial House, the new distributor to terminate at a point outside Southwood. It would then be possible to change existing single phase service to the new distributor. The cost was estimated at £435 and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that this should be charged to Unspecified Mains and Services Loan. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved.

(e) Battledown Area Change Over—In order to continue the policy of replacing the overloaded and obsolete 2,000 volt single phase distribution network by extending the three-phase 11,000 volt network, the Borough Electrical Engineer submitted plans and estimates to change over the Battledown Area. The estimated cost of the work was £14,000. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to carry out this work and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £14,000. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £14,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and receipt.

1719—Impregnation of Existing Overhead Line Poles—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it was now possible to extend the life of red fir creosote impregnated poles by injecting a special solution of preserving salts into the poles, He recommended that in view of the present shortage of timber 1,200 poles in the area of the Undertaking which had been in service for a period greater than 10 years should be impregnated and a quotation had been obtained for carrying out this work amounting to 19s 9d per pole for a minimum number of 1,000 poles. RESOLVED, That the quotation be accepted to carry out this work on approximately 1,000 poles at a total cost of £990, the cost to be met from revenue.

1720—Hydraulic Thrust Borer—The present thrust borer had been in use for 23 years and was now completely worn out. It would be more economical to purchase a new borer than have the present one repaired and a quotation was submitted from the manufacturers of the original instrument amounting to £395. RESOLVED, That the quotation of the Hydraulic Engineer Co., Ltd., amounting to £395 for the supply of a new hydraulic thrust borer be accepted, the cost to be met from revenue.

296

1721-Insulation Test Instruments—In order to carry out their duties satisfactorily and safely the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the cooker maintenance electricians and installation inspectors be issued with small portable resistance test instruments and installation inspectors with means of testing the continuity of the earth system in all new installations. In the distribution section the Mains Foreman needed a portable resistance testing instrument and also a large 2,000 volt instrument for routine tests of high voltage cable. The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted quotations for supplying these and recommended that five small testers at £12 8s. 9d. each, two continuity testers at £29 15s. 3d. and one 2,500 tester at £93 1s. 3d. should be purchased at a total cost of £215 5s. 6d. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and that the cost be met by an appropriation from surplus revenue.

1722—Meters—The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a transformer testing instrument be purchased at a price of £230 to be used in conjunction with the meter testing equipment already authorised. This would make the new test room the most up to date in the area and would prevent the necessity of sending any apparatus elsewhere for testing. RESOLVED, That a Pect-Elliott current transformer testing instrument be purchased at a cost of £230 and that

application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan for this amount. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum for £230 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and receipt.

1723—Applications for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported three applications for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. RESOLVED, That these be approved.

1724—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported eleven interruptions of supply during the month.

1725—(a) Filing Clerk—Mr. M. B. G. Turner had commenced his duties as filing Clerk on- June 23rd.

(b) Meter Inspector—Mr. J. Jones, Meter Inspector was due to retire on August 4th on attaining the age of 65, after completing 28 years' service in the department. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Jones the Committee's appreciation of his long and faithful service and their best wishes for a happy and long retirement.

(c) Typist—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it was necessary to secure another shorthand-typist for the department. He therefore recommended that the Establishment Sub-Committee should be asked to increase the establishment by one shorthand-typist and that in the meantime he should be authorised to engage a temporary shorthand-typist. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1726—District Joint Industrial Council and District Joint Board—At a meeting of the Employers side of the District Joint Industrial Council and District Joint Board at Bristol it was agreed that an additional levy of £100 should be made in respect of the Council and an additional £40 in respect of the Board, due to increased expenses incurred in holding a greater number of employer meetings than had been anticipated. The proportion payable by this Undertaking would be £9 for the District Joint Industrial Council and £2 for the District Joint Board. RESOLVED, That these additional amounts be paid.

1727—District Joint Committee—A meeting of the District Joint Committee of local authorities and Chief Electrical Engineers was held on July 2nd at which it was recommended to the National Joint Committee that for a period of 5 years, where it could be shown that the unit assessment of any undertaking was reduced as the result of load shedding or fuel rationing the salary of the Chief Electrical Engineer of that undertaking should not fall below the scale figure payable for the year 1946/47. This recommendation was similar to one which had already been agreed by most other District Joint Committees.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**8th July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Compton (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bishop, Fisher, Morris, Strickland, Ward and Yeend.

1728—Differential Rent Scheme—Read letter from Cheltenham Council Tenants' Association asking that consideration be given to adjusting rents in cases where tenants wished to carry out interior decoration of their houses instead of this work being done by the Council. RESOLVED, That the Committee consider it is desirable as far as possible to secure that all tenancies are let on similar terms and therefore they are unable to agree to certain tenants on St. Mark's Estate being allowed to carry out their own internal decorations.

1729—Requisitioning of Unoccupied Houses—The Town Clerk submitted circular 114/47 from the Ministry of Health extending until 31st December, 1947, the period for the exercise of the requisitioning powers already delegated to clerks of local authorities.

1730—Building Materials and Components—Supplement to Ministry of Health circular 76/46 was submitted stating that cement production, after falling sharply, was now rising and it was hoped shortly that stocks would again be reasonably distributed. Strict economy was still necessary and operations requiring cement should, therefore, be confined to work on which " following trades were dependent and where concrete roads were specified local authorities were advised during the shortage to change over to road beds not requiring cement wherever practicable.

297

1731—Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946—(a) Review of Contributions—Read circular 116/47 from the Ministry of Health that the Minister had reviewed contributions payable under this Act and in view of the reduction in the rate of interest charged for loans on the one hand and recent increases in the cost of building on the other hand he had decided that for the present no reduction should be made in the amounts of the contributions. Contributions would, therefore, be payable as provided in the Act in respect of new houses complete & before the 30th June, 1948.

(b) B.I.S.F. Houses—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health approving the 50 houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate for the purposes of Section 17 of the above Act. A capital grant of £270 per house would be made on the completion of each house. The Borough Treasurer reported that application for this capital grant was being made in respect of batches of houses as they were completed.

1732—St. Mark's Community Centre—A request was received from the St. Mark's Community Association that the roof at the Community Centre which was defective should be repaired and that the windows should be painted externally before the official opening on 31st July. Alternatively, if the Council would provide paint the Association would find necessary labour. The Borough Surveyor reported that at present the wood work of the window frames was creosoted and this would have to be neutralised before paint could be applied. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor repair the roof and supply paint to the Association as suggested by them.

1733—Priors Farm Estate—Fencing—(Min. 1419)—Read letter from the bungalows of Works in reply to the Council's request that they should provide fencing around the temporary bungalows on this estate. The Ministry pointed out that the ruling of the Ministry of Health was that fencing should be provided only to back gardens and that if further fencing was required it would be the liability of the local authority.

The Borough Surveyor reported that it was difficult to procure chain link fencing and owing to the shortage of timber, wood fencing was out of the question. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report further on the advisability of providing fencing to the front gardens on this estate and as to what types of fencing are available.

1734—Permanent Aluminium Bungalows—Read letter from the Ministry of Health setting out particulars of the modifications introduced into the specification of temporary aluminium bungalows for the purposes of the permanent scheme. External walls would be increased by an additional 3/8" of foamed cement, fibre board ceiling would be replaced by plaster board and the skin of sisalcraft paper over the ceiling would be retained but the fibre glass blanket omitted. Two sheets of ½ "

insulation board would be fitted below the roof skin. The new design would reduce the risk of condensation in the roof space. Floor Boards would be increased to 7/8 "and flue pipes would be cast iron. The " Siesta " stove and shroud would be sited on a concrete slab and the hearth would be larger with a raised lip. The electric wiring would be modified and additional plug sockets fitted. Steel cupboards in bedrooms would be replaced by wardrobes and various steel fittings and doors replaced by timber. An extra row of piers would be introduced into the foundations.

1735—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Progress—The Borough Surveyor reported on progress made on this estate. Work was being held up by serious shortage of cement, especially Scheme No. 2 where only 4 more houses, for which foundations were prepared, could be started without further supplies of cement. The matter had been reported to the Progress Officer and also in the monthly return to the Ministry of Health.

(b) Sub-Contractors—Application was submitted from Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell for permission to employ Messrs. Drake Bros. as sub-contractors on brickwork for Scheme No. 2. This sub-contractor had commenced work pending approval and the Borough Surveyor recommended that this should be approved. One of the sub-contractors previously approved had commenced work and there were now a total of 20 bricklayers and four trainees on the site. RESOLVED, That the employment of Messrs. Drake Bros. as sub-contractors be approved.

(c) B.I.S.F. Houses—Water Heaters—Permission to fix sink water heaters in these houses was requested by the Cheltenham & District Gas Co., orders having been received from nine tenants. Approval had already been given in regard to Scheme No. 1 and the Gas Co., had undertaken to make good any work disturbed, upon removal. There was no alternative method of heating water in the B.I.S.F. Houses. RESOLVED, That approval to the fixing of sink heaters be given subject to any work disturbed being made good.

(d) House for Police-12 Pennine Road—Read letter from the Chief Constable asking that the rent which it was proposed to charge for this house should be reduced in view of the fact that it would cause financial hard-ship to the constable to whom it was to be let. It was pointed out that the maximum rent allowance approved by the Home Office was only 16s 6d per week, the balance being made good from the constable's salary. RESOLVED, That the differential rent scheme be applied to this house subject to the Chief Constable informing the Council of any change of tenants or their income. RESOLVED ALSO That the 16s 6d rent allowance be deemed to be part of the tenant's income for the purposes of the application of the scheme.

(e) Montal Watchfittings Ltd.—The Town Clerk submitted valuation of the District Valuer of the annual rental of the land which it was proposed to lease to Messrs. Montal Watchfittings Ltd., for the erection of six houses amounting to £33 per annum on the terms of the proposed 99 years lease. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the lease of the site to the Montal Watchfitting Co. for a term of 99 years at a rent of £33 per annum.

(f) Apprenticeship Scheme—The Borough Surveyor had invited tenders for the installation of hot water fittings in these houses to be received by 15th July. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be authorised to accept a tender.

(g) Materials—The Borough Surveyor had communicated with the Contractor, upon reports that cement had been removed from the site and was informed that this had been removed to replace cement borrowed from other sites to maintain progress on this estate. There had also been reports that timber had been removed from the site and this was at present under investigation, although it would be more difficult since timber was supplied against a licence for a particular job. The practice



of borrowing had necessarily become general among builders owing to shortage of materials. RESOLVED. That while the Committee appreciate the necessity of borrowing materials under existing conditions of supply they must require all contractors to observe strictly the terms in their contracts which provide that no materials shall be removed from the site unless authorised in writing by the Surveyor.

298

1736-Temporary Housing—The Knole—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made with site preparation ; 20 house slabs were completed with brickwork and 25 without, leaving 5 slabs to complete. 80% of the drainage was completed and with regard to roadworks kerb laying was in progress. The total value of the work completed was £4,385 and prime cost expenditure of works amounted to £4,219.

1737—Old People's Dwellings—The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. W. H. Bowd had evolved a new design for a bungalow for old people. It allowed the normal accommodation but there were no fireplaces and the roof was covered with thatch or alternatively asbestos sheets. The estimated price of the bungalow was £1,137. The Borough Surveyor reported that there was no site available- at present on which any of these bungalows could be erected. RESOLVED, That this new type of bungalow be borne in mind if a suitable site becomes available.

1738--Branch Library—St. Mark's—It was reported that the Public Library Committee had purchased a hut for use as a Branch Library to be erected on St. Mark's Estate. The Borough Surveyor submitted plan showing the suggested site for the hut on the Community Centre site, set back about 35 ft. from the hedge with separate entrance from the road. The hut would be fenced off from the Community Centre. RESOLVED, That the proposed site be approved.

1739—Whaddon Boys Club—Approval had now been received by the County Council from the Ministry of Education to the expenditure of £600 for fitting out the hut on Whaddon Playing Field to be used as a Boys' Club. The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that a revised estimate amounting to £582 11s. 0d. had been obtained and a further £26 would have to be expended to make good damage done to the hut. He had applied to the Ministry of Works for a licence. In the meantime a request had been made that repairs should be carried out to the hut forthwith as this was already in use. RESOLVED, That the repairs be put in hand immediately and that the remainder of the work be carried out when the licence is received.

1740—Estate Management Sub-Committee—The report of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 27th June was submitted. The following matters, inter alia, were dealt with.

(i) Seven applicants were interviewed and eight applications considered.

(ii) Permanent pre-fabricated houses--It was decided that the bungalows should be allocated as to 50% all electric and 50% gas and electric.

(iii) Conversions—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversion of requisitioned and various other properties.

| Address                 | Progress and Estimated Completion       |
|-------------------------|---|
| 36 Lansdown Crescent    | 2 weeks.                                |
| 1 & 2 Moorend Villas    | One week.                               |
| Northfield House        | Work commencing 30/6/47.                |
| 103 Montpellier Terrace | Revised tender with Ministry of Health. |
| 2 St. Georges Parade    | Direct labour, 3rd July.                |
| Clayton House ...       | Keys handed over 11 /6/47.              |
| 109 Old Bath Road       | Specification and plans to be prepared. |
| Oldfield Court          | Direct labour, 3rd July.                |

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1741-Requisitioning Sub-Committee—Reports of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 18th June and the 2nd July were submitted. Four properties were requisitioned and subsequently de-requisitioned on certain conditions. RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

1742—Staff—(a) Housing Assistant—(i) The Housing Manager reported that the establishment allowed for one Chief Assistant Housing Manager and 4 Assistant Housing Managers, increasing to 6 according to progress in erection of new houses, although at present only two assistant managers and one student assistant were employed. The Chairman and Housing Manager had now interviewed applicants and as there was no suitable trained applicant they decided to appoint Mrs. Badge as housing assistant in the Clerical Division (£252—£288). RESOLVED, That this appointment be approved.

(ii) The establishment also provided for an additional trained assistant in A.P.T. Division, Grade 1 for each 300 new houses completed. Since the establishment was fixed, 290 houses had now been completed and the Housing Manager recommended that advertisements should be issued now for another trained assistant. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) Chief Assistant—The Housing Manager reported that no suitable applications had yet been received for this appointment. RESOLVED, That this post be re-advertised if necessary.

(c) Min. 686—Student Assistant—The Housing Manager reported that the Student Assistant (Miss Marie) had now passed her examination and had completed 3 months practical training. She recommended that she now be placed in the A.P.T. Division Grade I in accordance with the establishment. RESOLVED, That the Chairman interview Miss Marie with a view to making a suitable recommendation.

(d) Interviewing Assistant—The Housing Manager reported that Miss Moore would probably be absent through illness for 4 or 5 months. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager be authorised to engage a temporary shorthand-typist on the temporary scales during Miss Moore's absence.

1743-Site for Public House—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Flower & Sons had been required to carry out extensive alterations to the living accommodation at Brunswick Arms in order to retain their licence. They did not consider that the proposed alterations would be entirely satisfactory and if they could be considered for a site of a Public House on one of the new estates being provided by the Council they would be willing to forgo their licence of the Brunswick Arms. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Flower & Sons be informed that if in due course they would like to submit

an offer for a building lease of a site on the Hesters Way Estate, the Committee will be prepared favourably to consider accepting a satisfactory offer.

299

1744—Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Compulsory Purchase Order—(a) The Town Clerk reported that as of Council, the Order had now been made and published, and the statutory instructed at the last meeting The time for objections would expire on the 26th July, and in submitting the Order to the notices given. Ministry, the Town Clerk urged that speedy consideration should be given to the objections as soon as possible after the 26th July, and that if the Minister decided to hold a local Inquiry, this should be held as soon as possible.

(b) The Borough Surveyor submitted preliminary layout plan of the whole estate. This had been so arranged as to leave out for the present, the land Nod. 4 belonging to Mr. Swain, and if as a result of the local Inquiry it was decided to exclude Mr. Townsend's land (Nod. 3) this could be done without interfering with the layout as a whole, and would enable the development of the two last mentioned pieces of land to be conveniently and economically fitted in to the layout if and when it was decided to build thereon, The Borough Surveyor had not been able to prepare a final layout plan, as the complete survey of the site would not be finished until the 9th July.

The Town Clerk reported Mr. L. Maggs had seen him on behalf of the owners of plots Nod. 9, 11 and 12, and he submitted letter and proposals which the Vice-Chairman had received from Mr. Maggs in respect of these plots. The proposals made by Mr. Maggs provided for the exclusion of plots Nod. 9 and 11 and a portion of plot Nod. 12, which would necessitate the acquisition of a piece of land further along Alma Road so as to give access to the remaining land. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable at this stage to entertain the proposals put forward by Mr. Maggs, and that he be informed the Committee consider it desirable for the objections to be dealt with by the Minister, and if necessary, at any local Inquiry which the Minister may deem it advisable to hold. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor's preliminary lay-out be approved in principle, and that he prepare the final layout plan so that as far as practicable if, as a result of consideration of objections by the Minister, he considers any particular piece of land should be excluded from the Order, this can be done without interfering with the layout as a whole, and that a special meeting of the Committee be held on the 28th July to approve the final layout plan with a view to this being submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.

(c) Site Development—The Town Clerk submitted circular from the Ministry of Health with regard to the Council's application for an allocation of pre-fabricated permanent bungalows. The total cost of each bungalow would be fixed by the Ministry and the cost to the Council after deducting the capital grant would be approximately £850, which is the comparable cost of a similar traditional house, and extra costs would form an additional charge on the local authority. Normal Exchequer contributions of £16 10s. 0d. for 60 years would be made.

Although the local authority would pay development costs outside the curtilages, arrangements had been made for this work to be carried out by the contractors nominated for the erection of the bungalows, should the Council so desire, on a schedule of prices about to be agreed by the Ministry. Local authorities were strongly urged to adopt this procedure, as the nominated contractors would have available all the latest mechanical equipment necessary to carry out the work speedily and would be able to develop the site and to construct foundation slabs concurrently. This arrangement should ensure that the work so undertaken would be geared to the production of the houses on the responsibility of the nominated contractors. If this procedure was not adopted, there was likely to

be considerable delay in handing over sites for slabbing unless the Council were able to complete the site development on the normal basis at a very early date.

A form of contract was being prepared between the manufacturers and the Ministry for use by local authorities.

It would be necessary for a considerable number of developed sites to be made available for slabbing now or in the near future, in order to be ready to receive the bungalows from November onwards. Arrangements were being made for sites to be visited shortly by representatives of the erection contractors and of the Ministry, in order to ascertain that they were suitable for this type of house, to assess the earliest possible date when they could be prepared and slabbed ready to receive the bungalows, and to discuss arrangements for carrying out the necessary work.

Where sites were ready developed and owned by the Council a 100% allocation of bungalows was assured. Local Authorities were urged to proceed with preparatory work without delay.

The Borough Surveyor although expressing a preference for the work to be carried out by a contractor working under a Specification and Bill in the normal way was of the opinion that it would be better in this case to adopt the Ministry's suggestion that the contractors nominated for the erection of the bungalows should carry out the work of site development, especially in view of the fact that there was extreme shortage in almost every kind of building material. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances the Council be recommended to enter into a contract with the contractors nominated for the erection of the bungalows to carry out the work of site development outside the house curtilages.

1745—Wimpey " No Fines " Houses—Read letter of the 3rd July from the Ministry of Health raising no objection to the acceptance of Messrs. Wimpey's tender for the 106 houses to be erected on the Lynworth Farm Estate on condition that the price for the 26 Type 24 houses is amended to conform to the national price if and when this is agreed as a result of the negotiations now in progress between the Contractors and the Ministry.

The Ministry were unable to agree to the Council's application for loan sanction including a sum of £600 for the Clerk of Works and £1,400 for a proportion of the Architect's and Quantity Surveyor's salaries, pointing out that consents to loan were issued on condition that no part of the salary or wages of the Council's permanent staff ordinarily charged to revenue should be defrayed out of loan monies.

In applying for loan sanction, the Council should exclude therefrom the amount of capital grant under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1946, being the difference in the national price for the Wimpey house and the ruling price for a traditional house of a similar size.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Town Clerk point out to the Ministry of Health that the Clerk of Works is an employee whose wages are not now ordinarily charged to revenue account but who is engaged specifically and wholly for housing work on Lynworth Farm Estate and that his wages should be included in the loan sanction as part of the capital cost of the erection of the houses.

(b) That the application for loan sanction be amended as required by the Ministry with the exception that the sum of £600 for Clerk of Works be included.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman.

## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**11th July, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter and Yeend.

1746-Superintendent's Report—During the month of June there were 62 interments and 28 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position 3 ; 2nd position 2 ; 3rd position 1 4th position 7. New memorials erected 9. Additional inscriptions 12.

1747—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,541 to 11,553 inclusive.

1748—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4384 to 4399 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

1749—Priors Farm Housing Estate--(Min. 1531)—The Superintendent reported he had discussed the question of screening this estate from the cemetery with the Gardens Superintendent. The narrowness of the right grass verge at the entrance prevented the planting of a wide mixed shrubbery to screen the housing estate, and the Super-intendent recommended as an alternative, thoroughly cleaning out the existing hedge bottom to revive it, and renewing weak places with fresh thorns. An additional six inches top growth could also be encouraged. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

1750—Garden of Remembrance—Extension—The Superintendent reported a commencement had been made with the area in front of the Lych Gate, and ten beds prepared and planted with annuals for summer display. It was hoped to prepare the beds thoroughly in the autumn in readiness for bush roses, as a continuation of the existing formal rose garden.

1751—Book of Remembrance and Grave Maintenance—The Superintendent submitted statistics showing that since the 1st April, 355 entries had been received for inclusion in the Book of Remembrance, the revenue amounting to approximately £390. During the same period receipts of £112 had been received in respect of grave maintenance.

1752—Footpath— The Superintendent reported that since the construction of the Priors Farm Estate, considerable dam-age was being caused through children using the footpath through the Cemetery after the Cemetery was closed. The Town Clerk reported that this footpath extended from Harp Hill to Bouncers Lane, and was a public footpath, but that a portion of it across Oakley Farm belonging to the Government had been stopped up by an Order under the Defence Regulations during the war. The Planning Committee were looking into the question of whether this footpath could not now be opened again. RESOLVED, That the attention of the Planning Committee be called to the nuisance caused by this footpath, and that they be asked to consider whether, in view of the fact that a considerable portion of the footpath is now built on by the Priors Farm Estate and the Oakley Farm government offices, it would not be reasonable to apply for the closing of the footpath.

1753—Cemetery Fees—The Town Clerk submitted correspondence with the Rector of Cheltenham in regard to the fees paid to Ministers for services at interments and cremations. He also reported the earlier correspondence he had had with other denominations. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk prepare a tabulated statement of fees charged in other comparable towns and that the matter be further considered at the September meeting to which representatives of the various denominations be invited to attend to discuss the matter.

1754—Maintenance of Graves—Graves, Section O. Nos. 9889/9890 and 9891 (reserve plot). The Town Clerk sub-mitted application for the Council to undertake the perpetual upkeep of these graves, on payment of the lump sum of £150. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, and the Common Seal affixed to an agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

1755—Bronze Plaques—The Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed enquiries had been made from four firms in connection with the engraving of bronze plaques, and submitted tender received from the Birmingham Guild Ltd. Messrs. Martyn & Co. Ltd. had also been asked to tender, but had not yet done so. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman he authorised to accept the most favourable tender.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**7<sup>th</sup> July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Compton (Chairman), the Mayor, Alderman Smith, Councillor-Addis, J. Bendall, Fildes, Midwinter and Waite.

1756-Visitors' Quarterly Report—The Visitors reported upon their quarterly inspection of park, and recreation grounds—

(a) Naunton Park-The long grass and nettles on the surrounds required cutting ; flowering plants should be provided for the beds in the ornamental portion, particularly near the Hay Cottage Homes asphalt near the park entrance and door of the men's conveniences to be repaired. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent be instructed accordingly.

(b) Victory Sports Ground—The pitch required rolling with a heavy roller and the numerous plantain:: in the turf removed. The highways roller was not available in the day-time but to avoid hiring a roller from sham the Borough Surveyor would see if he could arrange for his employees to do the work in the evening, overtime rates. He was also providing supports for the ashes forming the stands by the transfer of approximately 30 sleepers from the Highways Department at a cost of 7s each. He would erect the additional covered stand and provide guard rails before next month.

301

RESOLVED, (i) That the arrangements suggested by the Borough Surveyor in regard to a roller be accepted.

(ii) That the transfer of sleepers be approved and the Borough Surveyor asked to complete all work before the commencement of the football season. (iii) That in view of the condition of the surface, the Club be informed that the Committee propose, in next year's estimates, to make provision for reinstatement work and to enable this to be carried out satisfactorily, it may be necessary to close the ground for several months, even extending into the football season.

(c) Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—The giant strides needed repair and also the asphalt surface. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor execute the work.

(d) Pittville Gardens—Lakes--The lower lake was in extremely had condition due to weeds and unless the Gardens Superintendent kept the weeds in check it would probably be necessary to terminate boating for this season. The Gardens Superintendent stated that five men were daily employed and it was only by this means that boating could continue. The Borough Surveyor stated both lakes required to be thoroughly cleaned. If only the lower lake was cleaned, within a short time weeds and silt from the upper lake would percolate and expenditure would be wasted. He recommended that

tenders for cleaning out both lakes be invited forthwith and steps taken to find a suitable site near to the lakes upon which spoil could be deposited. RESOLVED, That tenders be invited and that the Borough Surveyor endeavour to secure the use of a site on which spoil can be tipped.

(e) St. Peter's Recreation Ground—The Gardens Superintendent had not yet commenced reinstatement as delay had occurred in cutting the high grass. An opportunity might now be taken of adapting and laying out the strip of land adjacent to the Moors Estate to form a rest garden for use by older residents in the neighbourhood. RESOLVED, (i) That the ground be closed forthwith and notices erected of the Council's reconstruction scheme.

(ii) That the Gardens Superintendent endeavour to get the grass mown without delay and commence reinstatement work.

(iii) That the Gardens Superintendent submit to the next meeting a layout for the rest garden as proposed.

(iv) That the suggested allocation of land between the various Committees as shown on the plan now sub-mitted by the Borough Surveyor, be approved so far as this Recreation Ground is concerned (Min. 1486).

(v) That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to purchase 15 cwts. of grass seed mixture for autumn sowing at an approximate cost of £185.

1757—Territorial Army Recruiting Campaign—Lieut. Col. R. D. Nightingale the Officer commanding 498 H.A.A. Regiment TA, attended. With a view to stimulating interest in recruiting for the Territorial Army, a mobile A.A. Column was being sent to visit Cheltenham and Gloucester on 25th and 26th August. The column would consist of two mobile guns, a mobile control room, and mobile radar set. He desired to obtain a central site for the 25th August where the demonstrations, could be given. He asked if he might have the site in Imperial Gardens now occupied by the summer orchestra marquee, which it was understood would be removed before that date. The Gardens Superintendent raised no objection to the proposal, but drew attention to the soft nature of the surface and the danger of heavy vehicles sinking in the ground. If however, it was very wet it would be possible for the vehicles to be stationed in the road on the south side of Imperial Square, but as the radar set required an open site, this van might be set up on the site formerly occupied by the Crimean guns. RESOLVED, That the Town Improvement Committee be recommended to grant the use of the site in Imperial Gardens if the military authorities considered this suitable, failing which the Street & Highway Committee be recommended to approve the use of the south side of Imperial Square.

1758—Land Albert Road (Min. 1487)—The Gloucester Co-operative Society considered that the decision, that so long as the field was used as a sports field access be afforded to Albert Road subject to the Society contributing 10s per foot towards the cost of piping the ditch, was excessive. The cost would amount to approximately £355 and would add considerably to the layout. The Society, however, raised no objection to the condition that if, and when the land was sold for building purposes a contribution towards the cost of making up the road and footpath would be required. They pointed out that their development would require the erection of a substantial pavilion, to which they presumed there would be no objection. RESOLVED, (i) That the Society the actual entrance or entrances required, it being understood that if at any time in the future the land ceased an equivalent charge in respect of the whole of the land developed. (ii) That Min. 1487 be varied accordingly.

(iii) That this Committee raised no objection to the erection of a pavilion subject to the approval of the PLANNING COMMITTEE.

1759—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—School Canteen—[Min. 744 (b)]—The District Valuer had valued the site to be sold to the County Council, at £125. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1760—Athletic Ground (a) Professional Boxing Tournament—The Gloucestershire Association of Boys' Clubs asked for the use of the ground on a date in August for a boxing tournament similar to last year, in aid of their funds. RESOLVED, That the application be granted at the usual hire charge of £5 subject to a suitable date being selected ; to compliance with the requirements of the Gardens Superintendent ; and to the Club being responsible for making good any damage.

(b) Wrestling—Mr. J. Atherton, R. & A. Wrestling Promotions, Manchester, was willing to promote free style wrestling contests at the Athletic Ground on 7th and 14th August. The Entertainments Sub-Committee recommended that the application be granted and would provide and transport chairs and make other arrangements. RESOLVED, That the application be granted at the usual hire charge of £5 for each occasion the promoter to be responsible for any damage sustained.

302

(c) Athletic Training—Messrs. Marks & Spencer Ltd. wished to obtain a ground for training on one or two evenings a week from 6 to, 8 p.m. as their Cheltenham branch staff desired to take part in an area sports meeting in September. RESOLVED, That the application be granted during the time the ground was in the Councils occupation, namely to 31st August next at a charge of 10s per evening, the Gardens Superintendent to allocate convenient dates to avoid clashing with other fixtures.

1761—Pilley Recreation Ground—The occupier of 168 Leckhampton Road complained of continued extensive damage to his orchard by children using this recreation ground, alleging that his fruit was being stolen, and he was unable to use the orchard for young poultry. He considered it was unreasonable for the Council to use the ground in such a manner as to cause annoyance and damage to adjacent occupiers and he could not accept the suggestion that he should provide a fence at his own expense and on his own land as his existing fence was quite adequate for normal purposes. If the Council proceeded with their previous proposal to erect an unclimbable iron fence, he was willing to contribute to the cost and possibly the Delancey Hospital Trustees, as the owners of the land, might also make a contribution. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain estimates for the fencing as indicated, and that the Delancey Hospital Trustees be asked to bear one-third of the cost, the balance being apportioned equally between the occupier and the Council.

1762—Hatherley Park—Mr A. W. Marshall had offered to sell nine acres of undeveloped building land adjoining this park, which would form a useful extension thereto. The views of the Housing Committee were being obtained as a portion of the area might be allocated for housing. RESOLVED, That the District Valuer be asked to negotiate terms for the purchase of the land and that in due course consideration be given to the area to be included in the Park and the portion which might be allocated for houses to be erected by private enterprise.

1763—Montpellier Gardens—Pavilion—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had abandoned their proposal to use this building as a roller skating rink and now proposed to adapt it as a sports and social centre for use by tennis players and others. The arrangements would include the service of light refreshments both in the building and on the adjacent lawns and approval was sought to the latter. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised thereto.



1764—Pittville Gardens and Marle Hill Annexe--Refreshments—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had carefully considered this Committee's suggestion that catering facilities be provided at these Gardens, particularly at week-ends. They had decided for this season, to serve light refreshments on Sundays only, but intended to extend the facilities next season when a Catering Supervisor was appointed. The Entertainments Manager suggested a more central position than the Pump Room was required, and to avoid hire of water heaters, marquee and other equipment, he recommended the temporary use of a room in the Chalet which was connected with both water and electricity. In bad weather teas could be served in the Chalet room and on other days on the lawns. The Committee were not entirely in favour of this position but it seemed the best expedient for this season. With regard to Marle Hill Annexe, however, they were of opinion that the sale of refreshments should also be extended thereto. RESOLVED, That approval be given for the use of the Chalet room as suggested for a trial period of four weeks when the position be reviewed. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Improvement Committee be recommended again to ask the Ministry of Food to grant a licence to enable the mobile van to operate in the Marle Hill Annexe even if sales are limited to tea, coffee and minerals.

1765—Sandford Park—Paddling Pool—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the Pool had now been filled. The reason for delay was the labour involved in frequent draining and cleaning. This was necessary to remove broken bottles and other articles likely to cause serious injury to children. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

766--Football Season, 1947/48—The Gardens Superintendent had received a number of applications for football pitches and proposed to make recommendations to the next meeting. In the meantime, however, he suggested that Clubs accommodated on the recreation grounds and in a position to make a contribution towards the cost of preparation, marking out and rolling pitches should pay a sum of 7s 6d per match and he recalled that for this season a charge had been made for preparation of cricket pitches. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

1767 -Purchase of Bulbs—The Gardens Superintendent sought authority to purchase approximately 16, 000 bulbs for next season at a cost of £260. 60% of the bulbs used last season were in good condition and could be used for certain layouts but he reminded the Committee that after three years, few, if any bulbs, were fit for display purposes. RESOLVED, That the purchase be authorised.

1768—Staff—Landscape Foreman—In view of the work now falling on the Department, and in particular the layout of the sports area at Pittville, the Gardens Superintendent recommended the appointment of an experienced landscape foreman. RESOLVED, That applications be invited by public advertisement at a wage of £6 10s. per week inclusive of war and basic wage increases, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman being empowered to make a suitable appointment.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman.

303

| No. of Plan | Name | Description | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|------|-------------|------------------------------|--|
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|------|---------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 5514 | V. W. Lane                      | Building for sausage-making. Victoria Place.         | Approved   | Approved for a period of 10 years from the date of consent as the building is in a re-development area. |
| 6114 | A. Barnett                      | Garage, 68 Marle Hill Parade                         | Approved at previous meeting                             | Approved.   |
| 6147 | H. Knight                       | Conservatory and coal bunker,<br>16 Cleevemount Road | Approved   | Approved.   |
| 6169 | B. C. Kempson                   | Workshops, 134 St. George's Road                     | Approved   | Approved subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.                     |
| 6190 | Marshalls (Charlton Kings) Ltd. | Garage,<br>309 Hatherley Road                        | Approved   | Deferred.   |
| 6191 | W. P. Lloyd-Jones               | Garage, Ashleworth,<br>Sydenham Villas Road          | Exempt   | Deferred.   |
| 6192 | H. J. Beale                     | Garage,<br>41 Arle Avenue                            | Disapproved.   | Approved.   |
| 6193 | A. H. Steventon                 | Greenhouse,<br>205 Swindon Road                      | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6194 | S. R. Barton                    | Cycle and store shed,<br>7 Wordsworth Avenue.        | Approved subject to the consent of the Housing Committee | Approved.   |
| 6195 | A. E. Clarke                    | Garage, Winton,<br>Warden Hill Road                  | Approved for a period of 3 months only                   | Approved.   |
| 6196 | A. Brown                        | Garage,<br>2 Orchard Way                             | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6197 | W. Hall                         | Garage,<br>81 Clyde Crescent                         | Approved subject to consent of the Housing Committee     | Deferred.   |
| 6198 | B. Lee-White                    | Extension of garage,<br>Hilton Lodge, Westall Green  | Disapproved  | Deferred.   |

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| 6199        | Gough-Cooke, Sons & Co. Ltd. | Extensions to works, 60 Fairview Road            | Approved.  | Approved until the 31st December, 1956, as the site is in a proposed re-development area. |
| 6200        | R. F. Curtis                 | Cycle and tool shed, 2 Marsh Terrace, Marsh Lane | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6201        | J. F. Broom                  | Alterations, 10 Fairfield Park Rd.               | Approved subject to sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector  | Approved.   |
| 6202        | R. S. Pearce                 | Garage, 11 Merriville Road                       | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6203        | D. Tartaglia                 | Ice-cream preparation room, 18 Hope Street       | Approved as in Plan No. 6201   | Approved to the 31st December, 1950, as the site is in a proposed re-development area     |
| 6204        | F. Townsend                  | Alterations and additions, 6 Moorend Street      | Approved as in Plan No. 6201   | Approved.   |
| 6205        | C. G. K. Mayberry            | Garage, Belmont, Hewlett Road                    | Disapproved  | Deferred.   |
| 305         |                              |  |  |   |
| No. of Plan | Name                         | Description                                      | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
| 6206        | Miss D. M. Wills             | Conversion of 9 Oxford Parade, into 3 flats      | Approved as in Plan No. 6201 and to the basement not being used for human habitation without the approval of the Public Health Committee | Approved subject to provision in regard to basement mentioned in previous column.         |
| 6207        | L. G. Ireland                | Detached house, Shurdington Road                 | Approved.  | Approved subject to satisfactory materials  |

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| 6208 | W. Ashcroft                   | Rebuilding of outhouse,<br>280 High Street                    | Approved as in Plan<br>No. 6201 and sub-<br>ject to requirements<br>under the Food and<br>Drugs Acts | being used externally.<br>Approved until the<br>31st March, 1954, as<br>the site is in a<br>proposed<br>re-development area.  |
| 6209 | E. T. S. Shill                | New saw mill,<br>Naunton Lane                                 | Approved   | Approved as a<br>temporary building for<br>a period of 10 years<br>from the date of<br>consent and to the<br>building being painted<br>green or other<br>approved colour. |
| 6201 | J. Loveridge                  | Additions, 38 St.<br>Paul's Street North                      | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved for a period<br>of 10 years from date<br>of consent as property<br>is in proposed<br>re-development area.  |
| 6211 | G. Chapple                    | Additions, The Bakery,<br>Rear of Gt. Norwood<br>Street       | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved as above.  |
| 6212 | R. Greenslade                 | Additions,<br>2 Dagmar Road                                   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved.   |
| 6213 | T. L. Thompson                | Block of 2 flats,<br>Shurdington Road                         | Approved   | Approved, subject to<br>approval under<br>Restriction of Ribbon<br>Development Act,<br>1935.  |
| 6214 | Dr. J. M. Salsbury            | Greenhouse,<br>162 Leckhampton Rd.                            | Exempt   | Approved, subject as in<br>plan 6213.   |
| 6215 | Cheltenham<br>College Council | New bathroom,<br>Boyne House,<br>College Road                 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved.   |
| 6216 | Cheltenham<br>College Council | Additions,<br>6 Montpelier Grove                              | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved.   |
| 6217 | Dentons Ltd.                  | Alterations to form<br>Manager's flat,<br>366-367 High Street | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6201  | Approved.   |
| 6218 | T. Beckingham                 | Garage,<br>119 Brooklyn Road                                  | Exempt   | Approved.   |

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| 6219 | Cheltenham Corporation | Branch Library, Brooklyn Road | Approved | Approved. |
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(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name                        | Description   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 2291        | Mrs. Dandy                  | Proposed Garage, Park Grange, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings.                   | Approved.  |
| 2306        | Rev. R. E. Grice-Hutchinson | Proposed house, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings.                                 | Approved subject to satisfactory material being used externally. |
| 2307        | H. J. Humphris              | Conversion of outbuildings into bungalow. Waddleys, Ham Road, Charlton Kings. | Approved.  |
| 23(01)      | C. T. Boulter               | Proposed tool and store shed. 5 Brookway Drive, Charlton Kings.               | Approved.  |
| 2109        | F. Neather                  | Proposed bungalow. Church Street, Charlton Kings.                             | Approved as in Plan No. 2306.                                    |

306

| No. of Plan | Name                              | Description   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 2310        | Messrs. John Williams             | Proposed coal office. G.W.R. Station, Bishops Cleeve.                               | Approved.   |
| 2311        | Cheltenham Rural District Council | Proposed garage. Off Prestbury, Southam main road.                                  | Approved subject to trees being planted to form a satisfactory screen from the main road. |
| 2312        | R. E. Pocket                      | Proposed garden tool shed. 30 New Barn Avenue, Prestbury.                           | Approved.   |
| 2313        | H. C. Grellier                    | Proposed conversion of house into two houses. Hyde Farm, Swindon.                   | Approved.   |
| 2314        | Messrs. Cook Bros.                | Proposed packing shed and conversion of one house into two houses. Swindon Gardens, | Approved subject to new work harmonising with the existing building and to the            |

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|      |  | Tewkesbury Road.  | consent of the Public Health Committee to the sewer connections. |
| 2315 | Mrs. E. B. Sadd                        | Conversion of garage into fish shop. Greyholme, Bishops Cleeve.         | Approved.  |
| 2316 | H. Davenport                           | Proposed garage and tool shed. Droylesden, Shurdington Road, Bentham.   | Deferred.  |
| 2317 | R. V. Atkinson                         | Proposed greenhouse. Nambour, Kidnappers Lane, Leckhampton.             | Approved.  |
| 2318 | Lt.-Col. Davey                         | Proposed outbuildings. Kerrs Hill Cottage, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote. | Disapproved.   |
| 2319 | G. J. Stevens                          | Proposed greenhouse. Sunnybank, Noverton Lane, Prestbury.               | Approved.  |
| 2320 | W. D. Edginton                         | Proposed coal shed. Oakside, Bishops Cleeve.                            | Approved.  |
| 2321 | J. C. Adcock                           | Proposed store and garage. Gambles House, Gambles Lane, Woodmancote.    | Approved subject to the roof being painted an approved colour.   |
| 2322 | H. H. Williams                         | Proposed coal bunker, The Vineries, Leckhampton.                        | Approved.  |
| 2323 | Messrs. S. Smith & Sons (England) Ltd. | Proposed new bathroom, porch and kitchen, Field Farm, Bishops Cleeve.   | Approved.  |
| 2324 | Miss I. M. Skinner                     | Proposed cycle shed, 3 Maisonette, Brynmore Avenue, Prestbury.          | Deferred.  |
| 2325 | Winchcombe Branch British Legion       | Proposed Army but and toilet accommodation, Castle Street, Winchcombe.  | Approved as temporary building until, the 31st December, 1952.   |

1770—Development Plans—(a) Winchcombe—Application from Messrs. Young & Gilling on behalf of Major Adlard for permission to erect a house in the field at the rear of the hospital. The field had been scheduled in the draft scheme for allotments to compensate for the loss of the allotments fronting Langley Road, in the event of those being required for building purposes. The Ministry of Agriculture were prepared to release this land from the reservation on condition that the existing allotments in Field No. 497 were scheduled for permanent allotments, and the owner had agreed to the whole of this field being scheduled for this purpose. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, subject to the submission and approval of detailed plans and to not more than

one acre of land being attached to the house, and that the remaining three acres were used for agricultural purposes. ALSO RESOLVED, That the draft scheme map be amended accordingly.

(b) Tennyson Road—Application from Miss R. Perkins to use No. 61 Tennyson Road as a nursing home. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as the premises were in an area proposed to be scheduled for residential purposes only.

(c) St. James' Street—Messrs. Watterson Moore & Co., applied on behalf of Mr. G. R. Guttell to use Nos. 40 42 St. James Street for a warehouse. RESOLVED, That the application be granted until the 30th June, 1957, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell and to the Borough Surveyor being satisfied that the floors were of sufficient strength for the purpose.

(d) Bath Road—Mr. A. H. Hudson made application to use No. 158 Bath Road for light engineering, purposes for the manufacture of small metal components, namely hypodermic syringes for the medical and dental professions. The premises were formerly used as a shop and were in the shopping area and had been used during the war as a warehouse by the Army. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for a period of five years from the date of consent, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, fumes, noise or smell, to ingress and egress being confined entirely to the side and back entrances and to the Borough Surveyor being satisfied as to the strength of the floors.

(e) St. George's Road—Application to use Bargate, St. George's Road as a nursing home. RESOLVED, That consent be granted, subject to no nuisance being caused to owners or occupiers of the surrounding properties by such use, and to approval of the Housing Committee under Defence Regulation 68 C.A.

306

(f) Lypiatt Lawn—Application to use No. 1 Lypiatt Lawn as a nursing home. RESOLVED, That consent be granted subject to no nuisance being caused to owners or occupiers of the surrounding properties by such approval of the Housing Committee under Defence Regulation 68 C.A.

(g) Shurdington Road, Leckhampton—Application from Mr. C. W. Parkes to erect a bungalow on land fronting Shurdington Road, Leckhampton. The site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes, there were no sewers in the area and the proposed development would interfere with the bypass proposed the County Council. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(h) Badgeworth Lane—Messrs. Cheltenham Woodcraft Ltd. applied for permission to use two workshops off Badgeworth Lane for woodwork assembly. The premises were unsuitable for use as a workshop and the site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes. The firm were making every effort to find more suitable accommodation. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for a period of three months, and in the meantime the firm be asked to find more suitable accommodation elsewhere.

(i) Four Winds Guest House, Cleeve Hill—Application was submitted for permission to erect a sign at Four Winds Guest House, Cleeve Hill, advertising bed and breakfast. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(j) Victoria Walk—The Ministry of Works applied for permission to erect a new battery room adjoining the telephone exchange in Vittoria Walk. A building line had been adopted for that portion of the road in 1937, and this coincided with the corner of the then existing building. Further extensions had been made subsequent to that date, which brought the telephone exchange in front

of the building line, and the proposed battery room would continue the projection. The proposed erection was of a temporary nature. RESOLVED, That consent be granted subject to the building being removed when the new telephone exchange was erected.

(k) Clare Street—Application was submitted from the Comet Auto Service Ltd. to erect a garage on a plot of land in Clare Street. RESOLVED, That approval be granted for a period ending 31st December, 1955, as the site was in an area proposed to be scheduled for re-development, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell, and to detailed plans being submitted to, and approved by the Committee,

1771—Building Restrictions (War-time Contraventions) Act 1946—(a) Crown Factory, Stoke Orchard—Win. 1639) The Town Clerk reported that as instructed at the last meeting of the Council, he had urged the Ministry of Supply to put the Council in a position at the earliest possible moment to consider the application for a determination permitting the above factory to be used by Roy Fedden Ltd. for light engineering production work. A letter, dated 8th July, from the Ministry was submitted, stating that their application was made on the assumption that the approval of the Board of Trade to the removal of the present limitation of use of the factory to research and development work would be forthcoming. The Board of Trade had now decided not to approve the use of the factory for production purposes, and in view of this decision, the Ministry of Supply considered it inappropriate to proceed, and the application was withdrawn, The Town Clerk also submitted letter, dated 9th July, from Sir Roy Fedden enclosing copy of a letter dated 7th July from the Board of Trade in which it was stated that after consultation with other departments concerned, the Board were unable to agree to a revision of the terms on which the factory was allocated to Roy Fedden Ltd., and that after a careful review of the position in the Cheltenham/Gloucester area, it was felt that the objections, particularly on labour grounds, to the use of the factory for other than research and development work, were too strong to be overcome, The Ministry repeated their offer to assist Sir Roy Fedden if he would consider undertaking production in a development area. RESOLVED, That as the Ministry of Supply have now withdrawn their application for a determination, this Committee were unable to take further action.

(b) Married Quarters Estate, Bishops Park, Bishops Cleeve—Application was submitted from the Ministry of Works for a formal determination in respect of the Married Quarters Estate at Bishops Park, Bishops Cleeve. Notice of the application had been published, and notices served on all persons who appeared to be affected. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the buildings failed to comply with the planning proposals in that the land on which the buildings were erected was proposed to be scheduled for rural purposes only hereby determine that having regard to all relevant circumstances, the works shall, notwithstanding the failure to comply with planning control, be deemed so to comply, subject to the buildings being removed at the expiration of 10 years from the date of this determination.

1772—Elmstone Hardwicke—Erection of Eight Houses—Mr. H. J. Williams notified his intention to appeal against the Committee's decision refusing permission to the erection of eight houses at Elmstone Hardwicke. The Planning Officer reported that the applicant had requested the Ministry to defer the date for submission of the appeal indefinitely, as certain alterations were being made to the original scheme which might be satisfactory.

1773—Reddings Road—Diversion—The Street and Highway Committee recommended [Min. 1580(b)] that a piece of land adjoining the railway near Hatherley Bridge be purchased by the Council, as its present condition considerably detracted from the amenities of the area. The Town Clerk advised



that the Council had, at Present, no power to buy the land for this reason. RESOLVED, That having regard to the unsuitability of the site for any specific purpose, no action be taken thereon.

1774—Control of Mineral Workings—Circular 32/47, Ministry of Town and Country Planning was submitted indicating that whilst progress had been made in deciding the future of existing quarries, many cases remained outstanding and it was impracticable to settle them all by 30th June, 1947. The Minister had accordingly amended the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946. so as to permit the continued working of existing quarries, for a further six months from the 30th June, 1947.

1775—Sunshine Laundry, Churchill Road—Application was submitted from the Sunshine Laundry for permission to increase the height of the chimney stack of this laundry to 39 feet. RESOLVED, That having regard to the present fuel difficulties, consent be given, but that the Laundry be requested to consider the advisability installing a mechanical stoker at the laundry as soon as possible in order to minimise the possibility of nuisance from smoke.

307

1776-1 Andover Place Temporary Shed—Application was submitted from Mr. D. E. Bendall asking for reconsideration of the Committee's decision refusing consent to the erection of a small temporary shed at these premises. He occupied the top floor flat, and the shed was required to avoid the necessity of carrying a perambulator up and down the stairs. RESOLVED, That consent be given for a period of 12 months from the date of consent and that Min. 1300 (j) be varied accordingly.

1777—Preservation of Trees—Queens, Stutfield and Thrift Woods (Min. 940)—Application was made to the Minister of Town and Country Planning for an Order under Section 8 of the Town and Country (Interim Development) Act, 1943, for the interim protection of these woods. The Minister had forwarded a copy of the Council's Order to the Board of Trade, who were responsible for the authorisation of all substantial tree felling operations. Arrangements between the two departments ensured that no licences were issued in respect of trees or woodlands covered by interim orders except after due consideration, and in these circumstances the Minister decided not to give provisional approval to the Order, but to follow the customary procedure. The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Minister's request submission of the Orders had been advertised.

1778—Signs and Advertisements (Min. 1305)—In accordance with instructions the owners of signs contravening the byelaws were requested to remove such signs. Certain difficulties had arisen, particularly in the Montpellier area, but a number of owners had complied with the request. Messrs. Mason Lang applied for permission to retain the sign of Messrs. Haines and Strange, Ltd., on the Gloucester Road for a further period of two years. Messrs. Mills and Rockley asked that consideration of their advertisement stations be deferred until the Town and Country Planning Bill became law. RESOLVED, That the requests be not acceded to and the firms be required to remove the signs in question. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer discuss the signs in the Montpellier area with the owners and report.

1779—Heston Rubber Company, Portland Street—Letters were submitted complaining of alleged nuisance at these premises. The Planning Officer had interviewed the manager who stated that the premises, taken over from another Company, were unsuitable, and they were endeavouring to obtain alternative accommodation in the district. The Board of Trade however, desired the firm to transfer to South Wales. Works were being carried out to eliminate the complaints. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at the present time, and that the Planning Officer assist the Company as far as possible in obtaining alternative accommodation.

1780—Planning Officer—Salary (Min. 1139)--The County Council had been asked to approve of the Planning Officer being placed, as from 1st September last, mid-way in the scale of salary applicable for the time being to the Deputy County Planning Officer, namely £650 per annum, plus 10% temporary increase and cost of living bonus. The County Council stated that whilst Mr. Streater's long service and experience was appreciated, they still adhered to their previous decision that he should commence at the minimum of the scale, which salary (£600 p.a. plus 10%, namely £660) Mr. Streater had been paid as from the 1st September, 1946, RESOLVED, That the salary of the Planning Officer be increased to £650 per annum, plus 10% temporary increase (£715) and cost of living bonus as from 1st September last, the Council to bear the difference between the salary approved by the County Council and that now recommended, i.e., £55 for the first year. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to concur in this proposal.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**11th July, 1947.** Present-Alderman Waite (Chairman); The Mayor; Aldermen Smith and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Fildes, Mann, Morris and Waite; Messrs. Baring and Palmer.

1781—Entertainments Sub-Committee--The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 25th June (report circulated here-with).

RESOLVED,

(i) That with the exception of Item 4, the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 2, Winter Dance Orchestra-That a special meeting of this Committee be held on 23rd July to consider recommendations for the engagement of a dance orchestra.

(iii) Item 4, Morning Concerts-The Committee felt that to discontinue the morning concerts was a retrograde step and decided that a Trio be engaged until the financial provision in the estimates was exhausted and that a charge of 3d. per person, to include the Spa waters available, should be made. The position would be reviewed before the end of the year, and, if necessary, a recommendation made to the Council (It the provision of additional expenditure.

(iv) Item 8, Refreshments at Pittville-That the decision of the Parks Committee to permit light refreshments temporarily to be served on Sundays from a room in the chalet and adjacent lawns, be noted, and that to extend catering to Marle Hill Annexe the mobile van (for which a " peripatetic " food licence cannot be obtained) be towed to Marle Hill and placed in position for the remainder of the season and used for this purpose.

(v) That the Music Festivals Advisory Committee be congratulated upon the outstanding • success of the 1947 annual Music Festival, with special mention of the work undertaken by the Entertainments Manager.

308

1782—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee-The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 1st July (report circulated herewith, together with report of joint meeting with Hotels Association on 7th July). RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 1(b), Plan for the Inclusion of the Spa in the New Health Service. That when the observations of the Hospital Medical Board and Bristol University have been obtained upon the draft plan, the same be submitted in due course to the Regional Hospitals Board and that, in the meantime, the Town Clerk prepare a report upon the general and legal implications of the position.

1783—New Guide—Copies of the new' guide were distributed to members of the Committee and the publishers were now making frequent deliveries. Intending visitors to the town had already complained of the lack of in-formation of accommodation at small and inexpensive hotels and boarding houses. The Committee fully realised the difficulties of the Chamber of Commerce but considered that if local press advertisements were inserted inviting offers of accommodation for short-stay visitors in the Summer months and also for conferences, some response was likely and this information could be circulated with the new guide, or, alternatively, with the Chamber's accommodation folder. RESOLVED, That the Chamber of Commerce be pressed to make further efforts to supplement the present inadequate list of small hotels and boarding houses.

1784--Cheltenham Spa Open Competitive Music Festival—The Competitive Festival Committee reported to the Chamber of Commerce on the several serious handicaps connected with the 1947 Festival. Certain sections were still omitted but, even so, there were 3,500 entries, the total competitors, including choirs, numbering 5,000 making it one of the largest Festivals in the country. The result was that the timetable was crowded, the Adjudicators over-worked and everything rushed largely due to insufficient accommodation. If the Festival was to maintain its prestige and develop further, the Town Hall would be required for a fort-night. This was not possible in 1948 owing to existing commitments, but application was made for 1949 for this reservation. For the 1948 Festival the Town Hall would be required from 1st to 9th May, excluding the evening of 1st May, the Playhouse on the evenings of 3rd and 4th May, the whole day on 5th May and a portion of 6th May ; when the Playhouse was not free another building would be required. RESOLVED, That the application be referred to the Entertainments Sub-Committee with a suggestion that when the Town Hall and Playhouse are not available the Services Club might be used by arrangement with Cavendish House Co. Ltd.

1785---Summer Music—(a) A suggestion was made at the last Council meeting that the Summer orchestra in Imperial Gardens should play during the lunch interval on certain week-days. The Entertainments Manager had discussed the proposal with the Musical Director but the latter found some difficulties. From information available from other towns it appeared that where such facilities had been provided the support was dis-appointing even though in large cities, as compared with Cheltenham, many more workers coming from the outskirts were unable to return home at mid-day. RESOLVED, That the Council be informed that it was not practicable to provide the suggested amenity this season.

(b) Cheltenham Silver Band—This band, comprising 26 instrumentalists, was willing to give performances in any of the parks and gardens on Sunday afternoons and evenings commencing on 31st August and extending into September. RESOLVED, That subject to the Chairman of the Entertainments Sub-Committee and the Entertainments Manager being satisfied with the standard of performance, the band be engaged at the conclusion of the Summer orchestra to give two performances on Sunday 31st August and on one or two Sundays in September, at a fee of £15 per Sunday.

1786—Territorial Army Recruiting Campaign—(Min. 1757 Parks Committee)—RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Parks Committee in regard to the use of a site in Imperial Gardens (now

occupied by the Summer orchestra marquee) for a mobile A.A. column on 25th and 26th August be approved.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**14th July, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Green and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Midwinter, Strickland and Ward.

1787—Street Lighting—The report and recommendations of the Electricity Committee in regard to damaged lamp posts, car park lighting, and resumption of street lighting was submitted (report circulated to the Council). RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

1788—Labour Sub-Committee--The Labour Sub-Committee met on 2nd July. RESOLVED, That the report be received.

1789—Pittville Street and Winchcomb Street Properties (Min. 1576)—At the last meeting consideration of the suggested revision of terms and conditions of tenancies had been deferred. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Pittville Street Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

1790—Park Place and Andover Road Junction (Min. 1578)—This Min. was disapproved by the Council who decided that traffic lights be installed, but pending the approval of the Ministry of Transport " Slow-Major Road Ahead " signs be erected forthwith. The Borough Surveyor had ordered the signs and twice pressed the manufacturers for delivery, but at least a further week's delay would occur. He therefore proposed to borrow signs and to effect replacement when the new signs were received. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

309

1791—Traffic Orders—(a) Albion Street—Unilateral Waiting Order—The Bristol Tramways Co. were concerned with this Order as it would affect their stand for the operation of special services to the race-course on race days. If it was intended to prohibit this stand they enquired whether an alternative site was in mind. The Police have wide powers on special occasions and the Superintendent proposed to arrange for one vehicle to stand in Albion Street and he also had in mind other stands in the vicinity of North Place and Clarence Road junction. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be left in the hands of the Police Superintendent and the Company informed accordingly.

(b) Regent Street—Prohibition of Waiting from High Street to County Court Road—Messrs. Charles C. Castle & Son of No. 1 and Messrs. Watterson, Moore & Co. of Nos. 3 and 4 gave notice of objection to this Order. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Transport be reminded that the Council supported the Ministry's suggestion that instead of unilateral waiting, total prohibition of waiting on this length of road should be instituted and therefore they oppose the objections.

1792—Speed Limits for Commercial Vehicles—The Road Haulage Contractors Ltd. drew attention to the application of the Road Transport Operators to the Ministry of Transport for an increase in speed limits for commercial vehicles. They were gravely concerned lest the application be granted as they considered such an increase would add to the already high accident figures and a greater strain, both physical and mental, would be placed on drivers. Transport vehicles, unlike passenger service vehicles, were not subject to a certificate of fitness and many commercial vehicles were now

obsolete and few would pass such a test. RESOLVED, That the Council support the opposition to an increase in speed limits.

1793-Mobile Car Washing Unit—Mr. G. Thomas, an ex-service man, proposed to commence a car washing business and to wash cars in the streets and car parks, and sought approval thereto. The Police Superintendent opposed the use of streets on the ground of obstruction but he thought the facility would be appreciated by motorists if the Council granted permission for the unit to operate in Rodney Road Car Park. The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that garages were required to provide interceptors to prevent oil and other substances entering surface water drains and causing pollution and no such provision would be made if the unit operated either from the street or from the car parks. RESOLVED, That the application be refused.

1794—Rodney Road Car Park—(Min. 1586)—Applications for season tickets for the covered shed at £5 per annum were received from Mr. D. V. Davies, Ellenborough Hotel (1 or 2 cars), Mr. K. Adock, Rodney Hotel (1 car), Gloucester Carpet Cleaners (small commercial van), Messrs. Dennis O. C. Littler & Co. Ltd. (small commercial van and 5 cars) and Captain R. Edwards, Gloucestershire Army Cadet Force (1 car). The Town Clerk pointed out that the byelaws only applied to private cars and motor cycles and that, with the exception of Captain Edwards, all the applicants required over-night parking. The Committee recalled that it was their intention to issue season tickets to meet a demand from business people who required covered accommodation during business hours and it was never envisaged that the covered shed would be used as lock-up garages. RESOLVED, That the application of Captain Edwards be granted and that the other applications be refused, it being recorded that the facility is not available for permanent garage accommodation.

1795—Lansdown Filling Station—Mrs. P. Stainton, the owner, reminded the Council that the railings around the ornamental shrubbery had been removed during the war and now required reinstatement to preserve her right of way and also to prevent children running out of the bushes constituting a danger to themselves and to motorists. The Town Clerk advised upon the covenant in the Agreement for this station which provided that the Council should erect and maintain fencing around the shrubberies, but the removal of the railings by the Government during the war and the continuance of the Defence Regulations nullified their obligation for the time being. The Borough Surveyor pointed out the difficulties in obtaining fencing and that, even for housing sites, it was impossible to procure sufficient supplies. RESOLVED, That no fencing be provided at the present time.

1796—Telegraphic Line, Hester's Way—The Post Office applied for consent to the erection of an overhead line from Harthursfield Farm to Elm Farm. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the line be placed underground as there were no other poles in this area and their erection would spoil the surrounding district. The Borough Electrical Engineer had no observations to offer as there were no electricity cables in the road. RESOLVED, That the Post Office be pressed to provide an underground line, failing which they be asked to erect the poles on the east side of the road, as near to the hedge as possible, and also to comply with the usual conditions.

1797—Electromatic Traffic Control Lights—Maintenance Charge—The Automatic Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd. notified an increase of 45% in the annual maintenance charge for traffic control light signals and for Bath Road this would now amount to £31 17s. 0d. and for Hales Road £37 10s. 0d. The Ministry of Transport had intimated that the increases would rank for grant. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

1798--Classified Roads—Estimate, 1947/48—The County Surveyor had confirmed that no additional funds were available for repairs to classified roads. Confirmation had also been received that additional expenditure of £2,000 on class II roads was approved. This would enable urgent repairs to be undertaken to Hales Road. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

1799-Halt Sign Junction of Andover Road and Painswick Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that as a result of Andover Road and Norwood Road being raised to the status of Class III, the bait sign at the junction of Andover Road and Painswick Road was now incorrect. He, therefore, recommended application to the Ministry of Transport for the removal of this sign and that two " Slow—Major Road Ahead " signs be fixed on either side of the junction in Painswick Road. The Committee however were of opinion that, from a traffic point of view, the present signing was the most effective. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

1800-Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents—Jubilee Congress, 7th to 10th October—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Surveyor be authorised to attend this Congress at Brighton, it being understood that the Cheltenham Accident Prevention Committee will also consider appointing a delegate.

1801-Malvern Road Station—Direction Signs—The Great Western Railway Co. had agreed to two new direction signs being erected in lieu of the present somewhat dilapidated sign. The positions recommended were the existing site and at the junction of Western and Malvern Roads and the Council were asked to accept responsibility for all expenditure as both signs directed passengers from the Station and not to it. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

310

1802— Riley Motor Club—Annual Rally, September—It was proposed that this rally should terminate at Cheltenham; 20th September provided that facilities could be granted. The Entertainments Manager was reporting favourably to the Entertainments Sub-Committee and if the Council approved the arrangements, the Borough Surveyor recommended that, as no obstruction would be caused, a portion of Rodney Road Car Park be allocated for manoeuvring tests. The Club would also require the Promenade inner road on Sunday, 21st September for a final grand rally and also for a joint service with local, youth organisations at the war memorial. The Police Superintendent saw no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1803—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month which included re-surfacing Promenade between Imperial Lane and Oriel Road ; surface dressing of carriageways in Albert Street, St. Paul's, Arle Road, Arle Village Road, Bloomsbury Street, Hungerford Street, Lower Mill Street, Milsom Street, Mitre Street, Sandford Street, St. Luke's Place, St. Paul's Lane and Swindon Road, totalling 25711 super yards ; haunching to Lansdown Road ; 7 carriageways repaired ; surface water sewer trench re-instated Lansdown Road including re-paving new entrance crossings, reinstatement of footpath and roadway openings ; air-raid shelter reinstatements ; N.F.S. pipe line reinstatements gulleys and main sewers repaired ; new sewer connections ; repairs to house drains ; trees trimmed ; street gulleys emptied. Trunk roads 96, Class I roads 99, Class II roads 133, Class III roads 56, unclassified roads 1320, total 1704 ; " halt " signs, " slow " signs, white lines and traffic light standards painted ; direction signs repaired and painted ; level crossing signs fixed in Alstone Lane ; metal studs renewed at pedestrian crossings and amber globes fixed ; two vehicles painted and 5 cats and lorries repaired. 1160 tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 10181 tons in June.

1804—Streamer Across Colonnade—Cheltenham Horse Show—RESOLVED, That permission be granted for a streamer advertising this Show to be placed across the Colonnade from 2nd to 6th August subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

1805—Projecting Sign, 411a, High Street—RESOLVED, That the application of the Modern Shoe Repairs Ltd. to erect a sign advertising their business at these premises, be granted, subject to compliance with the conditions, including dimensions.

1806—Territorial Recruiting Drive--(Mins. 1757 Parks Committee and 1786 Town Improvement Committee)—It had been suggested that if a site in Imperial Gardens was not suitable for accommodating the mobile A.A. Column visiting Cheltenham on 25th and 26th August, the south side of Imperial Square might be considered as an alternative, the Radar van to be set up on the site formerly occupied by the Crimean guns. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to vehicles standing on the south side of Imperial Square but with regard to the Radar van, the Committee consider the site suggested is likely to cause danger to traffic, particularly if a large number of spectators are present and that a more suitable position would be the east side of Imperial Square.

1807—Lansdown Road—Seats—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor place additional seats in Lansdown Road between Westal Green and Lansdown Castle.

1808—Grass verges—Attention was drawn to the untidy condition of grass verges in various parts of the town as compared with those of other towns. The Borough Surveyor stated that a mower especially constructed for the purpose was on order and when delivered, work would proceed. RESOLVED, That in the meantime the Borough Surveyor endeavour to obtain the loan of a suitable machine.

1809--Tewkesbury Road—RESOLVED, That the low hedge between the Moors Estate and Tewkesbury Road be removed as its condition at present constitutes a danger to pedestrians and traffic.

1810—Cheltenham District Traction Company---(a) Stopping Place opposite Midland Station—The Borough Surveyor had communicated with the Company in regard to the complaint of nuisance due to the bus stop being placed outside the shops. The Company were expecting delivery of a new sign and pole and the position of the stop would then be adjusted.

(b) Shelters—The shelter in Swindon Road had now been erected and demands for additional shelters were being made by the public. RESOLVED, That the Company be approached in regard to the erection of a number of shelters in suitable positions where conditions warrant.

1811—Gloucester Road—Speed Limit Sign—In view of a recent fatal accident at the junction of Tennyson Road and Gloucester Road, the Committee were of opinion that a more appropriate position for the speed limit sign was in the vicinity of Arle Court which was the position it had occupied during the war, at the request of the Ministry of Transport. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor communicate with the Ministry suggesting that the sign be moved permanently to its war-time position.

1812—Nos. 230 and 231 High Street—(Min. 1195)—The owner had now intimated that he was unwilling to dispose of these properties which the Committee wished to acquire for road widening purposes. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

1813—Road Safety Organise [Min. 1403(b)]—Mr. John Taylor had now been appointed to this position at a salary of £275-£300 plus cost of living bonus and commenced duty on 2nd July. RESOLVED, That the appointment be confirmed.

1814-A.R.P. Stores—Disposal—(Min. 665)—The Borough Surveyor still had a quantity of miscellaneous items stored at the Depot a portion of which he would like to retain for the Department the remainder to be disposed of to free much needed accommodation. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised accordingly, the County Council to be consulted in regard to disposal of stores purchased by them.

1815-Ministry of Works Sale- Stores Purchased—The Borough Surveyor had successfully tendered for certain items offered for sale at the Ministry's depot at Andoversford which included air vents, steel casement windows, asbestos and asbestos roofing sheets, at a total cost of £19 4s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the purchase be authorised.

1816-Annual Stores Tend 1947/48--Cement—The tender of Messrs. Geo. Bence & Sons had been accepted but difficulties were experienced in obtaining supplies and the Borough Surveyor had found it necessary to purchase from other sources at £5 per ton which was considerably above the contract price. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised accordingly during the present general shortage of supplies.

311

1817—Central Depot—Garage Equipment—[Min 1592(c)]—(a) Pressure Washing Machine—The Borough Surveyor submitted quotations for this machine. RESOLVED That the quotation of Messrs. Williams and James Gloucester, being the lowest, amounting to £78 10s. 0d. for a two-ram hydraulax plant complete with motor and two guns be accepted with delivery date 5 months hence.

(b) Electric Petrol Pump—Quotations had also been obtained for a pump. RESOLVED, That the quotation of Messrs. E. A. Rodgers & Co. of Cheltenham, being the lowest, amounting to £132 10s. 0d., plus £12 10s. 0d. for re-fitting valves to ground level be accepted with delivery date three to four weeks hence.

1818—Highways Department—Roller Driver, H. Trenfield—This employee, in receipt of a superannuation allowance, was willing, owing to the present shortage of labour, to continue to work for the Department for a further period of 12 months on the same terms and conditions. RESOLVED, That his services be retained and the position again reviewed not later than 12 months hence.

1819—Borough Surveyor's Department—(a) Stall—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the position arising in regard to the shorthand-typists in his Department. One had recently married but wished to continue for a short period. his personal typist was shortly to marry and this also applied to the shorthand-typist in the Water Department, but both were willing to continue for a short while. His establishment provided for a Secretary in the Higher Clerical Division (£304-£340) plus cost-of-living bonus, and also for a senior and five additional shorthand-typists. He, therefore, sought authority to advertise for a Secretary, which post had never been filled, as this would give an opportunity for the person engaged to obtain a knowledge of the working of the Department before the typists referred to terminated their engagements. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Committee be recommended accordingly and that authority be given for the Borough Surveyor in due course to fill the other posts of shorthand-typists when the same become vacant.

(b) Engineering Assistants—Re-Grading---(Min. 1025) —The Establishment Sub-Committee had considered this Committee's recommendations for re-grading the positions of Senior Engineering



Assistant, Senior Water Engineering Assistant and two Junior Engineering Assistants and had now accepted the recommendations of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee thereon, namely, that the Senior Engineering Assistant and the Senior Water Engineering Assistant should both be re-graded in A.P.T. Division VI, (£535-£600) as opposed to this Committee's recommendation that the former be re-graded A.P.T. Division VII (£575-£650) and the latter A.P.T. Division VI. No observations were however offered upon the re-grading of the Junior Engineering Assistants except that the holders of the appointments should be suitably qualified. RESOLVED, That the decisions be accepted.

(c) Office Equipment---Plan File--The Borough Treasurer had recently obtained a re-assessment of plan values and suggested that additional fire-proof equipment should be obtained. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that many plans were irreplaceable and he had accordingly obtained quotations and recommended the purchase of 2 sets of 6-drawer steel plan files at a total cost of £112. RESOLVED, That subject to their being sufficient provision in the annual estimates the expenditure be authorised.

1820—Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935—The Planning Committee had received applications for access and/or building on trunk and classified roads and as these matters fell to be dealt with under this Act, the Planning Committee had referred the same to this Committee for consideration and approval. RESOLVED, as follows:-

| Plan No. | Position  | Nature of Application  | Decision  |
|----------|---|--|---|
| 6181     | College Road (T.R.44)                                   | Private garage and access Bedford Lodge.   | That the Ministry of Transport be recommended to approve.   |
| 6190     | Hatherley Road<br>(Class III)                           | Private garage   | Approved.   |
| 6198     | Westal Green (T.R.10)                                   | Private garage for 4 cars at Hilton Lodge  | That the Ministry of Transport be recommended to disapprove.  |
| 6205     | Hewlett Road<br>(Class III)                             | Private garage and access for one car (opposite Hales Road)                              | That the erection of the garage be approved including vehicular access thereto on condition that the carriageway is reconstructed to permit access without the necessity of removing the existing electric lamp standard or interfering with trees. |
| 6213     | Shurdington Road<br>(T.R.44)                            | Block of flats and access Shurdington Road   | That the Ministry of Transport be recommended to approve.   |
| 6214     | Leckhampton Road<br>(B.4070)                            | Greenhouse, Sandfield House  | That in view of the undertaking already given by the owner to remove the erection, if at any time this is necessary in connection with any road improvement approval be given.  |
|          | Site adjoining " Hallery," Shurdington Road<br>(T.R.44) | For pedestrian access and for permission to use an existing access for vehicular traffic | That the pedestrian access be approved but the wall at the corner of the vehicular access be taken down and splayed for a distance of 9 ft. each way.   |

6055 Gloucester Road Garage  
(T.R.10)

That approval be given subject to compliance with the decision of the Planning Committee that there should be one access only to the highway covering Nos. 384 and 386 Gloucester Road, the junction to be made outside the improvement line

J. H. TRYE, Chairman

312

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**15th July 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) Aldermen Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Green, Readings and Thompson.

1821—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That the report of the Market and Public Control Sub-Committee of their meeting held 2nd July, 1947, be approved and adopted. ALSO RESOLVED, That in regard to Min. 4 (Film Exhibition "The Birth of a Baby ") the Committee endorse the views of the Sub-Committee that the exhibition of this should be restricted to clinics, welfare centres, women's institutes and the like and not subjected to public exhibition in the cinemas.

1822—Labour Sub-Committee--(i) RESOLVED, That the report of the Labour Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 2nd July, 1947, be approved and adopted.

(ii) Carbon Black Waste—The Council at their last meeting adopted a recommendation of the Sub-Committee for additional payment to employees when handling carbon waste and payment had accordingly been made from the date of the last Council meeting. Application for such payment was made in April, last and it was re-commended that the approved payment should be retrospective to the 5th May, the date upon which the matter was first before the Council. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1823--Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport--(i) The Town Clerk reported upon a conference held between officials of the various Government departments concerned and representatives of the Gloucester and Cheltenham Councils upon the future of the airport. Certain suggestions would be submitted to a special meeting of the Airport Committee to be held on the 18th July and in view of the urgency of the matter, it was recommended that the Airport Committee should be authorised to report direct to the next meeting of the Council. RESOLVED, That, subject to the Finance Committee being given an opportunity of considering the financial implications of the proposal and making any observations they so desired, no objection be raised to the Joint Airport Committee reporting direct to the Council as proposed.

(ii) Three-Counties Show—The Gloucester City Council made application for the use of a part of the Staverton Airport for the above show in June, 1948, the former site of the show at the Oxleaze being considered unsuitable for this purpose. RESOLVED, That whilst the Committee do not consider this site particularly suitable for this purpose, they do not desire to raise difficulties, and subject to the Ministry of Civil Aviation ensuring that the proposal would not prevent the use of the ground for flying or its progress or development as an aerodrome, they recommend consent be given.

1824—Association of Municipal Corporations—Reduction of Local Authorities' Staffs—The Committee further considered Circular 96/47, Ministry of Health, in regard to the suggested reduction in staffs of local authorities reported to the last meeting of the Council by the Establishment Sub-Committee and the Staff Joint Advisory Committee. The Association of Municipal Corporations had taken up this matter with the Ministry, referring to the additional work placed upon local authorities and the fact that staffs were constantly under review. The Department had indicated their appreciation, but pointed out that in the circumstances mentioned, the information required by the Government would not cause any undue burden to local authorities. In view of the requirement under the National Scheme of Salaries and Conditions of Service that consideration be given to the position of temporary staff in October next, it was recommended that the particulars required by the Ministry should be deferred until after that date. RESOLVED, That the above suggestion be approved.

1825—Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944—Letter was submitted from the North Gloucestershire Disablement Advisory Committee referring to the decision of the Manchester Council to raise its percentage of employed disabled persons from 3% to 5% within a period of two years, and asking this Council to give consideration to a similar proposal. The Borough Treasurer reported that owing to the reluctance of persons qualified to be registered under the Act, the present figure of 3% was only maintained with difficulty. RESOLVED, That the Advisory Committee be informed of the difficulty in securing the registration of qualified persons and asked to give any possible assistance. ALSO RESOLVED, That whilst the Council were prepared to give every consideration to the proposal outlined, they were unable to take any steps at the present time.

1826—National Savings Movement—Circular 104/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted referring to a recently inaugurated campaign by the National Savings Committee and asking for the co-operation of local authorities with local savings committees, including permission to officers to serve as Honorary Officers of local Committees, giving service during official office hours, and in providing the free use of rooms for Committee and other meetings. Expenditure incurred in this connection was authorised by the Minister under Section 228 of the Local Government Act, 1933. It was pointed out that already free accommodation was given for meet-tings and certain officers, in particular the Borough Treasurer, rendered assistance to the Savings Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council continue to give the assistance hitherto afforded and give consideration to specific applications for future additional assistance.

1827—British Records Association—RESOLVED, That no representative be appointed to attend the 15th annual conference in London on the 18th and 19th November, 1947.

1828—National Health Services Act, 1946—Letter dated 14th Jul. was submitted from the Association of Corporations enclosing copy of a statement made by the Minister of Health in the House of Commons on the 3rd July, indicating that he did not propose, in pursuance of Section 22 (4) of the Act, to make Regulations requiring local health authorities of counties in which schemes of divisional administration were in force under the Education Act, 1944, to make corresponding schemes of divisional -administration with respect to the care of children under 5. Under the new proposals, Boroughs and Urban Districts which were excepted for educational purposes, would not necessarily be put in a corresponding position for the purpose of Part 111 of the Act. The Public Health Committee of the Association had expressed general agreement with the Minister's views subject to certain reservations, one being that the Association be given an opportunity- of expressing their views as to the non county boroughs which should be separately administered. A consultation was being held between the Secretary of the Association and officers of the Ministry on the 17th July, and the Council were asked to submit before that date a statement in support of the establishment

of a separate scheme of administration for Cheltenham. The Public Health Committee had considered the circular instructed the Town Clerk to take the necessary steps. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the decision of the **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

313

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**16<sup>th</sup> July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillors Fildes, Gardner and Morris.

1829--Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

1830--Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

1831—Defaulter—The Committee interviewed and dealt with one applicant for a reduction of rates on grounds of poverty.

1832—Paper Salvage—RESOLVED, That permission be given for the inclusion of a leaflet urging salvage of waste paper, with the next rate demand note.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**18<sup>th</sup> July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bishop. Mann and Morris

1833—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the first instalment of this rate was sub-mitted. Amount collected £195,440 ; amount outstanding £56,120.

1834—Water Rate and Charges—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1947 was submitted. Amount collected £23,632 ; amount outstanding £8,393.

1835—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £21,813 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £477 for re-chargeable works carried out and £548 for electricity supplied.

1836—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date.           | Proposal.   | Amount. | Term.     |
|-----------------|---|---------|-----------|
| 16th June, 1947 | Conversion of The Knole to provide accommodation for aged persons                       | £710    | 60 years  |
| 20th "          | Electricity mains ...   | £481    | 25 years. |
| 30th "          | Erection of four houses, Lynworth Farm ...  | £4,946  | 60 years. |
| 8th July, 1947  | Advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899--1923 ... ..                  | £10,000 | 30 years. |
| 17th "          | Additional loan sanction in respect of Three-Phase 1,000 Ampere meter testing equipment | £374    | 10 years. |

1837—Loans—(i) interest (Min. 1612)—Letter was submitted from the Public Works Loan Board calling attention to the reduction in the rate of interest charged on Government loans in excess of 4½ per cent and asking to be informed of loans to this Council affected by the proposal This information was being forwarded. As mentioned in the above Min., Cheltenham had only two old loans from the Government and the proposals would save a total of £23 13s 6d. for the whole period until they were redeemed in full.

(ii) Capital Issues Control—Borrowing by Local Authorities—Letter, dated 3rd July, was submitted from H.M. Treasury consenting for the purposes of the Control of Borrowing Order, 1947 to borrowing without specific Treasury consent for the renewal, replacement or other amendment of mortgages until 31st March, 1948, subject to certain conditions, particularly in regard to the period of the loan. New borrowings, would, however, still require such consent except insofar as the amount involved in any transaction, together with the amount involved in all previous transactions in the previous 12 months, does not exceed £50,000. The Order also permits temporary borrowings by a local authority for defraying expenditure pending receipt of revenues, provided the expenditure is not capital expenditure, and subject to certain conditions limiting the amount so raised. Other temporary borrowings were also authorised in certain cases, but such borrowings were only to be resorted to where a Local Authority could not reasonably arrange a permanent loan.

(iii) The Borough Treasurer reported that one loan amounting to £300 had been renewed for 15 years at 2½ per cent and one loan amounting to £2,400 had become due for repayment.

314

1838—Pensions (Increase) Act, 1947—(i) (Min. 1448) Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health enclosing Regulations 1" made by the Minister under the above Act, setting out the qualifications, and information required to be given, in cases of applications made for increased pensions under the Act.

(ii) The Borough Treasurer reported two increases in pensions under the Act.

1839—Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946—Review of Contributions—Circular 116/47, Ministry - of Health, was submitted intimating that the Minister had reviewed contributions payable to Local Authorities under Section 16 of the Act and in view of all the circumstances had decided to make no Order at the present time reducing the amounts of contributions. Houses completed, therefore, before 30th June, 1948, would be subject to Exchequer contributions equivalent to £16 10s. 0d. per house, per annum.

1840—Salary—Planning Officer —The Committee considered Min. 1780 (Planning Committee) in regard to the proposed increase in the salary of this officer. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation of the Planning Committee that Mr Streater's salary be increased to £715 (namely £650 plus 10 per cent temporary increase) plus bonus as from 1st September, 1946, of which a sum of £660 per annum, plus bonus, would be reimbursed by the County Council.

1841—Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Airport Committee—The Committee considered Min. 1823 (General Purposes Committee) and the report of the special meeting of the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee held on the 18th July (a copy of which is circulated with the Council minutes), recommending that approval be given in principle to the sale of the Staverton Aerodrome to the Ministry of Civil Aviation on terms to be agreed and authorising negotiations subject to the safeguards set out in the report. RESOLVED, That in all the circumstances, the

Committee were in agreement with the proposals of the Joint Committee and that the Council be recommended to approve in principle to the proposed sale.

1842—Government Block Grant—The Borough Treasurer reported that this matter was considered at the recent conference of the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants. It was considered that Non-County Boroughs would receive a " capitation grant " based on so much per head of the population, the total being deducted by the Government from the County Council apportionment. Having regard to the Registrar General's estimate of the population of Cheltenham, this Authority would suffer seriously. The Town Clerk reported the endeavours being made to correct the position, and that he hoped to report further on this matter to the next meeting. RESOLVED, That having regard to the serious repercussions arising out of the inaccurate population figures now available, that the Association of Municipal Corporations be urged to make the strongest possible representations to the appropriate Government departments for a census to be taken at the earliest opportunity, and in the meantime for the estimates given by the Registrar General to be brought more in line with actualities.

1843—Rates Payment Scheme—A scheme was submitted from the West Midlands Trustee Savings Bank for the opening of accounts for ratepayers desiring to pay rates by instalments. RESOLVED, That having regard to the position in Cheltenham, no action be taken on the proposal.

1844—Purchase of Safe--RESOLVED, That the offer of the Water Committee to dispose of a safe at Dowdeswell to this Committee for use at the Rotunda at £25 be not accepted, but that another offer, since received, to sell one for £15 be accepted, subject to the Borough Treasurer being satisfied as to its suitability.

1845—Sandford Swimming Pool—Insurance—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to renew the insurance in respect of losses of bathers' property up to £50 in any one year at this pool at a premium of £2 per annum.

1846—Superannuation—(i) Refunds of contributions had been made as follows :—

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| H. E. Clapp (Health Department) ...           | £52 19 6 |
| Mrs. F. M. Mitchell (Town Clerk's Department) | £28 5 3  |
| W. R. Johnson (Parks Department)              | £59 16 4 |

(ii) Transfer values had been received from :—

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Redcar Corporation—N. Weaver (Electricity Department) | £69 4 5   |
| Bedford Corporation—H. Davies do.                     | £1002 3 6 |

(iii) Transfer value amounting to £756 7s. 2d. had been paid to the Nuneaton Corporation in respect of J. Billcliff, Electricity Department.

(iv) Applications had been received from J. C. Price (Electricity Department) and T. Potts (Town Hall) for admission to the Council's Superannuation (Servants) Scheme RESOLVED, That subject to satisfactory medical examinations, these employees be admitted to the Scheme.

1847—Electricity Department—Re-organisation of Administrative Section—RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee concur in the recommendation of the Electricity and Lighting Committee (Min. 1714) in regard to the appointment of a Sub-Committee to consider reports of the Borough Electrical Engineer and Borough Treasurer upon certain re-organisation proposals.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

315

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**23rd July, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Waite (Chairman) and Smith ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Mann, Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite.

1848—Winter Dance Orchestra—(Min. 1781). 35 quotations were submitted for a winter dance orchestra, and the Entertainments Sub-Committee felt some difficulty in making a decision. They had, therefore, asked Councillors Bishop, Mann and Waite, together with the Entertainments Manager, to hear certain bands and to make recommendations direct to this Committee. Unfortunately they were unable to do so at the ordinary monthly meeting and this special meeting had, therefore, been convened.

When making a selection of orchestras to be considered, the Entertainments Sub-Committee had borne in mind two important factors, namely, that expenditure should be related as nearly as possible to that normally paid for a winter dance orchestra and also that broadcasting experience was essential.

The members concerned now recommended that Bobby Howse and his Orchestra (of the Palm Court Hotel, Torquay) comprising 9 instrumentalists with himself as conductor/performer, be engaged to play as required at Municipal Dances on Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 8 p.m. to midnight and on Saturday afternoons from 3 to 6 p.m. for the sum of £75 per week, it being understood that the Orchestra would be permitted to accept other engagements when not required for Municipal functions. Mr. Howse fully realised accommodation problems and was prepared to accept the engagement on the distinct understanding that the Council could not in any way be responsible therefor: and the extent to which he obtained engagements, other than for Municipal functions was entirely his own responsibility. RESOLVED, That subject to these conditions, and to contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk, the recommendation be approved.

1849--Playhouse Sub-Committee—The Playhouse Sub-Committee met on 16th July (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1850—Music Festivals Advisory Committee—The Advisory Committee met on 21st July (report circulated herewith). The report should properly be first submitted to the Entertainments Sub-Committee but in view of the August recess, the Chairman of that Sub-Committee, in the exceptional circumstances, agreed to raise no objection to it being presented direct to this Committee. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted, it being understood that should the Arts Council be unwilling to increase their grant for next year's Festival, the arrangements therefor must be reviewed.

1851—Royal Air Force Association—This Association had reserved the Town Hall for two dances on 15th and 19th September in connection with "Battle of Britain " week, and they applied for a reduction in the hire charge. RESOLVED, That the Hall be let at the charges usually made to local organisations.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

316

**Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices. Cheltenham, 28th August, 1947.

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 September, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 28th July, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor. 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 ... | 8th August, 1947.  |
| PLANNING    | 14th “             |
| FINANCE ... | 22 <sup>nd</sup> “ |

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. 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, 28th May, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.) and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, S. D. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite, Ward and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from the Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Waite ; Councillors J. Bendall and Fildes.

1852—Minutes of Previous Meeting---RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 30th June, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1853—Proceedings of Committees—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the undermentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:—

Art Gallery and Museum Public Library July 4

Allotments July 4

Maternity and Child Welfare July 7



Water July 9

Town Improvement and Spa ... July 11 & 23

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Waite "That Min. 1 (b) of the report of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee (Plan for the inclusion of the Spa in the new Health Service) referred to in Min. 1782 be referred back for further consideration" was lost).

(An amendment moved by Councillor Bayliss, seconded by Councillor Carter, " That resolution (iii) to Min. 1781 (Morning Concerts) be referred back for further consideration" was lost).

General Purposes and Watch ... July 15

ALSO RESOLVED, That the report of the Gloucester and Cheltenham joint Airport Committee of their meeting held on 18th July, 1947, referred to in Min. 1823, copies of which had been circulated to the Council, be approved and adopted. T

he Mayor was here called away from the Meeting and it was RESOLVED, That Alderman E. L. Ward do take the chair.

Public Health July 7

(Subject to the addition of the words "total births" after the figure of 1,000 in line 4 of Min. 1706 (Vital Statistics) and "live births" after the figure of 1,000 in the ninth line of this Min.).

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Councillor Compton " That Min. 1700 (iii) (63 Sun Street—Offensive Trade) be not approved and that the matter be referred back for further consideration and report").

Parks and Recreation Grounds July 7

(Subject to resolution (i) to Min. 1758 being amended to read as follows:—"RESOLVED, (1) That the Society be given access over the strip of land belonging to the Corporation on payment of a sum of £2 per foot for the actual entrance or entrances required, it being understood that if at any time in the future the land ceased to be used for a playing field and was sold for building purposes, that the developers would be required to pay an equivalent charge in respect of the whole of the land developed."

(An amendment moved by Councillor Biggs, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, " That Min. 1768 (t' Landscape Foreman) be referred back for further consideration " was lost).

318

Electricity and Lighting July 8

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Smith, seconded by Councillor Midwinter "That Min. 1717 (Central Consumers' Records) be referred back for further consideration").

Housing July 8 & 28

Cemetery and Crematorium July 11

Planning July 8 & 28

Street and Highway Rating July 10 & 11

Finance July 18

(Subject to the addition of the name of Councillor 13ettridge in the attendances). 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.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**28th July, 1947.** Present—Councillor Compton ( Chairman), Alderman Lipson, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Fisher, Morris, Ward and Yeend.

1854--Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Compulsory Purchase Order—(Min. 1744)—As instructed at the last meeting the Borough Surveyor had given further consideration to the layout plans for the 300 permanent prefabricated bungalows, and he now submitted four alternative layout plans. Since the last meeting the Ministry of Health had issued two plans giving suggestions for the layout of bungalows and outbuildings, and notes on siting considerations. The Ministry urged that with a view to expediting erection, the bungalows should be sited so as to take advantage of the jubilee track method in preference to erection by means of a crane. With a view to securing as great a measure of agreement as possible, the Borough Surveyor had thought it desirable to consult the Regional Architect on the proposed layout plans.

Layout Plan No. 1. This was prepared so as to tie up with the development of the adjoining land, and in particular with the proposed planning road through the adjoining land on the south-west which it was proposed should be reserved for better class housing development. This layout, however, would necessitate a strip of land not included in the Compulsory Purchase Order not being built on for the present, and would mean losing about 35 bungalows until such time as additional land could be obtained.

Layout Plan No. 2. In view of the inherent difficulties with regard to the land in the case of layout No. 1, this layout plan was -prepared with the same development principles, but within the boundaries of the Compulsory Purchase Order, and provided accommodation for approximately 360 bungalows. To omit, however plots Nos. 2, 3 and 4 belonging to Messrs. Lee, Townsend and Swain respectively, would result in the sites for 80 bungalows being lost.

Layout Plan No. 3. This layout was prepared to incorporate the suggestions made by the Ministry in their model layout plans. This would provide for 380 bungalows, but if the above-mentioned plots were excluded, the number would be reduced to 300.

Layout Plan No. 4. This layout was prepared after consultation with the Regional Architect, and provided for 310 bungalows using all the land, including a strip of 60 feet of the land belonging to Mr. Swain (Plot No. 4).

RESOLVED, That layout plan No. 3 be approved and forwarded to the Ministry of Health for approval, and that a decision as to whether or not any particular plot of land shall be excluded from the layout for the time being, be deferred until after the Ministry's decision on the Compulsory Purchase Order has been received.

G. B. COMPTON, Chairman,

[ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 1947]

## HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**8th August, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Deputy Mayor, Alderman Green, Councillors Addis, Bayliss, s: Bendall, Compton, Fisher,, Gardner, Ward and Yeend.

1855—Prefabricated Hawksley Two-storey House—The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on their inspection of the prototype pair of prefabricated two-storey houses built by Messrs. Hawksley Ltd. The houses were of the three-bedroom type, and contained 950 super feet. In their opinion they were attractively designed and would be a very material contribution to easing the housing situation. As soon as the houses had received the official approval of the Ministry of Health, and they had sufficient orders for the houses, Messrs. Hawksley were in a position to commence tooling up, and if necessary, were prepared to take another factory for this purpose so as to enable the work to proceed forthwith. The Town Clerk pointed out that so far no communication had been received from the Ministry in regard to these houses. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to inform the Ministry of Health the Council are favourably impressed with these houses, and that the Council would be interested in obtaining an allocation of the houses on terms to be arranged, and to enquire if the Ministry are proposing to sponsor these houses as in the case of the various other types of permanent non-traditional houses.

1856—Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Compulsory Purchase Order—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed he had interviewed the Regional Architect with the Ministry of Health and submitted layout plan for 300 bungalows on this site. The scheme was approved in broad principle, one or two minor alterations being suggested, and the Borough Surveyor had agreed to incorporate these in the final plan. In view of the fact that a demand would probably be received for a bus service to this estate he recommended that the main through road should have a carriageway of at least 20'.

The survey of the whole site was now completed and the Borough Surveyor was about to prepare a layout of the site with roads and sewers, showing the bungalows in relation to these. He now submitted small scale final layout incorporating the suggestions of the Regional Architect, showing that the whole of the site, with the exception of plot No. 4 (belonging to Mr. Swain), would be required to accommodate 310 bungalows. This gave a density of 71 to the acre which was acceptable to the Ministry of Health. RESOLVED, That the layout as now submitted by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(b) The Town Clerk submitted letters of the 31st and 15th July from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Town & Country Planning respectively approving this site for the erection of 300 permanent aluminium bungalows subject to consultation with the Local Education Authority particularly on the question of nursery schools, and with the Highway Authority.

The Town Clerk also submitted letter from the Cheltenham Rural District Council stating that the District Council could not regard with approval the proposals which involved the building of an extensive housing development on the fringe of the Borough and partly in the Rural area since they considered that suitable land could be found in other parts of the Borough. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham Rural District Council be informed that the Council gave very careful consideration to the siting of these bungalows, and that the site selected was, in their opinion, the only practicable site available, particularly having regard to the urgency of the matter.

(c) Read letter of the 7th August from the Ministry of Health, that the Minister had decided to hold a Public Inquiry into the Council's application for confirmation of the Compulsory Purchase Order made in respect of this site, and that the Inquiry would be held on the 16th September, at 10 a.m.

1857—Hester's Way Compulsory Purchase Order—Read letter of the 29th July, from the Ministry of Health that the Minister was prepared to confirm this Compulsory Purchase Order without modification. It was, however, suggested that arrangements should be made for Mr. Pye to build as many houses as possible under Circular 92/46 on the plot at present owned by him and the Minister considered that erection of these houses should be begun at the earliest possible date.

The Borough Surveyor pointed out that it was unlikely that the present scheme for development of this area would agree with the development proposed before the war and it would be necessary for Mr. Pye to adjust his plans accordingly. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor communicate with Mr. Pye and ask him for plans of the houses he was prepared to build on the land with a view to selling these to the Corporation under the provisions of the above-mentioned circular, and that the plans, when received, be forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

1858-Rowanfield Road Compulsory Purchase Order—Read letter of the 7th August from the Ministry of Health having considered the objections made and the report of the Inspector on the local Inquiry, the Minister had decided he would confirm the Order subject to two minor modifications providing for the exclusion of approximately 1622 square yards of plot No. 1 and approximately 4949 square yards of plot No. 5.

1859-Requisitioning-(a) The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had communicated with the Ministry of Health to enquire as to the Ministry's policy with regard to requisitioning and he now submitted letter of the 23rd July from the Ministry stating that no specific change had yet taken place. It was pointed out however that the conversion and adaptation of requisitioned premises had always been regarded as of a temporary nature to accommodate persons who were inadequately housed pending their re-housing in local authority houses.

320

It had always been necessary in considering proposals for the conversion and adaptation of requisitioned premises, to have regard not only to the extent of the work necessary to give an adequate but not elaborate standard of accommodation, but to the position at the particular date in relation to the supply of labour and materials and to the nature, condition and probable life of the property. In this connection, Circular 9/44, which increased the permitted limits of expenditure in respect of the repair and conversion of non-requisitioned property—and to some extent by implication of requisitioned premises—stated that the Minister was anxious that such work is possible, of repair, conversion, etc, should be carried out so that when the time came there could be the maximum concentration on the provision of new houses. Now that time had arrived, it would be appreciated that it was essential the resources of labour and materials should not be diverted more than was necessary to other uses to the detriment of the early completion of the houses already under construction.

Subject to these considerations, there was no suggestion that the Council should not continue to make use of the delegated powers in connection with the requisitioning of unoccupied premises and to carry out such works of conversion and adaptation as were necessary to provide a standard of accommodation which, although admittedly short of that which would be desirable on a permanent basis, did nevertheless represent a substantial improvement on the conditions under which priority cases on the Council's list were now living, and which such persons would gladly accept temporarily pending their accommodation in local authority houses.

In view however, of the points raised by the Committee in regard to the policy of requisitioning, the Principal Housing Officer suggested it might be desirable to have a discussion on the matter.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk arrange to discuss the matter with the Principal Housing Officer and report thereon in due course.

(b) The Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer reported that Councillor Fisher had asked for information as to the cost to the Government of the requisitioning and conversion of houses in Cheltenham. The Borough Treasurer had informed him that since 1940 the net cost to the Government amounted to £37,402 and that during the current year the loss would be about £13,500. He now submitted letter of the 1st August from Councillor Fisher asking what method was used in assessing rentals of requisitioned houses, and whether the recent increase in rates had been passed on to the tenants. Councillor Fisher also asked that the question of rent collection generally should be discussed, and in particular the estate at Innsworth. The Town Clerk reported that he and the Borough Treasurer had informed Councillor Fisher of the Ministry's policy in fixing the rents of requisitioned houses, the two main factors being the standard rent under the Rent Restrictions Acts and the rent which the persons accommodated in the houses would be expected to pay having regard to the accommodation they would normally occupy. In many cases where a substantial loss was being made on particular houses, the rents had been fixed by the Ministry of Health.

With regard to the increase in rates, all the rents had recently been reviewed by a special Sub-Committee, and as would be seen from these Minutes, appropriate action was being taken with a view to the recent rate increase being passed on to the tenants where appropriate for adjustment of rents where circumstances so warranted. Councillor Fisher urged that before houses were requisitioned, owners should be given an opportunity of themselves carrying out the necessary conversions and letting the houses to tenants nominated by the Council at rents approved by them. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to recommend the Council to change their policy in regard to requisitioned houses, the main purpose of which is to secure that unoccupied houses are let to persons in most need of accommodation at rents which they can afford to pay.

1860—St. Mark's Community Association—The Town Clerk read letter of the 14th July from Mr. F. H. Green on behalf of the Association enclosing draft of Trust Deed and Constitution. RESOLVED, That the draft be approved.

1861--Erection of Houses—The Town Clerk submitted letter of the 15th June from the Secretary of the Cheltenham Communist Party to the Mayor setting out the conclusions they had reached as a result of an investigation into the local housing problem. They were of opinion that certain steps could be taken to speed up the building of houses. In their opinion the available man power was not being used to the best advantage, and it appeared to them that less than 10% of the available building workers in Cheltenham were engaged on the erection of houses for the Council. With a view to ensuring that a higher proportion of the town's building labour was engaged on Council houses, they suggested that there should be a much stricter control of licensing for repairs, that a Trade Union representative should be appointed on the Committee dealing with applications, and that a list of licences granted should be displayed at the Municipal Offices, and that if found necessary the Council should refuse to allow any further private building, unless the houses built were available for families on the Council's list at rents comparable to those of Council houses. They also urged the Council to confer with building trade unions on the question of recruiting the necessary labour. They were further of opinion that more progress could be made and a saving in cost by operating direct labour schemes. They also urged the adoption of a points scheme for the selection of tenants.

They further asked that there should be fuller publicity of housing matters and suggested that a conference of all interested bodies in the town should be held, and also the setting up of joint production committees on existing sites consisting of representatives of this Committee, the building

trade workers and the contractors. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to inform the Cheltenham Communist Party that the amount of labour available for Council houses is fixed at the Ministry of Works Zonal Conferences and that the Council's powers of licensing are strictly controlled by the Ministry of Works, and is at present confined to very narrow limits, that the number of houses which can be erected by private enterprise for this year was fixed by the Ministry at 18, that a Register of licences issued is available for inspection in the Borough Surveyor's office and that the Council are unable to adopt their suggestions in regard to the setting up of Committees, direct labour scheme, or the adoption of a points scheme for time selection of tenants.

1862-Control of Civil Building—Read circular 117/47 from the Ministry of Health that although steps have been taken to obtain increased supplies of softwood. these supplies were not expected to arrive until the second half of the year and economy was, therefore, still necessary to ensure a sufficient supply for the building of new houses and priority work. This must be borne in mind when licences were issued, although painting and decorative work might be licensed where the appropriate labour was available.

321

The volume of licences for maintenance and repair work was determined at Zonal Conference, but licence might be issued outside these quotas in certain classes of work, such as french polishing, repair of lifts, etc., which only require specialist workers. Certain costs, such as costs of heat storage cookers might be disregarded for the purpose of licensing. Applications for licences to carry out specialist work which did not fall within the category set out would be referred to the Regional Director of the Ministry of Works. Although stringency would be observed in licensing work involving the use of bricklayers, licences might be issued where the work would be carried out by the building owner without the help of paid labour. Owing to the limits on licensing, applicants would be advised to enquire on general lines as to the possibility of a licence being granted before they prepared the necessary plans and details.

1863—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Building Apprenticeship Scheme—Tenders had been invited for the hot water installation to the flats under this scheme and two tenders had been opened by the Vice-Chairman who had authorised the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd. (being the lowest), amounting to £500 6s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the action of the Vice-Chairman be approved and confirmed.

(b) Materials, Schemes 1 and 2—The Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed he had informed the contractors that in future the Committee would require all contractors to observe the terms of their contract which provided that no materials should be removed from the site unless authorised in writing by him. The contractors had now replied that they had at various times supplied timber, cement, plaster, etc., to the site from various sources in order that the progress on the houses might not be delayed and they had only taken materials from the site to compensate for these loans. They gave an assurance that they had not and would not in future withdraw any material from the site unless previously loaned from their stocks. The Borough Surveyor felt that the contractors' explanation should be accepted especially since the material had been loaned in the first instance in order to further progress on this site. RESOLVED, That the contractors' explanation for the removal of materials from this site be accepted.

(c) Small Builders' Scheme—The Estate Management Sub-Committee had recommended the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd., amounting to £584 2s. 6d., for the electrical installation in the 26 houses being erected under the above scheme, being the lowest

tender obtained. Messrs. Marshall's tender however was not the lowest for the additional appliance outlets provided by the Electricity Committee, which was that of Messrs. J. Hearson & Co. Ltd. The Borough Electrical Engineer had pointed out that Messrs. Marshall had withdrawn from the National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors. He further pointed out that the Council in July, 1946 (Min. 1587) had confirmed the recommendation of the Electricity Committee to continue to support the National Register and thereby confined the acceptance of tenders to registered contractors, and accordingly he was recommending the Electricity Committee to accept the tender of Messrs. Hearson & Co. for the additional appliance outlets which, as above mentioned, in this case was the lowest tender. Messrs. Hearson & Co.'s tender for the electrical installation for which this Committee was responsible, was £44 9s. 0d. in excess of that of Messrs. Marshall's tender. While the Committee would prefer that only one contractor should be engaged on the electrical work, no difficulty had been encountered where the same two contractors were engaged on the wiring of the 62 houses under scheme No. 1. The Borough Surveyor reported there was no question of the standard of the work carried out by Messrs. Marshall which was entirely satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the Committee confirm the recommendation of the Sub-Committee to accept Messrs. Marshall's tender.

(d) Clerk of Works—The Borough Surveyor reported that 24 applications were received for this appointment, and that having interviewed six of the applicants, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had, as authorised, appointed Mr. T. Drake, of Blackpool, and arrangements had been made for him to commence his duties on the 18th August.

1864—Whaddon Boys' Club—The Borough Surveyor had been informed by the Ministry of Works that as the work sanctioned by the Ministry of Education in fitting out the hut at Whaddon was to be subject to a grant from the County Council as distinct from a loan, it would not be necessary for the Ministry to issue a licence as this could be done through the Council, The County Council had requested the Council to carry out the work on their behalf. and the Borough Surveyor was therefore putting the work in hand immediately. RESOLVED, That this be approved and the Common Seal affixed to the contract.

1865-14 Kipling Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that a tender had been received for carrying out the necessary repairs to this house from Mr. E. L. Squire who was responsible for the demolition of No. 16, the adjoining house. This tender had been opened by the Chairman and amounted to £334. It had been submitted to the War Damage Commission for approval as a " cost of works " with a request that it should be dealt with immediately. Referring to the decision of the Estate Management Sub-Committee not to re-house the tenant while the work was being carried out, the Borough Surveyor stated that it would be desirable from every point of view if the tenant could be re-housed temporarily while the necessary work was being carried out, as this would be advantageous both to the tenant and the contractor. RESOLVED, That the Estate Management Sub-Committee be requested to endeavour to find suitable accommodation to re-house the tenant of 14 Kipling Road while the war damage to this house was being repaired.

1866—Site Preparation—(a) The Borough Surveyor had received information on the 1st August that as from noon, the 2nd August all prisoner-of-war labour would be withdrawn. As site works closed down on Friday evening for the holiday, the men finished work at 5 p.m. on the 1st August.

(b) The Knole-The Borough Surveyor reported that good progress had been made on this site, but owing to the withdrawal of prisoner-of-war labour, work was now practically at a standstill. In order to complete this scheme, Mr. Reg. Towell had been invited to submit schedule of prices for the provisions of labour only on a measured basis, the Council to supply all materials. The prices

appeared to be reasonable and if accepted fourteen or fifteen men would commence work on the 11th August.

Nineteen foundations were completed ready for houses, 50 house slabs were completed and 30% of the concrete roads were finished. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. Reg. Towell be accepted subject to contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk being entered into.

322

(c) Group Housing Sites (i) Lynworth Farm—The Borough Surveyor reported that 28 men were employed on this site laying kerbs, footpaths, slabs and general completion of road works. The withdrawal in this case of prisoner-of-war labour was not so serious since the work could be completed later. The contractor was continuing with this work in order that the Group Organisation could be made full use of whilst major work was proceeding at Stroud.

(ii) Stroud—The Borough Surveyor reported that 25 men were employed on the three group housing sites at Stroud and a considerable amount of work still remained to be done. A meeting had been held with the contractor and the Surveyor to the Stroud Rural District Council to discuss the possibility of finally winding up the Contract, and it was agreed that this was desirable, subject to the approval of the Stroud Rural District Council.

The Borough Surveyor was subsequently informed that the Stroud Rural District Council were averse to cancelling the existing contract and requested that the work should proceed utilising Irish labourers and the contractor was willing to co-operate in this as far as possible. It was not clear, however, whether Irish labour was readily available and on what conditions it could be employed. Furthermore, it was not yet clear whether the Ministry of Works guarantee to contribute a sum equivalent to the difference between measured works and prime cost would apply if Irish labour was employed. These points had been put to the Regional Engineer of the Ministry of Works who had promised that as soon as instructions were received he would communicate with the Borough Surveyor. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken pending the receipt of information from the Ministry of Works.

1867—Prospect Villa, Folly Lane—The Borough Surveyor reported that the roof on an outbuilding at this house had collapsed and the tenant had requested that the first floor of the building should be demolished. This work had been done and a further request had been received from the tenant that the remainder of the building should also be demolished. The Borough Surveyor reported that the cost of demolition would be partially off-set by the value of materials which would be salvaged. RESOLVED, That the request of the tenant that the remainder of the building should be demolished be acceded to.

1868—Staff—(i) Housing Assistant—The Housing Manager reported that Mrs. Badge, who had been appointed Housing Assistant had found on commencing duties that she could not carry out the work and had accordingly resigned. The Chairman had therefore appointed another applicant, Miss Arkell, in her place in the Clerical Division £252-288. RESOLVED, That this appointment be confirmed.

(ii) RESOLVED, That if no application for the appointment of Trained Assistant in A.P.T. Division, Grade 1, is received from a trained applicant, the Housing Manager be authorised to engage a temporary untrained assistant on the temporary officers' scales.

1869—Rents of Requisitioned Houses—The Sub-Committee appointed to consider the rents of requisitioned houses reported they had met and considered the rents of all the licensees in requisitioned houses, and in particular whether all or any of the licensees should be required to pay



the recent rate increase. In view of the fact that the great majority of the licensees were found to be paying less than the economic rent of the premises, the Sub-Committee recommended that the Town Clerk should send a letter to all licensees paying less than the economic rent explaining the need for a review of the rents, and invite licensees who desired, to complete an Income Form. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1870—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee of their meetings held on the 25th and 30th July were submitted.

The following matters (inter-alia) were dealt with.

(a) Ten applicants were interviewed and eight applications considered.

(b) Overcrowding—Cases having been reported that more than the maximum number of persons were being accommodated in prefabricated bungalows, it was decided that a circular letter should be sent to all tenants of prefabricated bungalows, drawing their attention to the condition of tenancy which prohibits their sub-letting or taking lodgers without the consent of the Council, and stating that failure to comply with this condition may result in their tenancy being terminated.

(c) Fences--Lynworth Farm—It was recommended that applications to erect gates at the back gardens should be considered if accompanied by a description of the proposed gate indicating the position proposed.

(d) St. Paul's Estate—That the roofs of the sheds on this estate be treated with preservative.

(e) Conversions----The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress made on the conversion of requisitioned and various other properties:

| Address                   | Progress and Estimated Completion   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 36 Lansdown Crescent      | One month.  |
| 1 and 2 Moorend Villas    | Completed. Keys handed over 7.7.47.   |
| Northfield House          | Commenced 30.6.47. 6 weeks.   |
| 103 Montpellier Terrace-- | Commenced 5.8.47.   |
| 13 Lansdown Crescent      | Electricians commenced 23.2.47. Other work<br>To commence immediately, completion 5.8.47. |
| 2 St. George's Parade     | Completed. Keys handed over 3.7.47.   |
| 109 Old Bath Road         | Plans and specification in hand.  |
| 4 Tivoli Road             | Plans to M.O.H. 15.7.47.  |
| 1 Kenilworth Villas       | Commenced 14.7.47. Completion 26.7.47.  |
| Oldfield Court            | Completed. Keys handed over 15.7.47.  |

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted except that the recommendation as to various changes in the conditions of tenancy be adjourned to the next meeting.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

## PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**14th August, 1947.** Present--Alderman Ward (Chairman); The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall and Mann; Mrs. Atherton and Lady Victoria Forester ; Majors Beale-Browne and Mitchell; Mr. Clegg.

1872—Plans—(a) Within the Borough--In accordance with Minute 2164/46, the Committee have approved or other-wise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and County Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                      | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| 6029        | Leonard Stace & Co., Ltd. | Extensions, Regent House, Swindon Road             | Approved  | Approved until the 31st December, 1955. Site in proposed re-development area            |
| 6205        | C. G. K. Maybury          | Garage, Belmont, Hewlett Road                      | Approved  | Approved subject to the access not interfering with trees and lamp standards in highway |
| 6220        | Chinn Bros.               | Conversion of house into two flats, 25 Bath Parade | Approved subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector | Approved  |
| 6221        | Ind Coope & Allsop, Ltd.  | Alterations, Full, Moon, High Street               | Approved as in Plan No. 6220  | Approved  |
| 6222        | F. L. Goudie              | Cycle and tool shed, 41 The Grove, Hales Road      | Exempt  | Disapproved   |
| 6223        | Miss M. Acock             | Extensions and garage, 75 Moorend Crescent         | Disapproved   | Disapproved   |
| 6224        | V. C. Barnes              | Cycle and tool shed, 187 Brooklyn Road             | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6225        | F. G. Martin              | Garage, 140 Brooklyn Road                          | Exempt  | Approved  |
| 6226        | A. J. Keen                | Garage, 29 Selkirk Street                          | Exempt  | Disapproved   |

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|------|---|---|--|--|
| 6227 | M. Middleton                            | 10 Lock-up garages, Victoria Place  | Approved as in Plan No. 6220, and to the steelwork details being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor   | Approved until the 31st December, 1955. Site in proposed re-development area   |
| 6228 | A. H. Gillman                           | Workshop, 63 Whaddon Avenue   | Disapproved  | Disapproved  |
| 6229 | G. R. Hamlin                            | Workshop, 98 Priors Road  | Approved   | Approved   |
| 6230 | Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society | Alterations and improvements, lower ground floor, Fairhavens, Pittville Circus Road   | Approved as in Plan No. 6220   | Approved subject to all windows being of the same design and materials as existing windows, and to all new work harmonising with the existing building |
| 6231 | Messrs. E. L. Ward, Ltd.                | Conversion of building into five flats, Old Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, North Place | Approved as in Plan No. 6227   | Approved as in Plan No. 6230   |
| 6232 | Stroud Brewery Co.                      | Alterations and additions, The Five Alls Inn, Bath Road                               | Approved as in Plan No. 6220   | Approved until the 31st December, 1955. Site in proposed re-development area. Also subject to new work harmonising with the existing building.         |
| 6233 | H. Jones & Co.                          | Office and W.C., 89 Albion Street   | Disapproved  | Disapproved  |
| 6234 | Worcester and Midland Ice Co.           | Cold Store, Gloucester Road   | Approved subject to steelwork details being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor, and to complete plans being submitted before the work commenced | Approved   |
| 6235 | E. F. Theobald                          | Garden shed, 1 Pennine Road   | Disapproved  | Disapproved  |

| No. of Plan | Name                             | Description  | Recommendation Under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6236        | J. T. Walford                    | 42 St. Stephens Road   | Exempt                       | Approved subject to the owner entering into an undertaking to set back the building behind the building line if and when required. |
| 6237        | Walker Memorial Church Committee | Enlargement of Sunday School                                   | Approved                     | Approved   |
| 6238        | W. Bullingham                    | Conversion of coach-house into dwelling, Kenilworth, Pittville | Approved                     | Approved   |

(b) Outside the Borough-In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name                  | Description   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 2293        | Miss Stacey           | Conversion of outbuildings into a cottage, Boddington Manor         | Approved, subject to allocation of land to the house to conform with town planning requirements if at any time the house is sold off from the remainder of the property |
| 2294        | Miss Stacey           | Conversion of further outbuildings into a cottage, Boddington Manor | Approved as in Plan No. 2293  |
| 2324        | Miss I. M. Skinner    | Cycle shed, 3 Maisonette, Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury  | Approved subject to the building being satisfactorily screened from the roadway, and corrugated iron roof being painted approved colour                                 |
| 2326        | C. Coxwell-Rogers     | Greenhouse and re-erection of shed, Rossley Manor, Dowdeswell       | Approved  |
| 2327        | J. B. Wortley         | Wood and coal shed, Campden, Badgeworth Lane, Shurdington           | Approved  |
| 2328        | R. H. Barrow          | Extension to garage, Gotherington                                   | Approved  |
| 2329        | Messrs. Garlick Bros. | Cross Garage, Nr. Gotherington                                      | Disapproved   |

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|      |  | Conversion of disused public house into five flats, Unicorn, Gloucester Street, Winchcombe |  |
| 2330 | Education Committee                    | Sanitary Offices, Boys' School, Charlton Kings   | Approved   |
| 2331 | Education Committee                    | Sanitary Offices, Girls' and Infants' School, Charlton Kings                               | Approved   |
| 2332 | R. Devereux                            | Cycle shed, 1 Llanthony Cottages, Tredington, Nr. Tewkesbury                               | Disapproved  |
| 2333 | A. Wheaton                             | Tool shed, 2a Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury                                     | Approved for a period of two years from the date of consent as the proposed building will project beyond building line of proposed estate development road |
| 2334 | Lloyd Jones                            | Tool shed, 2 Brymore Avenue, New Barn Lane, Prestbury                                      | Approved   |
| 2335 | F. Madgwick                            | Poultry houses and greenhouses, 3 Havilah Cottages, Bamfurlong                             | Approved   |
| 2336 | G. W. S. Brewer                        | Proposed layout for 14 houses, off Post Office Lane. Cleeve Hill                           | Disapproved  |
| 2337 | E. J. Kilbey                           | Greenhouse, 3 Flaxley Place, East End, Charlton Kings                                      | Approved   |
| 2338 | F. G. Stephens                         | Proposed additions, Redcot, Swindon Village  | Approved   |
| 2339 | Prestbury District Nurses' Association | Bungalow (Duty room included), Church Street, Prestbury                                    | Approved   |
| 2340 | Prestbury Parish Council               | Sanitary accommodation, The Smithy, Blacksmiths Lane, Prestbury                            | Approved until the 12th December, 1949   |
| 2341 | O. E. Cannell                          | Nine garages, Hill Court, Evesham Road, Prestbury  | Approved subject to the garages being used only by the residents of the Hill Court Flats, except with the consent of the Committee                         |
| 2342 | H. Jones                               | Garage, 7 Brymore Avenue New Barn Lane, Prestbury  | Approved   |

325

| No. of Plan | Name                             | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 2343        | Messrs. Evans Adlard & Co., Ltd. | Conversion of building into two cottages and new lavatory accommodation for employees, Postlip Mills, Winchcombe | Approved                                       |

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|------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 2344 | Cheltenham Rural District Council | Conversion of Institution into four cottages, Winchcombe                  | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building                      |
| 2345 | L. V. Webb                        | Tool shed, 4a Brymore Avenue, Prestbury                                   | Approved subject to satisfactory screening of the building from the road by trees and shrubs |
| 2346 | H. W. Pullen                      | Garden shed, 7 Brymore Avenue, Prestbury                                  | Approved   |
| 2347 | H. B. Faint                       | Filling Station, junction of Leckhampton Road with main road, Shurdington | Approved   |
| 2348 | W. Stephens                       | Garage, Two Hedges Road, Woodmancote                                      | Approved   |

1873—Development Plans—(a) Pittville Terrace—Application from Messrs. Haddock, Pruen & Lintott, on behalf of a client, to use the basement of No. 3 Pittville Terrace for the purpose of a hand laundry. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as the premises are in an area proposed to be scheduled for residential purposes only.

(b) Elmstone Hardwicke—Application from W. H. and M. A. Reed for permission to erect a house on a plot of land at Elmstone Hardwicke. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, and that final approval be deferred pending submission and approval of detailed plans.

(c) Dunalley Parade--Application from Messrs. Unirep, Ltd., for permission to use the former slaughterhouse in Dunalley Parade for light industrial purposes, namely the manufacture of toys and thermos plastic moulding. RESOLVED, That consent be given until the 31st December, 1952, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.

(d) Commercial Street---Former Slaughter House--Application by Mr. D. Roberts to use these premises for the manufacture of Latex rubber goods until more suitable premises or a new factory could be obtained. The applicant stated that the proposed process would not give off malodorous fumes.

Application was also submitted for the use of these premises by the Granville Sheet Metal Works, Ltd., for sheet metal works or stores. Complaints have been received of noise at their present works in Gratton Street, and the Committee were of the opinion that this type of industry which commenced during the war was unsuitable for the area. RESOLVED, That consent to the use of the premises for sheet metal works be refused but that consent be given for either of the remaining purposes for a period until the 31st December, 1950, subject in the case of the application of Mr. Roberts to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell.

(e) Benhall Farm, Gloucester Road—Messrs. Healing & Overbury applied on behalf of St. Paul's Training College for approval to the erection of a new college, hostels and ancillary buildings on a

site at Benhall Farm. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle subject to layout and detailed plans of buildings being submitted to and approved by the Committee.

(f) Station Road, Bishops Cleeve--Application from Solicitors acting for Mr. C. Gaskins, for permission to use " Rosemary," Station Road, Bishops Cleeve, for the purpose of sawing timber into logs. The applicants submitted memorial from 37 persons that they had no objection to the proposed use. The site was in an area which had been scheduled for residential purposes, and the premises had been used for a saw mill without previous approval. Verbal complaints had been received of the noise caused by the sawing of timber. In view of the fuel shortage, it was RESOLVED, that consent be given to the continuance of the use for the above purpose for a period of 12 months from the date of consent.

1874—Town & Country Planning Bill—The Town Clerk submitted joint circular, dated 28th July, from the Association of Municipal Corporations, County Councils, Urban District Councils and Rural District Councils Associations. Officers of the Associations had discussed informally with the Ministry of Town & Country Planning steps to be taken by the Minister under Clause 34 of the Bill for the making of regulations delegating functions under Part III of the Bill to Councils of county districts. It appeared more desirable for a scheme of delegation to be made for each county rather than to make regulations applying to the whole country, and to leave to County Councils and the County district councils the definition of relationships between them in so far as delegation is concerned. The Minister attached considerable importance to County and county district councils working together in harmony, and would like delegation schemes to be agreed schemes.

In addition to the provisions in the Bill for delegation, there was also provision for de-centralisation by appointing committees and sub-committees which may be on an area basis, and on which district councils may be represented substantially. The creation of these committees and sub-committees could avoid the necessity for preparing a scheme under Clause 32, and had the advantage that county district councils could be consulted not only on functions relating to control of development, but also in the preparation of development plans (which is reserved from delegation). RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Clerk of the County Council suggesting that representatives of this Committee meet representatives of the County Council to discuss the matter with a view to agreement being reached as to the best method to be adopted in relation to the Cheltenham and district, planning area.

1875—Cleeve Common (Min. 1641)—Letter was submitted from the Regional Controller, Ministry of Town & Country Planning, stating that it was understood the proposal of the War Department to use Cleeve Common as 3 training area for troops had been abandoned.

326

1876-Wistley Hill—Read, letter dated 11th July from the Clerk to the Charlton Kings Urban District Council intimating that his Council had lodged strong objections to the use of Wistley Hill area for training purposes.

1877—Royal Well Chapel Site (Min. 797--(a) The Direction made by the Council under Article 5 of the Town & Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946, had been confirmed by the Minister. (b) Application was submitted from Mr. W. T. Davis for permission to erect a temporary or permanent structure for serving snacks and light refreshments to travellers using the omnibus station. RESOLVED, That having regard to the proposed future development of this area, consent be refused.

1878--Preservation of Trees— Queens, Stutfield and Thrift Woods (Min. 1777)—The Town Clerk reported that three objections have been made to the Interim Development Preservation Order made by the Council in pursuance of Section 8 of the Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943, in respect of these trees and woodlands. Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning intimating that a local Inquiry would be held on Thursday, 28th August, 1947, at 10 a.m.

1879—Hester's Way—Model—The Education Committee had requested that when the model of Hester's Way was no longer needed for the purpose for which it was prepared, it should be given to the Education Committee for use in schools in connection with social studies. The Planning Officer pointed out that the model was frequently used by him in connection with lectures and he suggested that the model should be loaned to the Education Committee when required and that he should prepare explanatory notes of the model for the use of the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved.

1880—Thirlestaine House (Min. 1640)—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning forwarding appeal and relevant correspondence made by the Gloucestershire County Council under Section 10 (5) of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, against the decision of the Council relating to the proposed use of Thirlestaine House.

1881—Hilton Lodge, Westall Green—The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Mr. B. Lee-White requesting the Committee to approve his application for extension of the garage at these premises.

The Planning Officer reported that these premises were being used for business purposes, for which consent had not been given. RESOLVED, That the extension to the garage as shown on Plan No. 6198 be disapproved, that consent to the use of the present premises for business purposes be disapproved, but that in order to avoid hardship and to enable the applicant to obtain alternative accommodation, no action be taken by the Council to remove the business for a period of three months from the 1st September, 1947.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**22nd August, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); Councillors Biggs, Bishop and Mann.

1882—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer was submitted on the collection of the first instalment of this rate. Amount collected £246,878 . amount outstanding £4,682.

1883—Water Rate and Charges—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 30th September, 1947 was submitted. Amount collected £29,371 ; amount outstanding £2,654.

1884—Electricity Charges--The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £21,060 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £680 for re-chargeable works carried out and £424 for electricity supplied.

1885---Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date.           | Proposal.        | Amount | Term.     |
|-----------------|------------------|--------|-----------|
| 31st July, 1947 | Electricity—Land | £240}  | 60 years. |
|                 | Plant            | £5601} | 20 years. |



|                 |  |          |           |
|-----------------|--|----------|-----------|
| 31st July, 1947 | Electricity—meter testing equipment                      | £425     | 10 years. |
| 31st July, 1947 | Replacement and modification of<br>11KV switchgear—plant | £4,200}  | 20 years. |
|                 | Plant—modification of switchgear                         | £1,003}  | 7 years.  |
| 31st July, 1947 | Mains ...  | £4,730 } | 25 years  |
| 31st July, 1947 | Plant and switchgear                                     | £912}    | 20 years. |
| 31st July, 1947 | Electricity—adaptation of<br>Southwood House             | £784     | 10 years. |
| 31st July, 1947 | Plant (transformers)                                     | £6,870   | 20 years. |
| 31st July, 1947 | Mains ...  | £5,897}  | 25 years. |
|                 | Plant ...  | £3,9711} | 20 years. |

1886—County Council Precept—Precept from the County Council was submitted in respect of the half-year commencing 1st October, 1947, requiring a total payment of £171,500.

1887—Income Tax—Claimed Roads—(Min. 459/47)—The Council in December, 1946, agreed to contribute £10 towards the costs to be incurred by the Scarborough Council in requiring the Special Commissioners for Inland Revenue to State a Case for the opinion of High Court arising out of certain assessments made by the Inland Revenue Authorities in respect of interest paid on County Road loans. The hearing had now taken place and the Appeal had failed As pointed out in the previous Min. whilst this Council were not concerned in regard to claimed roads, the decision might have considerable importance in relation to the reimbursement of educational loan charges by the Gloucestershire County Council to this authority.

1888—Insurance—Civic Plate and Regalia—(Min. 1271)—The Town Clerk reported that the Civic Plate and Regalia had been re-valued and submitted a revised valuation amounting to £6,985. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to increase the insurance to the present valuation.

327

1889--Superannuation—(i) The following refunds of contributions had been made :—

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Miss M. N. D. Clare (Treasurer's Department)  | £114 11 0 |
| Miss P.M. Dickson (Entertainments Department) | 29 17 2   |
| S. Hailing (Joint Water Board)                | 28 3 11   |

(ii) Transfer values had been received from :-

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Dudley Corporation (Mr. W. H. G. Meakins, Health Department) | £456 13 0 |
| Ealing Corporation (E. Mills, Electricity Department)        | 316 7 1   |

(iii) 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 7th July, 1939, a superannuation allowance was payable to J. Jones, meter reader, electricity department, who retired on 4th August, 1947, amounting to £117 12 3 per annum, based on 12 years 11 months non-contributory service and 22 years 4 months contributory service. RESOLVED, That an allowance be paid accordingly.

1890—National Insurance—Circular No. 135/47, Ministry of Health, dated 13th August, 1947, was submitted, forwarding a copy of the National Insurance (Modification of Local Government Superannuation Schemes) Regulations, 1947, made by the Minister under Section 69 (4) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, and subsequent amending Regulations. The National Insurance Scheme which becomes fully operative on 5th July, 1948, increases the rates of contributions and pensions for those already insured and ultimately brings into insurance on 5th July, 1948, all local government officers and employees not at present insured. Both employers and employees will then pay new, or increased, contributions towards pensions. Generally, the Regulations contained provisions for modifying Acts and Schemes relating to local government superannuation schemes by prescribing the payment of reduced contributions and allowances (on retirement) in accordance with actuarial tables set out in the Regulations. Persons already in service and subject to superannuation schemes on 1st September, 1947, or who enter superannuable employment (but prior to the 5th July, 1948) are exempt from the modifications, provided there is no disqualifying break of service exceeding 12 months, unless within three months of 1st September, 1947, or of the date on which they become superannuable, they exercise an option under the Regulations to become subject to the reduced contributions and allowances. Persons contributing in full to superannuation schemes and national health insurance will be entitled to both pensions in full if a person, previously a contributory employee, is not in the employment of a local authority on 1st September, 1947 (being already insured), or when he becomes an insured person, if later but returns to such employment without a disqualifying break of more than 12 months he may exercise the option within three months of his return. Persons ineligible for a national insurance pension at 65 (women 60), namely those persons over 55 (women 50) when insured for first time under the National Health insurance on 5th July, 1948, are not subject to the modification and have no such option.

Persons exercising their option to pay a reduced contribution will do so as from the commencement of the next week (weekly paid staff) or commencement of next month (monthly paid staff) after the date of option. The reductions in rates of contributions are set out below and in accordance with the actuarial tables in the Regulation, the reduced amount of pension payable will vary from men, £1 14 0 to 15s 6d. per annum, and women, £1 14 0 to 11s per annum for each contributory year in which reduced contributions are paid, the amount being based on age at the date of exercising the option.

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| (a) Female Nurse, Midwife or Health Visitor | 1s 2d per week. |
| (B) Other Women                             | 1s 3d per week, |
| (c) Other Men                               | 1s 2d per week. |

Where appropriate, the employer's contributions are reduced by the same amount.

The pension reductions for new entrants who will have no option will be at the rate of £1 14s 0d per annum, for each contributory year and 17s for each non-contributory year. The Regulations also provide for transfers from one authority to another, and for persons out of service on 1st September, 1947, or on war service.

Local Authorities are required to inform officers and employees of the effect of the Regulations and their right of option and where no notice is received within the period stated the officer or employee will contribute in full to both schemes.

The Town Clerk reported that first intimation of the Regulations was received from the National Union of General and Municipal Workers as a result of which he had communicated with the

Ministry of Health, who stated that copies of the Regulations and amending Regulations would be forwarded to Local Authorities in a few days, These were received on the 19th August, 1947.

The Borough Treasurer submitted draft circulars which he proposed should be circulated to officers and employees and suggested that not only should persons exercising the option be asked to reply but also those desiring to contribute in full to both schemes. Owing to the operation of the Council's modified scheme for workmen, whereby the first pound was disregarded in assessing superannuation contributions and the operation of the actuarial tables in the Regulations, in certain age groups although the employees might elect to pay a reduced contribution, they would receive a slightly increased allowance on retirement. RESOLVED (i) That circulars on the lines submitted be forwarded to all officers and employees and that they be requested to indicate their decision whether to make a reduced contribution or to continue full payment. (ii) That the Town Clerk communicate with the Association of Municipal Corporations calling attention to the unsatisfactory position of outside bodies being supplied with the regulations in advance of Local Authorities.

1 891—Damage to Sandford Park Entrance—The Town Clerk reported that, arising out of the damage to the entrance to Sandford Park by a War Department vehicle on the 14th February, 1947, a claim amounting to £140 10s. 0d. had been made to the War Department. In respect of claims for damage not exceeding £100 the Council had an agreement with the War Department for reimbursement of 75 per cent. on any claim, but as this claim exceeded £100 it does not come within the terms of the agreement. The driver of the vehicle had taken the vehicle without consent, and as it was not in the execution of his duties, the War Department had now repudiated all liability. It was therefore suggested that the Council should reduce the amount of their claim to £100, so that it comes within the agreement and to enable payment of 75 per cent. of the claim. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's suggestion be approved and a claim made on the above basis.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

328

### **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 September, 1947.** Present;

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, J. Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Carter, Fildes, Fisher, Irving, Mann, Morris, Strickland, Waite, Ward and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Green and Leigh James ; Councillors Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., S. Bendall, Gardner, Midwinter, Readings and

1892—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 28th July, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1893—H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth—(i) The Mayor stated that he had addressed a telegram to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth tendering the loyal and good wishes of the Council and the townspeople of



1896—Librarian's Report for July and August, 1947—

Issues—Reference Department 9,109 ; Lending Department 66,325 ; Junior Department 9,190 ; Branch Libraries 3,335 ; Loan Collections 800. Total 88,759 (July and August last year 94,667).

Receipts amounted to £157 8s. 6d.

Replacements and Binding-548 volumes had been replaced. 200 volumes had been dispatched to the Binder and 193 returned and placed in circulation.

1897—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 607 volumes published at £275 9s. 6d. be purchased for £246 3s. 2d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding.

(c) That the sum of £50 be spent on replacements.

1898—Donations--62 volumes and 33 pamphlets had been received from 13 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1899—Periodicals—RESOLVED (a) That the following periodicals be added to those already purchased—" The Auto-car " (weekly 6d.) ; " The Strad " (monthly, 6d.), both suggested by readers.

(b) That the following periodicals be not added to the Library—" British Bulletin of Commerce Weekly (£2 12s. 6d. per annum) ; " Engineering Industries Bulletin " (monthly, £2 12s. 6d. per annum) ; " Building and Engineering Bulletin " (monthly, £2 12s. 6d. per annum); " Home Market Bulletin " (£2 12s. 6d. per annum); " Special Survey Numbers (£2 12s. 6d. per annum) suggested by the publishers.

1900 Lectures—The programme for the autumn-winter series of lectures was discussed and suggestions made as to lecturers. RESOLVED, That the Librarian be authorised to arrange afternoon or evening lectures as convenient.

1901—Cheltenham Natural Science Society—Lt.-Col. A. M. Cockshott and Miss Duckworth, two surviving members of this Society, had offered the collection of books which had belonged to the Society, and which had been housed on the Public Library shelves for many years, as a gift to the Library. RESOLVED, That the gift be accepted, and that the Librarian be authorised to deal with the collection by discarding or retaining such items as he deems desirable.

1902—Staff—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed Junior Assistants in the General Division (Female) of the National Scale:-

(a) Miss Pamela J. Hyett (School Certificate) as from 5th August, 1947, in place of Mrs. Ethel W. Todd (temporary part-time assistant), resigned.

(b) Miss Freda V. Walters (School Certificate) as from 8th September, 1947, in place of Miss Edith F. Cooke, who is shortly leaving to be married.

RESOLVED ALSO, That Miss Joan V. M. Tombs, having passed the School Certificate examination, be transferred from the temporary officers' scales to the General Division (Female) of the National Scale as from 8th September, 1947.

D. L. LIPSON,

Chairman.

## ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

**15th September, 1947.** Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman) ; Alderman Green ; Councillors Compton, Midwinter and Yeend; Messrs. Ball and Barlow.

1903—Brooklyn Road Allotments Nos. 1-12—This land, a building site, was now practically untenanted in view of probable housing development. RESOLVED, That the Parks Committee be asked to utilise the land for food production.

1904—Additional Land for Permanent Allotments—(Mins. 1643 and 1646)—RESOLVED, That a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, Councillor Yeend and Mr. Barlow inspect land suitable for permanent allotments, including Brighton Gardens, and land in the vicinity of Alma Road housing estate, and report.

1905—Unemployed Allotments Association--(Min. 1647)—The Association have agreed to the termination of their tenancy agreement for plots at Marle Hill on 25th March, 1948, the plots being re-let to existing tenants at the usual rentals.

1906—Barn Field Allotments—The owners, Dean Close School, urgently required this land for food production for the school and asked for its release or alternatively, a more adequate rent. All the plots were well cultivated and 20 tenants would be affected. RESOLVED, That the hind be not de-requisitioned in view of the present food situation but an appropriate rental be negotiated.

330

1907 Greenhills Road Allotments—Mr. L. Stephenson, the purchaser of a building site, asked for de-requisitioning to - enable him to clear the site and plant fruit trees. Plots Nos. 4, 5, 16 and 17 and part of Nos. 6, 15 and 18 would be affected, some of which were well cultivated, others only partly. RESOLVED, That, subject to there being no applicants on the waiting list when the plots become vacant the owner be permitted to use them for food production, the compensation rental being adjusted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the tenants of uncultivated portions be informed that failing satisfactory cultivation their tenancies would be terminated.

1908—Charlton Lane Allotments, Site adjacent to No. 110. The purchaser of a building plot wished to erect a garage. The building could be sited on the wide access road near plots Nos. 25 and 26 and no interference would be caused. RESOLVED, That subject to no disturbance and to the approval of the Planning Committee no objection be raised.

1909—Land, The Avenue adjoining Brown Gables—The owner asked for release of this land where only one plot was cultivated. RESOLVED, That the uncultivated area be released forthwith.

1910—Land adjoining Emmanuel Church—The Church Authorities had hitherto claimed no compensation although the land was requisitioned in 1941, when they were informed that compensation rental could be negotiated. RESOLVED, That negotiations for compensation rental be re-opened.

1911—Carters Field Allotments—Complaints was received of damage and theft due to insufficient fencing, also of children possessing keys to the entrance from Windsor Street. The complainant was informed that fencing had been renewed on many occasions and the Police asked to keep observation. Allotment holders using Windsor Street entrance were supplied with keys which should not be in the possession of children. RESOLVED, That the Police Superintendent be asked whether assistance could be given from the new Whaddon Police Station.

1912—Cultivation—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported upon cultivation of plots and stated that since the last meeting 21 tenancies had been terminated and 35 allotments let. The Allotments Association also drew attention to the bad condition of certain plots. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take steps to recover possession of plots Nos. 38 Agg Gardner Recreation Ground, 13 Severn Road and 12 Thorncliffe Drive, and that the allotments be relet. ALSO RESOLVED, That other tenants be informed that unless the plots were more satisfactorily cultivated their tenancies would be terminated and that the Gardens Superintendent report further upon general cultivation to the next meeting.

1913—Water Supply—(a) The Allotments Association applied for a water supply to plots 21-45 Brooklyn Road. The Association were informed of the Committee's intention to make provision for supplies to all permanent sites in next year's estimates. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit estimates to the next meeting when consideration would be given to the additional rent to be charged. to cover this amenity.

(b) Shelley Road---The Borough Surveyor reported that the estimated cost of providing a supply to these allotments including a meter and ball tap tank which was considered the most satisfactory method to prevent wastage was £20. RESOLVED, That the work be carried out and that an additional annual rental of 1s 6d per plot be charged

1914—Summer Competition—(Min. 915)---(a) As a result of judging of allotments in the Borough the following awards had been made and presented at the Chrysanthemum and Produce Show on 11th September—

| Station          | Plot No.                               | Tenant              |
|------------------|--|---------------------|
| North Western--- | 183 North Ward                         | Mr. H. F. Wixey     |
| “                | 22 Baglin's Piece                      | Mr. W. C. Cocks     |
| “                | 23 North Ward                          | Mr. A. Ball         |
| North Eastern--  | 31 Whaddon Road                        | Mr. E. Miles        |
| “                | 48 Cleevelands Drive                   | Mr. H. C. Gilder    |
| “                | 18 Whaddon Road                        | Mr. H. J. Langsbury |
| South Eastern--  | 31 Hall Road                           | Mr. J. F. Ballinger |
| “                | 35 Hall Road                           | Mr. H. Sansome      |
| “                | 5, Gong Furlong                        | Mr. W. E. Leach     |
| South Western-   | 1 Arle Road                            | Mr. F. Bridgman     |
| “                | 2 Arle Road                            | Mr. A. Humphries    |
| “                | No. 1 Orchard rear of<br>Tennyson Road | Mr. W. Mustoe.      |

The Alderman P. T. Smith Challenge Cup had been awarded to the tenant of No. 183 North Ward. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

(b) Miniatures—RESOLVED, That miniatures be purchased and presented to the winners of the Alderman P. T. Smith Challenge Cup.

1915—Rebates in Rent—RESOLVED, That the following rebates in rent be granted—Nos. 92 Hatherley Park, 23 Charlton Lane 87b Hatherley Park, 12 Shelley Road and 10 Greenhills Road, 3 months ; Nos. 39 and 58 Shelley Road, 2i months ; and Nos. 9 -Shelley Road and 15 Creamery Piece, 4 months rent free period.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

**ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**5th September, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Leigh James and Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall, Fisher and Yeend; and Mr. C. R. Mapp.

1916—Curator's Report for July and August—Visitors--during July and August 7,613 (July and August last year 6,670). Daily average 146 (last year 126).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, etc., £,15 9s. 9d. Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " Account £1 15s. 11d.

Exhibitions--(a) The Sixteenth Annual Exhibition of the Cotswold Art Club was held from 5th June-5th July. During this period of 27 days, it was visited by 3,777 persons, an average of 140 a day.

(b) A Selection of Oil paintings from the Rutherston Collection was now on view and would remain open until 22nd September.

Curator's talks--Since the last Meeting the Curator had conducted two tours of Cheltenham with students of Oakley Training College for Women.

Loan—A Worcester Porcelain Tea and Coffee Set, of the Dr. Wall period. had been lent to the Museum for an indefinite time by Mrs. W. G. Clarke, of Worcester.

Museums' Association Conference--The Curator reported on the Conference of the Museums' Association held at Manchester from 7th—11th July, 1947.

1917—Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors :—Mrs. Bridgeland (gentleman's flowered waist-coat, early Victorian); Mrs. Deakin Burrow (archaeological papers and drawings from the collection of the late Mr. Ed. J. Burrow) ; Mr. G. Ganderton (dairy utensils) ; Mr. E. W. Rand (bottle lock). RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1918—Specimens purchased---RESOLVED, That the following purchase from the General Account be approved namely, Etching by Frank Brangwyn, 2nd state, " The Meat Market, Bruges " (£1).

1919—Exhibitions—(a) Cheltenham Group of Artists—RESOLVED, That this Group be given permission to hold their Annual Exhibition in November, 1947.

(b) Cheltenham- Camera Club—The Curator read application from this Club for facilities in the Art Gallery for the exhibition of the Eighteenth Midland Salon of Photography in November, 1948. RESOLVED, That permission be given for this Exhibition to be held for a fortnight.

1920—Cirencester Arts Club—Application had been received from Cirencester Arts Club, for the loan of a selection of pictures from the Permanent Collection, for a limited period. RESOLVED, That a loan of a number of pictures which would otherwise be in store be made for the month of November, 1947, and that the details be left to the Curator.

1921—Historical Association—Cheltenham Branch—The Curator read application from this Association for facilities to hold six lectures on the history of the Gloucestershire region, in the Chinese Porcelain Room during the session 1947-48. RESOLVED, That permission be granted and that the details be left to the Curator to arrange.

1922—Relic of Napoleon—The Curator reported correspondence with the Trustees of the late John Bubb, Esq., by which it appeared that the Trustees wished to honour a wish made by the late Mr.



Bubb that a ring in his possession should be given to the Cheltenham Museum. The ring had been presented by Napoleon Bonaparte on the occasion of his coronation to one of his favourites, General Lefevre, who later became a prisoner-of-war in Cheltenham. When the General broke his parole in 1812 and escaped to France, this ring, with other mementoes, was left in the possession of persons who had befriended him. RESOLVED, That the ring be accepted and that the thanks of the Committee be tendered to the Trustees, ALSO, That the Curator arrange with the Borough Treasurer for suitable insurance of this rare specimen.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

332

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**11<sup>th</sup> September, 1947.** Present--Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye; Councillors Bayliss, J. Bendall and Mann; Lady Victoria Forester and Mrs. Atherton ; Majors Beale-Browne, Mitchell and Shakspeare ; Mr. Harris.

12th September, 1947. Present---Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye; Councillors Bayliss and J. Bendall.

1923—Plans--(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Minute 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                           | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws.   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 6222        | F. L. Goudie                   | Cycle and tool shed, 41 The Grove.                            | Approved  | Approved.   |
| 6223        | Miss M. Acock                  | Extension and garage, 75 Moorend Crescent.                    | Approved  | Approved.   |
| 6228        | A. H. Gillman                  | Workshop, 63 Whaddon Road.                                    | Approved  | Deferred.   |
| 6239        | J. R. Crew                     | Garage, 19 Northfield Terrace.                                | Approved, subject to Borough Surveyor being satisfied with arrangements for disposal of roof water. | Approved for a period of 5 years from date of consent the site being in a proposed re-development area. |
| 6240        | Gloucestershire County Council | Alterations to provide Home for Blind, Ellerslie, Albert Road | Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of Chief Sanitary Inspector        | Approved, subject to the external staircase being sited at the rear of the premises.                    |
| 6241        | Mrs. A. Horwood                | New shop front, 239 High Street.                              | Approved  | Approved.   |

|      |                              |   |   |   |
|------|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 6243 | S. C. Crook                  | Rebuilding of<br>37 Leckhampton Road,<br>and erection of new<br>dwelling house  | Approved  | Approved, subject to the<br>buildings being set back<br>60ft. from the centre of<br>the highway.  |
| 6244 | H. G. Haskins                | Cycle and tool shed,<br>17 Brooklyn Gardens.                                    | Disapproved   | Disapproved.  |
| 6245 | J. Elsley                    | Cycle and tool shed,<br>6 Brooklyn Gardens.                                     | Disapproved   | Disapproved.  |
| 6246 | Great Western<br>Railway Co. | Conversion of stables<br>to dwelling,<br>Western Lawn,<br>St. George's Road.    | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6240.  | Approved.   |
| 6247 | Engall Cox & Co.             | Fuel store and waste<br>bin bay, 86 St.<br>George's Road.                       | Approved  | Approved.   |
| 6248 | R. Greenslade                | Coal and perambulator<br>shed, 1 Dagmar Road.                                   | Approved  | Approved.   |
| 6249 | Marshalls<br>(C.K.) Ltd.     | Remodelling of 2<br>derelict cottages,<br>1 and 2 Wards Road.                   | Approved, subject to<br>the septic tank being<br>sited to satisfaction of<br>the Borough Surveyor                               | Approved, subject to the<br>new windows being of<br>same type, design and<br>material as existing<br>Windows and to all new<br>work harmonising with<br>existing building.          |
| 6250 | H. Kisby                     | Conversion of house into<br>3 flats,<br>Wellington Lodge,<br>Wellington Square. | Approved as in Plan<br>No. 6240 and subject<br>to the steel-work<br>details being to<br>satisfaction of the<br>Borough Surveyor | Approved.   |
| 6251 | A. H. Nottingham             | Extension to garage,<br>49 Byron Road.  | Approved  | Approved for a period of<br>2 years from the date of<br>consent and to the build-<br>ing being reduced to the<br>height of a private garage<br>on the expiration of that<br>period. |
| 6252 | Mrs. Henderson               | Conversion into 4 flats,<br>Ellingham House,<br>Pittville Lawn.                 | Approved as in Plan<br>No. 6240 and to<br>basement not being<br>used for human<br>habitation.                                   | Approved.   |
| 6253 | F. F. Thompson               | Garage, adjoining<br>Sundial House,<br>Charlton Lane.                           | Approved  | Approved.   |

| No. of Plan | Name               | Description                          | Recommendation under Byelaws.                 | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 6254        | W. Bullingham      | Garage, Campden, St. Stephen's Road. | Approved                                      | Approved.                                      |
| 6255        | W. E. C. Bird      | Garden tool shed, Albert Road.       | Approved                                      | Approved.                                      |
| 6256        | Dr. A. P. Donnison | Garage, rear of 11 Imperial Square.  | Approved subject to the doors opening inwards | Approved.                                      |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name                | Description  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|---------------------|--|--|
| 2349        | Education Committee | Additional classrooms, Prestbury C. of E. School, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury | Approved.                                      |
| 2350        | T. F. Major         | Alterations and repairs, Footbridge Farm, Footbridge, Winchcombe           | Approved.                                      |
| 2351        | T. J. Tonge         | Wooden bungalow, Noverton Lane Prestbury                                   | Disapproved.                                   |
| 2352        | Mrs. L. Wakefield   | Alterations and additions, 10 Church Street, Charlton Kings                | Approved.                                      |
| 2353        | V. Dent             | Garage, Wyn-Torre, Okus Road, Charlton Kings.                              | Approved.                                      |
| 2354        | F. E. Huckfield     | Garage, Castleton, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings                        | Approved.                                      |
| 2355        | C. H. Priestley     | Alterations, Alva, Oakley Road, Battledown                                 | Approved.                                      |
| 2356        | R. E. Adlard        | Conversion of part of disused Institution, Winchcombe, into a Youth Club   | Approved.                                      |
| 2357        | R. C. Mann          | Extension to garage, Bee Hive Inn, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury.               | Approved.                                      |
| 2358        | Rev. K. C. Edmunds  | Conversion of one house into two, The Rectory, Bishops Cleeve              | Approved.                                      |
| 2359        | E. R. Smith         | Bathrooms to existing cottages,  | Approved.                                      |

|      |                 |  |  |
|------|-----------------|--|--|
| 2360 | D. Mitchell     | Starveall Cottages, Corndean Farm, Winchcombe<br>Implement shed, Drypool Farm, Prestbury | Approved.  |
| 2361 | H. R. Lewis     | Nissen hut for storage, Lewisbrook, Shurdington Road, Nr. Cheltenham                     | Deferred.  |
| 2362 | Mrs. E. A. Cook | Implement shed, Orchard Farm, Bentham  | Approved.  |
| 2363 | R. J. Palmer    | Re-erection of greenhouse and erection of poultry house, Dundry, Bamfurlong              | Approved.  |
| 2364 | F. L. Sparrow   | Sectional shed, Roseville Cottage, Bishops Cleeve  | Approved.  |
| 2365 | Miss Hughes     | Alterations to annexe, The White House, The Reddings, Nr. Cheltenham                     | Approved.  |
| 2366 | Miss Parker     | Conversion into 2 houses, The Ramblers, Prestbury Road, Prestbury.                       | Approved.  |
| 2367 | J. H. Jenkins   | Proposed house, Kidnappers Lane, Leckhampton   | Approved subject to specification of materials being submitted to, and approved by, the Committee. |
| 2368 | F. Parry        | Store Shed, 28 Glebe Road, Prestbury   | Approved.  |
| 2369 | C. G. Bentley   | Garage, The Gables, Gretton Road, Winchcombe   | Approved.  |
| 2370 | W. Cooper       | Shed for domestic use, 16 Chargrove Grounds, Shurdington                                 | Disapproved.   |

1924—Development Plans-(a) Tewkesbury Road, Swindon-Application from Mr. A. C. S. Wilcox to erect a house in Lodge Gardens, fronting Tewkesbury Road. The site was in an area scheduled for development purposes and the County Surveyor considered it would be preferable for the house to be sited near the entrance to the public footpath so as to avoid an additional access to the main road. The applicant objected to the County Surveyor's proposals for various reasons. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, final consent being deferred pending submission of detailed plans subject to the building being set back 45 feet behind the proposed improvement line of the County Council, and to the owner entering into an agreement that in the event of further development taking place, he will, if and when required, lay out and construct on his own land a service road in accordance with the County Surveyor's requirements.

(b) Copt Elm Road—Application from Messrs. Kitchen and Leonard to use a summer house fronting Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, for the sale of fruit and vegetables. The applicants had previously erected a timber building adjoining the road without approval, and were advised to submit application for consent, which was not done. The applicants had placed an old summer house, the subject of this application, on adjoining land. The site was in an area scheduled for residential purposes, and the erection was unsightly and detrimental to the amenities of the district. RESOLVED, That consent be refused, and that the applicants be required to remove the erection forthwith, failing which the Town Clerk be instructed to take legal proceedings to secure its removal.

(c) Gloucester Road---Application from the Granville Sheet Metal Works for permission to use St. Mark's Garage as a factory for their sheet metal industry, and to erect an additional factory on a plot of land in Roman Road, now occupied by a workshop and lock-up garages. RESOLVED, That the application in respect of the change of user of St. Mark's Garage be approved, subject to no nuisance being caused by smoke, dust, noise, fumes or smell, but that consideration of the application for the erection of a factory on the plot of land, be deferred for six months.

(d) Pilford Avenue--Application from Scoutmaster A. C. Lea to erect a Scouts' hut on land at the end of Pilford Avenue, RESOLVED, That consent be given for a period of ten years, as it was not possible to indicate at present its effect on future development plans for the area.

1925—Crown Factory, Stoke Orchard—Letter was received during the recess from the Regional Controller, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, requesting at short notice the observations of the Council on a proposal of the Ministry of Supply for the use of Stoke Orchard Factory No. 1 and possibly No. 2, as workshops for the repair of armour fighting vehicles. The responsible officers of the Council were consulted, and the Regional Controller was informed it was anticipated that the strongest possible objections would be raised to this proposal, partly because of the unsuitability of the roads for large vehicles. The R.D.C. had been kept informed and they agreed with the objections, and to any use of these factories which would involve the transfer of further labour to the area. RESOLVED, That the views expressed by the Town Clerk be confirmed and approved.

1926—Industrial Development—(a) The Town Clerk reported that a meeting between representatives of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, the Board of Trade and other Government Departments and the Council to discuss the position of industrialists under the reconstruction scheme had been arranged for 17th September, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, the Deputy Mayor and the appropriate officers be appointed to attend on behalf of the Council.

(b) English National Council Development Committee--Letter was submitted from this Committee inviting representatives to a meeting in London on Thursday, 16th October, to consider industrial development. RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Town Clerk who already had an appointment in London on that date, be asked to attend the meeting if time was available.

1927—War-time Erections—Westbourne House, Pittville Circus Road—(Min. 1133)—The period of consent for the use of these premises for business purposes had been extended to 31st March, 1948. Letter was submitted from the Solicitors to the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company stating that their clients were endeavouring to procure other premises but as success was unlikely by the end of March, requested the Council to extend the period of consent beyond that date. RESOLVED, That the period of consent be extended to 31st March, 1949.

1928—Signs and Advertisements—Letter was submitted on behalf of the Imperial Tobacco Company stating that signs and advertisements belonging to the Company in this area contravening the Bye-laws have now been removed.

1929—Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Compulsory Purchase Order—Read, letter of 18th July from the Clerk, Cheltenham R.D.C. that the proposed development of land in Alma Road had been considered by his Council's Planning and Plan Committee, who were unable to recommend the District Council to regard with approval, proposals which involved extensive housing development on the fringe of the Borough, and partly in the rural area. They considered other adequate and suitable land was available in the Borough. His Committee were concerned by the tendency to encroach on valuable agricultural land in the rural area and were of the opinion that the use of such land was contrary to the national interest. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision.

1930—Elmhurst, Painswick Road—The Town Clerk reported that the Electricity Committee were endeavouring to obtain a further site at these premises for the erection of an additional transformer. The owner of the land was willing to release the site, but the occupier of the premises objected on the grounds that the site was required by him for a garage. He was, however, prepared to agree to the erection of the transformer if no objection was raised to a garage on a site adjoining the present transformer. RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances, permission be given for the garage to be erected in front of the building line.

1931--Dowdeswell Hill—Advertisement Board—Major Beale-Browne stated that a board advertising the East End Garage Service, Charlton Kings, had been erected on the Cheltenham-Northleach Road. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to take the necessary steps for the removal of the board.

1932--31 Rodney Road—The Borough Surveyor reported he had inspected these premises and a certain amount of brick work supporting the front steps and a supporting wall at the side of the steps were in such a condition as to be dangerous. The owner had been required to carry out work to abate the danger but had not complied with the request. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to take such action as he deemed advisable to secure the removal of the danger.

1933—Granville Sheet Metal Works—The Planning Officer had inspected these premises in respect of which a complaint had been received, and although all the windows and doors were open the noise in the street from the factory was not serious. The firm were endeavouring to find other suitable premises. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at the present time.

1934—Hilton Lodge, Westall Green—(Min. 1881)---Letter was submitted from Mr. H. S. Lee-White requesting the Council to approve the erection of temporary extensions, and the use of the premises for business purposes, for a period of five Years, and stating that he was prepared to enter into an undertaking to remove his business from Hilton Lodge within that period. He was also prepared to provide an entrance to the workshop from St. Stephen's Road. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred, and that Mr. Lee-White be requested to submit plans showing details of his proposals.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**15th September, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Compton, Gardner, Irving and Strickland.

1935—Housing Act, 1936—(i) Basements, Elmwood House, Montpellier Street, 8 Lypiatt Terrace, 1 Suffolk Street—Further consideration was given to making Closing Orders in respect of these basements. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which are occupied, or are of a type suitable for occupation, by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal of the Council in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basements for any purpose other than storage purposes.

(ii) Basement, 2 Oxford Parade----The basement at these premises had been re-occupied in contravention of a Closing Order made on the 6th October, 1936. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk institute legal proceedings.

(iii) 33 Imperial Square—Works required to render this basement fit for human habitation had now been carried out to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. RESOLVED, That the undertaking given by the owner, that the basement would not be occupied until the works had been carried out, be cancelled.

(iv) Basement, Cranky Lodge, Wellington Square—Application was submitted from the owner of this basement, in respect of which a Closing Order was made on 9th March, 1936, for permission to carry out works necessary to render it habitable. RESOLVED, That the application be approved, subject to an undertaking by the owner that the basement would not be used for human habitation until the Committee were satisfied that the works had been satisfactorily carried out, and the Closing Order had been determined.

(v) Demolition Order, 17 St. George's Street, 13a Commercial Street, and 1 Northfield Passage—The Committee considered official representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to these buildings. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the above buildings were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said building, and the mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said buildings and offers with respect to the carrying out of works, or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of this Committee to be held on 7th October, 1947.

(vi) Re-licensing of premises—Unfit Houses—RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of 3 Bubbs Cottages be renewed for a further period of six months from the 5th October, 1947.

1936—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Lavatory accommodation, 44 Bath Road—A report was submitted upon the defective and dangerous condition of the W.C. apartments on the basement, ground, and first floors of this property. RESOLVED, That notices be served upon the owner in pursuance of Sections 44 and 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to provide the building with such closets or additional closets as may be necessary, and to repair defective waste pipe within 21 days of the serving of the notices.

(ii) Statutory notices—dustbins—The owners of 26 Lypiatt Street and 16 and 17 Kew Place had not complied with the statutory notices to provide regulation dustbins for these premises. RESOLVED,

That new dustbins be provided by the Council, and that the Town Clerk recover from the owners the expenses incurred.

(iii) 63 Sun Street—Offensive Trade—(Min. 1703)—The Committee further considered this matter, referred back at the July Council meeting, and a report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector upon further inspections of the premises. The Town Clerk pointed out that the premises were licensed for the purpose of Rag and Bone Dealer until the 31st December, 1947. RESOLVED, That the premises be kept under observation, and that the matter be further considered at the December meeting.

(iv) Smoke Abatement---(a) National Smoke Abatement Society—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that an invitation had been extended to the Association to hold their annual conference in Cheltenham in 1948. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Chief Sanitary Inspector be asked to extend a personal invitation when attending the- conference in Edinburgh on the 1st October, 1947.

(b) Gas Works—The Committee considered a complaint arising from smoke and dust from the gas works, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector was instructed to discuss the matter with representatives of the Gas Company and report. (v) Camping Site—RESOLVED, That an application from Mr. Charles Harris to use land at Benhall Farm as a camping site for one caravan be not granted.

1937—Public Conveniences—(a) Montpellier—Additional Attendants—The cash receipts at the ladies' convenience showed a decrease of about £25, Arrangements had been made to extend the opening hours and engage an additional attendant for both ladies' and gentlemen's conveniences to be present during the afternoons and evenings, in an effort to increase the revenue. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) Leckhampton Hill—The Borough Engineer reported that Mr. A. Parsons, 218 Old Bath Road, had urged on numerous occasions the erection of conveniences at the foot of Leckhampton Hill. RESOLVED, That Mr. Parsons be informed that the need for the suggested conveniences was appreciated but that it was regretted the work could not be carried out at the present time.

1938—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) The quarterly report of the Public Analyst in respect of the quarter ended 30th June, 1947, was submitted.

(ii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted reports of the Public Analyst upon samples No, 932-941 inclusive (milk) which were genuine, with the exception of sample No. 933, which was slightly deficient in non-fatty solids.

(iii) Prosecution—The Gloucestershire Dairy Company Ltd., had beers prosecuted for filling milk bottles in the streets and fined £15.

336

(iv) Milk—Letter was submitted from the County Council expressing concern that the County Analyst's report continued to reveal submission of unsatisfactory samples of milk, and that it had been necessary to institute further proceedings for adulteration of milk. The letter asked for Co-operation of all District Councils, and drew attention to the powers of Section 22 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, authorising the withdrawal of licences to vendors. RESOLVED, That the County Council be informed that the Borough Council were already alive to this matter and that proper steps and precautions were being taken.

(v) Ice Cream—(a) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that of 10 samples of ice cream taken, six were found unsatisfactory. Letters had been sent to the vendors informing them of the result, and



meetings arranged at the vendors' premises to discuss methods of manufacture and storage, with a view to improvements.

(b) Insulated Ice Box for sampling—RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector be authorised to purchase an insulated ice box at a cost of £7 10s. 0d. for transmitting samples of ice cream to the Public Analyst.

(c) RESOLVED, That the application of Mrs. L. Simmonds, 257 Gloucester Road, for the registration of these premises for the sale of ice cream be approved.

(iv) Slaughter House, 5 Suffolk Parade—RESOLVED, That the application of Mrs. E. K. Waltham for a licence in respect of the slaughter house at 5 Suffolk Parade be granted for the period ending 31st March, 1948, subject to the satisfactory screening of the premises.

1939—Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944—In view of the many technical difficulties involved the Ministry of Health had intimated that it would not be practicable to bring the above Act into operation this year. The effect of the Act and of the revision of the relevant Regulations involved would, amongst other things transfer to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, from a date to be appointed by the Minister of Health, the registration of dairy farms and dairy farmers and the control of clean milk production hitherto exercised by Local Authorities under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

1940—Labelling of Food (General Licence) Order, 1947—Circular F.S.L. 33/47, Ministry of Food. was submitted intimating that the Minister had granted a General Licence under Article 17 of the Labelling of Food Order, 1946, postponing for one year the dates on which beer brewed in the United Kingdom was required to be labelled in accordance with the provisions of that Order.

1941—Venereal Diseases—Educational Campaign—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health requesting co-operation of Local Authorities in connection with the display of posters dealing with venereal diseases. RESOLVED, That as the County Council were the responsible authority for this matter, no action be taken.

1942—Notifiable Diseases—Poliomyelitis—The Medical Officer of Health reported that two cases of Poliomyelitis had been notified. Both cases were not in the borough during the incubation period. and could not therefore definitely be attributed to Cheltenham. Neither case developed paralysis and without this characteristic feature there remained an element of doubt as to the diagnosis.

1943—Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938—(i) The Medical Officer of Health reported that two samples of pasteurised milk had been taken, one being slightly unsatisfactory, due in his opinion to the recording thermometer, which the firm were endeavouring to replace.

(ii) A letter was submitted from Messrs. A.P.V. Limited, stating that they were supplying the Gloucestershire Dairy Co. Ltd., with the new apparatus required for their pasteurising plant as soon as possible.

(iii) Tuberculin Tested Milk—The premises of Mr. G. F. Gratton, 249 Swindon Road, were now provided with facilities for the sealing or capping of bottles as required by the Order, and it was recommended that his application to bottle milk under the designation " tuberculin tested " be granted. RESOLVED, That a licence authorising the use of the designation Tuberculin Tested in relation to milk retailed in the Borough for the period ending 31st December, 1947, be issued.

1944—Public Abattoir—Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector was submitted in regard to the future of the public abattoir and the desirability of acquiring land adjoining, and at the rear of, the existing

building. The site had been inspected by representatives of the Ministry of Food and whilst the Ministry had not yet defined their future policy in connection with centralised slaughtering and meat distribution, sufficient knowledge had been obtained by the visits to proceed with the formulation of a scheme for extending the Abattoir and purchasing the above land which it might be anticipated would receive the support of the Ministry. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate for the purchase of this land.

1945—Public Health Department-Staff-Arrangements had now been made for the appointment of two Assistant School Medical Officers, and it was understood that the County Council were prepared to approve of their undertaking a certain amount of public health work. It was therefore suggested that the Committee should now give consideration to the appointment of one of the School Medical Officers as Deputy Medical Officer of Health. The present position in which there was no Deputy, had, in the past, given rise to difficulties, particularly during the absence on holiday of Dr. Morley. It was not anticipated that proposals for the carrying out of certain public health work by the Assistant School Medical Officer would carry any extra salary. It was understood that in the case of Dr. Perry, who had been appointed, the proportion of his duties would be as follows :—Public health work, one-eleventh ; maternity and child welfare, two-elevenths School Medical Officer of Health, eight-elevenths. The apportionment of the duties of the second School Medical Officer would be determined at a later date. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health and the County Council, Dr. Perry be appointed Deputy Medical Officer of Health as from 1st September, 1947

1946—Pollution of Rivers—The Committee have had under consideration complaints in respect of the alleged pollution of the Elcote, and also a similar complaint in respect of the Hatherley Brook, and these were being investigated.

337

1947—Hayden Sewage Works—Rotary Distributors and Sludge Beds—The Ministry of Health Inspector would visit these works in connection with the application for loan (Min. 1645) on 26th September. RESOLVED, That tenders be invited for the carrying out of the work after this inspection.

1948—Barn Outfall Sewer—(i) Tewkesbury Road—Application was submitted from Mr. L. Poole, Southerndown, Tewkesbury Road, for permission to connect to Barn Outfall Sewer. RESOLVED, That application be granted subject to Mr. Poole entering into the usual agreement and paying 2s in the £ on the rateable value of the premises.

(ii) Elmstone Hardwicke, Council School—Drainage—The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to a mis-understanding, drainage from this School had been connected to the Barn Outfall Sewer without previous approval of the Committee. In the case of private houses, agreements were entered into with the owners providing for payment of 2s in the £. on the rateable value, but as schools had no rateable value he suggested that the two authorities should agree a figure to form the basis of the payment. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that the Town Clerk be authorised to prepare the necessary agreement.

1949—River Chelt—The bed and banks of the Chelt at the rear of the Moors Estate were now being cleaned and it was suggested that notices be served on the riparian owners for the whole length of the water course to carry out similar works. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer take such action as they deemed advisable to have this work carried out, including the service of notices.

1950—Shurdington Trunk Sewer—(Min. 1538) Seven tenders Were received and opened by the Chairman. RESOLVED, That the tender of the Hadsphaltic Construction Co. Ltd., amounting to £17,567 2s. 5d., being the lowest, he accepted, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract. ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan for £17,567 2s. 5d., and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £17,567 2s. 5d., and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and form of receipt.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**19th September, 1947.** Present --The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Lipson and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss., Carter, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

1951—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 2nd September (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, (i) That, with the exception of Item 10 (Information Kiosk), also dealt with by the Entertainments Sub-Committee, the report, as amended, be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 12 (g). That Sandford Pool close on 20th September.

1952—Playhouse Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 2nd September (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1953—Entertainments Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 3rd September (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, (i) That with the exception of Item 5 (Information Kiosk), the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 4 (Cheltenham Floral Fete, 21st-25th June, 1948). That in view of the substantial loss resulting from cancellation of functions, estimated at £100, the Floral Fete Committee be offered as an alternative, the Montpellier Gardens. If, however, they deem it necessary and desirable to use the Town Hall, they be asked to contribute £50 towards the loss sustained.

(iii) Item 5 (Information Kiosk). That, this Committee feel that in view of the withdrawal of basic petrol and other factors which would affect visitors, the time is not opportune for taking any action upon this matter and they have asked the appropriate Sub-Committees to give further consideration thereto and also to discuss the same with the Hotels Association with a view to another recommendation being brought up at some future date.

1954--Town Hall—Extension of Bar Licence—RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to an application to the Justices for an extension of the bar licence to midnight on the occasion of the Cheltenham Community Dance, 3rd October. Centre

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

338

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**15th September, 1947.** Present—Alderman Green (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, J. Bendall, Compton and Midwinter.

1955—Pilley Recreation Ground (Min. 1761)—The Delancey Hospital Trustees had considered the suggestion that they should bear one-third of the cost of fencing and had asked for an estimate. The

estimated cost was £700 for the whole site, or approximately £225 for the length hounding Hill Close and the south western side. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to enable the Committee to inspect this and other recreation grounds.

1956—Brooklyn Road Playing Field--Cheltenham Grammar School—The Boys' Grammar School found that the present playing field accommodation was inadequate for all games, and would be glad to have the use of the Grammar School site which was, by agreement with the County Council, incorporated in the temporary playing field at St. Marks. The matter had been discussed with the Headmaster and the Bursar, when it was pointed out that to take the Grammar School site from the playing field would sever the field and very considerably restrict its use. It was therefore decided to recommend :—

(i) That the Grammar School use the two rugby pitches on the playing field on Wednesday afternoons- from 11th September to 31st March, the position to be reviewed before that date.

(ii) That the Old Patesians Rugby Football Club be approached for permission to use their goal posts and the school to endeavour to assist in obtaining another set.

(iii) The Council to maintain and mark out pitches, the school bearing the cost, namely 7s 6d per week per pitch.

(iv) All reasonable use by other Clubs to be made of pitches used by the school to maintain the surface in reasonably good condition. These recommendations would result in the following pitches being provided ; namely, two rugby football, two association football, and one or two hockey pitches. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1957—Sports Area—Pittville—The Gloucestershire War Agricultural Committee complained of weeds and as the Military Authorities were unable to cut these, assistance of the Gardens Superintendent had been asked. Re-consideration was given to the use of this area, when de-requisitioned, for food production but most of the site was unsuitable, The Gardens Superintendent would, however, cut the weeds.

1958—Pittville Gardens—(a) West of England Ladies' Kennel Club, Dog Show, 1948—The Club wished to hold their 1948 Show in Cheltenham which would be one of the most important in England outside " Crufts." RESOLVED, That the Club be informed that the Council's policy was opposed to Dog Shows in Pittville Gardens, and that, as hitherto, a portion of Montpellier Gardens or the Athletic Ground be offered.

(b) Cleaning of Lakes [Min. 1756(d)]—Pending a report to the next meeting the Borough Surveyor had discussed this proposal with the Gardens Superintendent and they recommended that spoil from Marle Hill lake be deposited on a small area near the Mill House and on a portion of the tip. The spoil would have manurial value, and the Gardens Superintendent could remove it when required. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be approved.

(c) Development of Land adjoining Pump Room—With the termination of the Military Authorities' use of structures south of the Pump Room, the Gardens Superintendent proposed to commence reinstatement or development. The Committee's post-war schemes included a terraced garden on this site and the Gardens Superintendent proposed tea gardens on the west and east sides for an extension. of catering facilities. He was also considering the possibility of retaining the concrete foundations laid by the Military, which would save the Council expenditure. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to the next meeting.

1959—Victory Sports Ground—(a) Motor Cycle Football—The Committee were concerned to note that a motor cycle football snatch was played on this ground on 27th August without permission from the Council being first obtained, and the Town Clerk had called the Club's attention to this. Many complaints had been made by the Football Club of surface condition which the Gardens Superintendent had endeavoured to remedy during the summer season. It was unfortunate that the ground was used for motor cycle football in view of surface damage occasioned. RESOLVED, That the views of the Committee be conveyed to the Club and their observations requested.

(b) Improvements—The extensions to the covered stand, rail fencing and other improvements had been completed and provision in this year's estimates was now exhausted.

1960—Athletic Ground—(a) Training—[Min. 1760(a)]—Messrs. Marks & Spencers Ltd. were unable to accept the Council's offer of the ground at a rental of 10s per evening.

(b) Wrestling—[Min. 1760(b)]—Mr. J. Atherton had, during August, promoted two successful wrestling contests, and the Entertainments Sub-Committee had referred to this Committee his application for reservation in August, 1948. The Committee were unable to accept bookings so far ahead and Mr. Atherton was asked to renew his application next April.

1961—Sandford Park—Territorial Army Recruiting Campaign, 18th October—The Military Authorities were arranging a " Salvo " display as part of their national recruiting drive and asked for a site approximately 100 by 80 yards for the display of guns and other equipment. The Gardens Superintendent saw no objection subject to the vehicles standing on tracks to avoid surface depression and also if wet for tracks to the emplacements to be laid. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the requirements of the Gardens Superintendent.

1962---Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—Pool—Work on the construction of the paddling pool commenced on 20th August and was expected to be completed by the end of October.

339

1963—St. Peter's Recreation Ground-[Min. 1756(e)]--Layout scheme was submitted for the proposed rest garden to be carried out in conjunction with reinstatement work at an estimated cost of £200. The scheme would link up with the proposed riverside walk. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for the sanction of £1850 to be increased by £200 the particular need for more recreational facilities in northern area of the town being stressed. ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board to borrow a further sum of £200, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Order. Mortgage and Form of Receipt.

1964—Lansdown Crescent—Playground—Work on this site had commenced and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that the ground be closed for the surface to become established. RESOLVED, That notices be erected accordingly.

1965—Receipts---The Gardens Superintendent reported the following receipts for the months of July and August

|             | 1947 |    |    | Corresponding Period 1946 |    |                 |
|-------------|------|----|----|---------------------------|----|-----------------|
|             | £    | s. | d. | £                         | s. | d.              |
| Tennis      | 243  | 4  | 0  | 175                       | 5  | 3               |
| Putting     | 218  | 13 | 6  | 97                        | 6  | 6               |
| Deck Chairs | 81   | 10 | 2  | 3                         | 0  | 6 (August only) |
| Boating     | 357  | 0  | 0  | 213                       | 18 | 3               |

1966—Boating—New Craft--RESOLVED, That the action of the Gardens Superintendent in purchasing a second-hand mahogany canoe from Mr. J. Saunders of Pershore at a cost of £23 be confirmed .

1967 Maintenance of School Gardens—The Education Committee enquired if the Gardens Superintendent could under-take maintenance not only of school playing fields but of gardens surrounding schools. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent prepare a report and estimate on the lines indicated to include also recreation grounds and playing fields now used by schools, and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with the Council's officers, discuss the matter with representatives of the Education Committee.

1968—St. Paul's Training College Playing Field—In view of the proposal to transfer at some future date, the St. Paul's Training College to a new site at Benhall Farm, the Committee considered it desirable that the Council should indicate now to the College that they would like to have the opportunity of acquiring the existing College playing field at St. Paul's when this was no longer required by the College. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the College accordingly.

1970---Football Season, 1947/48—RESOLVED, That the allocation of pitches at playing fields and recreation grounds recommended by the Gardens Superintendent be approved, the rental for playing fields to be 7s 6d per pitch per match ; also that Clubs using the recreation grounds who were in a position to make a contribution towards the cost of preparation, marking out and rolling of pitches, be charged 7s 6d per match when this work was under-taken by the Gardens Superintendent.

1971—Commons, Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society-The annual subscription to this Society was being increased from £3 3s. 0d. to £5 5s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this be not renewed, but a copy of the monthly journal be purchased.

1972---National Playing Fields Association Conference, 9th and 10th October—RESOLVED That no delegates be appointed to this Conference.

1973—Staff—(a) Damage to Clothing— The Gardens Superintendent reported damage to clothing of two employees caused by an accident when opening a drum of weed killer. RESOLVED, That ex gratia payments of £3 and £1 respectively be made.

(b) Custodian, Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Gardens Superintendent for the transfer of this employee to other work be approved, and that the Chairman interview him and acquaint him of the Committee's views.

(c) Landscape Foreman—(Min. 1768)--RESOLVED, That this appointment be deferred until the next meeting.

(d) Custodian, Montpellier Gardens--RESOLVED, That in view of the duties involved this appointment be re-classified as Groundsman, Grade C, of the J.I.C. Schedule subject to approval of the Labour Sub-Committee.

(e) Read letter from the National Union of General and Municipal Workers claiming that an employee had been wrongfully dismissed and asking for an inquiry into the circumstances. The Union contended that Trade Union rules gave an employee the right to state his case. RESOLVED, That as an important principle is involved affecting other committees the matter be referred to the Labour Sub-Committee with an intimation that if an Inquiry is considered necessary, this Committee raise no objection.

1974—Gardens Superintendent—Housing Accommodation—A authorised, efforts had been made to obtain more suitable accommodation for this officer before the winter owing to the condition of Field Lodge and the Borough Surveyor's recommendation that no further repairs be undertaken as expenditure would be wasted. One of the houses in course of erection in Brooklyn Garden would be suitable. RESOLVED, That the Housing Committee be recommended to nominate the Council as a purchaser of one of the houses to accommodate the Gardens Superintendent.

1975—Petrol Supplies—In the general economy in motor fuel as from 1st October, the Ministry of Fuel and Power would reduce to two-thirds of the 1939 consumption, the allowances for upkeep of sports and recreation grounds.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman

340

#### CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**19<sup>th</sup> September, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Brown, Canter and Yeend.

1976—Superintendent's Report—During the months of July and August there were 113 interments and 87 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position 5 ; 2nd position 1 ; 3rd position nil ; 4th position 32. New memorials erected 26 ; additional inscriptions 15.

1977—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,554 to 11,591 inclusive.

1978—Designs—RESOLVED, That Designs Nos. 4,400 to 4,425 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

1979—Re-Purchase of Grave Spaces—No. 2,483 Section, P. No. 1897 Section A.1 and No. 1,500 Section M. The purchasers of the exclusive rights of burial in these graves wished to dispose of the spaces. RESOLVED, (a) That the Council re-purchase space No. 2,483 Section P. and M. 1897 Section A1. at the price of £2 each and that the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary Deeds of Assignment.

(b) That the Council be recommended not to re-purchase grave space No. 1500, Section M.

1980—Renovation of Memorials—It was now some nine years since the memorials of perpetually maintained graves were renovated, and many were now in need of attention. RESOLVED, That the Superintendent be instructed to obtain estimates for the renovation of these memorials and for the future annual maintenance thereof.

1981—Renewal of Notice Board—There were at present ten notice boards in different parts of the Cemetery containing various regulations, and the Superintendent recommended these be removed and one large notice board, incorporating the main regulations, erected at the front entrance. The Borough Surveyor submitted design of the proposed new board. RESOLVED, That this recommendation he approved, the Town Clerk to settle which of the regulations should he set out on the board.

1982—Cremation Fees—(Min. 894/46)—The Council had acceded to the request of the Ministry of Pensions to accept an inclusive fee of £4 4s. 0d. for the cremation of deceased war pensioners for which the Ministry of Pensions had accepted responsibility. The fee of £4 4s. 0d. was intended to include the fee for cremation, scattering of ashes, Minister's and Medical Referee's fees, and was to be the same whether for resident or non-resident. The proposed uniform charge had been

commended to Cremation Authorities by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health now advised it would be necessary for the Table of Fees to be amended to give effect to the Council's decision, and had prepared draft amending table which the Minister was prepared to approve. RESOLVED, That the amending Table of Fees be approved and the Common Seal affixed thereto, and that public notice of intention to apply for approval be given as required by the Minister. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry' of Health for approval of the fees.

1983—Garden of Remembrance—Extension--The Superintendent submitted tenders for the supply of bush roses and golden privet for planting in the extension to the Garden of Remembrance. RESOLVED, That the Superintendent inspect the rose trees offered by Messrs. Hopwoods, and that the Chairman be authorised to accept the most favourable tender.

1984- –Civilian War Graves—There were 20 graves of civilians killed during the war, all of which were unpurchased, and were arranged in one row in line with the Service graves. No definite arrangements had been made for their upkeep, and so far no memorials had been erected, but a reserve plot had recently been purchased the owner of which wished to erect a kerbstone. In order to prevent the possibility of the erection of kerbstones and safeguard the opportunity of adopting the Lawn Garden system, the Superintendent suggested it was advisable to consider such a layout before future burials took place, and recommended that the upkeep of the graves be undertaken on the same principle as the Service graves. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved in principle, and the matter further considered and the graves inspected at a future meeting. RESOLVED ALSO, That in the meantime no plot in this particular section be sold.

1985—Memorial Plaques—(Min. 1532)—The Borough Surveyor submitted details of the fresh tenders obtained for the engraving of the plaques, the acceptance of the lowest of which, namely that of the Birmingham Guild Ltd., had been authorised by the Chairman. RESOLVED, That this be approved and confirmed.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**12th September, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green and Lipson ; Councillors Bayliss, S. Bendall, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Strickland, Ward and Yeend.

1986—Revision of Rents—(Min. 681 and 1314)—The Council in approving the revision of rent rebate scheme last February decided that as soon as convenient after the current year's accounts had been completed the Town Clerk and the Borough Treasurer should submit a report with a view to working out a more satisfactory system of calculating and fixing rents with a view to reducing the large number (51) of present varying maximum rents. The Borough Treasurer reported that he had now prepared sufficient information to enable the Committee to commence consideration of the matter. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Mayor (Chairman), Councillor Compton (Vice-Chairman), Addis, Fisher, Gardner, Strickland, Ward and Yeend be appointed to consider and report on this matter.

341

1987--Permanent Prefabricated Bungalows--Read letter from the Ministry of Health referring to this Council's application for 300 permanent prefabricated bungalows, stating that a provisional allocation of 203 had been made on the understanding that the Alma Road and Warden Hill Road site would be in the Council's ownership with clearance and final layout plans approved and in readiness for handing over to the contractors for site development and slabbing before or during the



month of December. This allocation was only provisional as some local authorities did not yet know the precise number of bungalows that sites under their development would accommodate, and it might be necessary to reduce or cancel the provisional allocation in the case of local authorities who are unable to make necessary progress towards handing over all sites by the given dates. It was explained that the Council's request for 300 bungalows could not be met in full for the following reasons :- (a) the total number allocated to the Region as a share of the fixed National programme fell short of -the number applied for by a substantial margin. (b) as a matter of National policy first priority had to be accorded to many special needs in certain areas, e.g., houses for miners in certain selected areas ; and (c) regard had to be paid to the time schedule of factory production and for the need to relate thereto the availability of serviced sites with due regard to the need for slabbing.

Confirmation was requested at a very early date that the provisional allocation would be accepted and the site would be ready for handing over by December next. RESOLVED (a) That the approved allocation be accepted but that the Town Clerk express to the Ministry the Council's disappointment at the reduction of their allocation and to protest strongly that this reduction should be made at this late stage and to Council's allocation should be further considered.

(b) That the Ministry be informed that provided the Ministry expedited the decision on the Compulsory Purchase Order there was no reason why the site should not be ready for handing-over to the contractors in Nov-ember next.

1988—Ministry of Supply—Married Quarters, Parton Lane—The Town Clerk submitted letters from the Ministry of Supply enquiring whether the Council would be willing to undertake the management of 100 bungalows at Parton Lane in addition to those already managed by the Council at Innsworth Grove and Coventry Close.-The duties and terms of remuneration would be the same as for the other estates. The Borough Treasurer and the Housing Manager reported thereon. The Housing Manager reported that the present housing assistant, responsible for the rent collection and general management of the Innsworth Estate, could undertake this additional work. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the Ministry of Supply that the Council are prepared to undertake the management of the Parton Lane Estate on the terms offered and that the Common Seal be affixed to the agreement.

1989—Whaddon Community Centre.—Read letter of the 23rd August from the Chairman of this Association making application for the use of the N.F.S. huts in Whaddon Road, in order that the Association may make a start with carrying out repairs to these huts and occupying same. To date they had 110 registered members and 7 affiliated group members. They were of the opinion that when these premises had been allocated to them, they would grow in membership more quickly. The Town Clerk reported that the consent of the Ministry of Health to purchase the land had not yet been obtained and until the land was owned by the Council, formal application could not be made to the Ministry of Works for the release of the huts but the Ministry of Works would raise no objection to them being occupied in the meantime. RESOLVED, (a) That the Association be permitted to occupy the huts on terms and conditions to be settled at a future meeting.

(b) That the Town Clerk make application to the Ministry of Food to ascertain when it will be possible for the brick building now used for food storage to be released.

1990—Building Materials and Components—Priority Distribution Scheme—The Town Clerk submitted Ministry of Health Circular 140, enclosing Control of Building Materials (i) Order 1947, which came into force on the 1st September. The Order contained a schedule of the building materials in respect of which a priority certificate would be issued and made it an offence to acquire

under such certificates any goods in excess of the quantity stated therein. Suppliers were under a duty not to supply materials on any non-priority order until priority orders had been satisfied. The Order also modified the existing W.B.A. priority scheme and made special provisions for dealing with urgent repairs to houses and other properties. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Order would mean additional work on his department. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to take the necessary action to carry out the provisions of the Order.

1991—Licences for Building of New Houses—Read Circular 137 from the Ministry of Health that the Minister had decided that as from 15th August, 1947, no further licences should be issued by local authorities for the erection of houses other than those built in replacement of war damaged houses, without prior approval of the specific case by the Principal Housing Officer. Special consideration would, however, be given to proposals which would provide houses for letting at approved rents to agricultural workers, miners, or key workers.

1992—Temporary Bungalow Site—Prestbury Road—Town Clerk reported that the District Valuer had now after long negotiations furnished his report on the value of the portion of this site containing .33 acre approx. belonging to Messrs. Mills & Rockleys at £350. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Common Seal affixed to the conveyance. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £375 for the purchase of the land including stamp duty on the conveyance, vendors' solicitor and surveyor's costs. RESOLVED ALSO That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £375 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

1993—Housing Department—Staff.—The Town Clerk reported that Miss M. E. Land, Deputy Housing Manager had resigned on her approaching marriage and that advertisements had been issued inviting applications for the appointment of Chief Assistant to the Housing Manager.

1994—Rent Tribunal—Read letter from the Ministry of Health that Mr. W. H. Parker of Ross-on-Wye had been appointed a member of the Rent Tribunal for Cheltenham and District succeeding the late Mr. England.

342

1995—Requisitioned Premises—Ministry of Health Circular 138 was submitted regarding the repair and maintenance of requisitioned premises. Repairs should be limited to the minimum necessary to afford reasonable accommodation for the occupants and to prevent deterioration of the structure. Repairs may be carried out by local authorities without prior approval of the Ministry of Health where the estimated cost of the repairs does not exceed £50.

1996—The Knole—Town Clerk submitted District Valuer's report and valuation of The Knole, St. Mark's, which had now been concluded after long negotiations. The value agreed for the property was £8,000, apportioned as to the land (11.624 acres) £2,400 and buildings £5,600 ; the Corporation to pay vendors' surveyor's fees £74 4s. 0d. and legal costs. As the Corporation had been in possession of the house since 3rd September, 1946, the Corporation to pay a rent at a rate of £175 p.a. as from that date until the completion. RESOLVED, That these terms be approved and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £8,324 for the purchase of the property including stamp duty on conveyance, vendors' solicitor's and surveyor's costs. RESOLVED ALSO, that application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £8,324, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

1997—Applications for Housing Accommodation—Read letter from the Clerk to the Cheltenham Rural District Council that his Council had considered a report made by their Housing Committee regarding the appreciable number of applications from applicants who lived and work in Cheltenham and other areas. They had therefore decided that owing to the large number of applications which they have received from persons living and working in their district and having regard to the small number of houses likely to be available, they were not in a position to accept applications from any other persons at the present time. His Council suggested that the Borough Council in dealing with applications for houses might also adopt the principle that applications should be accepted and considered by the Council for those cases where the applicants are already employed or resident in the Borough. RESOLVED, That the District Council be informed that as a broad principle the Council already required that applicants shall either reside or work in the Borough but this did not preclude applicants not fulfilling either of these conditions from making application in such case where for special reasons the applicant wished to live in Cheltenham. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Clerk be informed that the Committee are prepared to co-operate in every way with his Council and if desired to exchange information as to applicants living in each other's districts and, that the Housing Manager be instructed to consult with the Clerk accordingly.

1998-109 Old Bath Road--Read letter of the 10th September from the Ministry of Health approving with certain modifications, the plans for the conversion of 109 Old Bath Road into two flats. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain tenders for carrying out the work.

1999—Requisitioned Houses—RESOLVED, That the Estate Management Sub-Committee be requested to arrange for a family to occupy a house when it is requisitioned after the expiration of the period allowed for representations in such cases where it is practicable, so as to avoid such houses being left empty during the time taken for approval of the plans for conversion and approval of tenders and that this course be adopted forthwith in the case of 109 Old Bath Road and 4 Tivoli Road.

2000-Lynworth Housing Estate—(a) Progress—(i) Scheme 1—The Borough Surveyor reported that out of the 62 houses in this contract, 34 had been handed over and it was hoped that the remainder would be completed by the end of the year. All the necessary materials with the exception of 10 baths, were on the site.

(ii) Scheme 2—Of the 72 houses in this contract, 44 were now under construction.

(iii) Scheme 3—Of the 50 B.I.S.F. houses, 37 had been handed over and 4 more would be completed by the end of this month. Completion of the remainder was anticipated by the end of November. Difficulty in obtaining suitable fencing for the back-gardens of these houses was being experienced. The only type of fencing available was concrete posts with three or four rows of single strand galvanised wire. The Borough Surveyor was taking the matter up with a fencing specialist and if no alternative fencing could be obtained, authorisation was required to accept the post and wire fencing. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to accept the post and wire fencing if alternative fencing was not available.

(b) " No Fines" Concrete Houses—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wimpey had been given possession of the site at Lynworth Estate for 106 houses. The Ministry of Labour had informed Messrs. Wimpey that the labour situation was serious and while Messrs. Wimpey were making every effort to recruit local labour it was evident that reasonable progress on the contract could only be achieved by importing labour. Messrs. Wimpey had applied for consent to do this. Under the terms of the contract the Council were responsible for the payment of lodging and subsistence allowances,

fares and travelling time and conveying labour to and from the site daily. RESOLVED, That the Council consent to Messrs. Wimpey importing labour for the execution of this contract and that the Borough Surveyor report periodically on this matter in order that the Committee may keep the matter under review.

2001—Damage to Trees—The Borough Surveyor reported that the tenant of 79 Cromwell Road had cut a large limb off the oak tree in the back-garden of 72 Severn Road. The tree was one of those special care had been taken to preserve. RESOLVED That the Town Clerk communicate with the tenant of 79 Cromwell Road expressing the Council's strong disapproval of this action and that the Housing Manager inform the tenants that trees must not be cut or pruned except by the Council's treeman.

2002-77 Cromwell Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that the tenant of this house persisted in depositing sub-soil in front of the house above the level of the damp proof course. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the tenant that the soil must be reinstated to its former level, 3" - 6" below the level of the damp proof course.

343

2003—Brooklyn Road Houses—The Committee further considered application from Mr. J. R. E. Eldridge for the release of the further sum of £400 from the sum of money deposited in the joint account in lieu of a bond. The Council had previously released £400 and the amount now deposited was £800. In view of the retention monies now in hand on this contract the Borough Surveyor recommended that the application be approved. RESOLVED, That the further sum of £400 be released from the joint account.

2004—Wymans Brook--Following a complaint regarding the condition of the brook course, an inspection had been made and the cause of the silting was no doubt due to work carried out on the Lynworth Estate. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out necessary cleansing work the cost to be charged to the Lynworth Account.

2005-61 Brighton Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted tenders for the installation of the bath and necessary decorations to render habitable 61 Brighton Road and also a quotation from the Gas Company for checking-over the gas lighting and supplying and fixing a geyser for the bath with all connections amounting to £38 13s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. H. G. Ballinger of £58 0s. 0d. and Gas Company's quotation of £38 13s. 0d. be accepted.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**12th September, 1947.** Present-Aldermen Ward (Chairman), and Green ; Councillors Midwinter and Strickland.

2006—Borough Engineer's Report--The report of the Borough Engineer for the months of July and August was read :—

#### **WATER COMMITTEE.**

**12th September, 1947.** Present-Aldermen Ward (Chairman), and Green ; Councillors Midwinter and Strickland.

2006—Borough Engineer's Report--The report of the Borough Engineer for the months of July and August was read :—

DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Spring          | For month ended<br>31st July, 1947 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during last three years |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Hewletts Spring | 112,000                            | 88,000   |
| Dowdeswell      | 361,000                            | 295,000  |

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated usable quantity approx. 70,500,000 gallons.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 5 weeks ended 4/8/47                | 59,890,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 5 weeks ended 4/8/47                 | 15,409,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1/4/47 | 203,275,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury from 1/4/47                         | 57,639,000  |
| Average daily consumption  | 3,391,000   |

| Rainfall for July | During month | Average monthly rainfall |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford          | 2.56"        | 2.52"                    |
| Hewletts          | 1.78"        | 2.59"                    |
| Dowdeswell        | 2.69"        | 2.53"                    |
| Tewkesbury        | 2.93"        | 2.41"                    |

DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Spring     | For month ended<br>31st August, 1947 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>during last three years. |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Hewletts   | 87,000                               | 76,000  |
| Dowdeswell | 270,000                              | 371,000   |

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated usable quantity approx. 47,923,000 gallons.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 1/9/47                | 54,910,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 4 weeks ended 1/9/47                 | 14,583,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1/4/47 | 258,185,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1/4/47                    | 72,222,000  |
| Average daily consumption  | 3,684,000   |

| Rainfall for August | During oath | Average monthly rainfall |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford            | .28"        | 2.31"                    |
| Hewletts            | .47"        | 2.43"                    |
| Dowdeswell          | .38"        | 2.45"                    |
| Tewkesbury          | .78"        | 2.08"                    |

2007--Rural Water Supplies-- (a) Leckhampton Hill—Read letter dated 18th July from the Clerk to the Cheltenham Rural District Council stating that his Council were prepared to guarantee payment of the annual charges in respect of this scheme up to the maximum of £250 per annum in order that the scheme should be delayed while the question of grants was under consideration by the Ministry and the County Council. They Also requested that plans, specification, and other technical details should be submitted as soon as possible for approval by their Consulting Engineer. RESOLVED, That such details be now submitted to the R.D.C. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Town Clerk write to the Ministry of Health asking them to expedite approval to the Leckhampton Bill portion of the scheme.

(b) Twyning, Deerhurst, Apperley and Little Shurdington—With regard to the supplies to these areas which had been submitted to the Ministry for approval, the Rural District Council intimated they could not see their way to exclude condition (a) referred to in their letter of the 3rd July under which they agreed to give the guarantee required by the Council subject to adequate grants being obtained from the Ministry of Health and County Council.

(c) The Borough Engineer reported that the running and maintenance of the Ullenwood Water supply was taken over as from the 1st September, 1947.

A supply meter had to be fixed at Ullenwood Camp for the electricity supply, and an agreement made with the War Department for payment of the electricity used as they were responsible for the whole of the electricity supplied to the Camp.

The Town Clerk reported that the War Department had so far not taken any active steps to transfer the land and pipe line, pumps and reservoir to the Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk protest strongly to the War Department of the very long delay in carrying out the transfer in accordance with the agreement, and point out that the delay in doing this is holding up the provision of a water supply to properties on Leckhampton Hill which is so urgently necessary.

2008—Installation of Hydrants—The National Fire Service had asked for the installation of five B.S.S. type 2 hydrants at the five points where defective ball hydrants had been reported, at a cost of not exceeding £80 2s. 6d. This expenditure would rank for reimbursement. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to carry out this work.

2009—Salts Farm—Cess Tank—Letter was submitted from the tenant, Mr. L. G. Dunn, in connection with the condition of the cess tank. The Borough Engineer reported this was receiving attention. He also recommended that a drinking trough for the animals on the farm should be provided. RESOLVED, That this be agreed.

2010—Castle Barn Farm--Poultry—The tenant of this farm applied for permission to keep poultry, ducks and geese. Under the terms of the agreement the tenant was prohibited from keeping poultry or geese without permission of the Council. RESOLVED, That consent be given to keep poultry, and that as to ducks and geese the Borough Engineer be authorised to permit such number as he considers advisable.

2011—Seven Springs—Kilkenny Road, Dowdeswell—Telegraph Pole--The Chairman had authorised consent to the erection of a telegraph pole on the Seven Springs—Kilkenny Road, Dowdeswell, subject to an annual way-leave of 1s. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

2012—Dowdeswell Court—Wood—Application was submitted from Mr. C. Davidson-Smith of Guiting Power for the purchase of the whole of the growing timber and underwood at Dowdeswell Court, RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred and the views of the Forestry Commission obtained.

2013—Dowdeswell Reservoir—(a) Alumina Dosage Plant—The Borough Engineer reported that the Alumina Dosage plant at Dowdeswell, installed in 1926, had seriously deteriorated. Having regard to the difficulty in obtaining lead for re-lining the mixing tanks, and to the good results obtained at Tewkesbury with the pump system of dosage, he had approached the Candy Filter Company for a quotation to replace the existing tanks. Two proposals had been submitted by the Company : 1. Providing two new rubber covered steel tanks for mixing, and an electrically driven plunger pump for positive doses, similar to the system now in use at Tewkesbury, at a cost of £247 10s. 0d. 2. The replacement of the existing system by two rubber covered steel tanks with new constant head tank and needle orifice at a cost of £200 10s. 0d.

These prices did not include unskilled labour, and pipe-work necessary to connect up the tanks to the water supply and filters. It was also necessary in the case of proposal 1 to install electricity supply at a cost of £79 9s. 0d., and he recommended proposal No. 1. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendation be approved, and that the cost of such work be charged to Revenue Appropriation account.

(b) Fish (Min. 1864)—The Severn Fishery Board had agreed to undertake the netting of fish at Dowdeswell Reservoir on the same terms as previously, namely, that they retain half the coarse fish, the other half to be transferred to Pittville Lake, and all trout returned to the Reservoir. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(c) Trout—RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to obtain quotations for the supply of 500 trout for the Reservoir.

2014----Water Supply—Persnore R.D.C.—The Borough Engineer reported that on the 10th August the Persnore Rural District Council recommenced to take water through the Air Ministry's six inch main, and since that date the average consumption has been 77,500 gallons per day.

2015—Meters--The Borough Engineer reported that he considered it was now desirable to replace old meters of three inch diameter and over. The makers no longer supply spare parts for the ones at present installed except to order, a procedure which was very expensive and resulted in long delays. Quotations had been supplied from five firms and he recommended the purchase of six Frost Rotary type meters, manufactured by the Manchester Meter Company, at a cost of £53 15s. 2d. each, and four Leeds Helix Combination Meters at a cost of £65 each, and that two of the existing meters of the Helix type be converted to Combination Meters at an estimated cost of £78 10s.0d., a total cost of £661 1s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendations be approved and the cost net from revenue.

345

2016—Liquid Chlorine—The Borough Engineer reported that previous to the formation of the Joint Water Board, an annual contract existed for the supply of liquid chlorine by the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., to the Council, which contract was transferred to the Joint Water Board. At present

chlorine was ordered under that contract, but invoiced to, and paid by the Council. The Company pointed out that this procedure caused confusion and requested that a separate contract be signed in respect of these purchases, quoting the following rates:-

5 ½ d. per lb. for lots of 4 No. 70-lb. cyls. or less.

5 1/8 d. per lb. for lots of more than 4 No. 70-lb. cyls.

such prices being subject to ½ d. per lb. rebate until further notice, in the case of Corporation owned or I.C.I. owned cylinders carriage paid. RESOLVED, That the Company's request be acceded to and their quotation accepted.

2017—Water Mains Extensions—(a) Shurdington—The Cheltenham Rural District Council had requested a further extension of the mains at their housing site at Shurdington. Work was already proceeding on the roads and ducts have been left to accommodate service pipes. The Rural District Council would lay the mains by contract, the Council to take over the mains and refund the cost in proportion to the revenue derived. RESOLVED, That this be agreed, and that the Common Seal be affixed to Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

(b) Tewkesbury Housing Society—The Borough Engineer reported that he had received formal application for main extensions to cover the first three pairs of houses being erected by this Society on a site adjacent to Pyke House Farm, Newtown, Tewkesbury. Having regard to the proposed development of this site he recommended that a six inch main be laid, at an estimated cost of £189. The Society were prepared to guarantee a total annual return of 12 ½ % on this cost for a period of 12 years, or until the total income reaches, this return in accordance with the provisions of the Water Act, 1945. RESOLVED, That these proposals be agreed, and that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

2018—Swindon Road--The Borough Engineer reported that he had been approached by Mrs. R. Cook of Chosen View, Tewkesbury Road, for a water supply to this property, which was a Market Garden, necessitating the laying of 203 yards of four inch main from Kingsditch Lane along Swindon Road at an estimated cost of £200. The owner was prepared to guarantee a total annual return of 12 ½ % for a period of 12 years or until the total income reaches this return in accordance with the provisions of the Water Act, 1945. RESOLVED, That these proposals be agreed, and that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

2019—Bath and West Show—(Min. 1125)—The work, of laying the necessary water service to the Bath and West Show had been carried out by Messrs. Stephen Ambrose, Ltd. in accordance with the contract at a cost of £585 17s. 8d. The sum estimated for this work was £630 16s. 8d. and was subject to variation after measurement of the actual work involved. The contractors had now requested that the contract be treated on a " lump sum basis " and not on a " measure and value " one, as at the time when the contract was let the Engineer responsible for the work had only just been demobilised, and he seriously underestimated the cost and the rates quoted. He was also unaware of the changes in over-time rates, particularly in respect of Sunday work, much of which was necessary by the urgency of the contract. RESOLVED, That having regard to the circumstances the Council agree to pay the sum of £600, and also waive payment of £16 19s. 2d. due to the Council for maintenance and final reinstatement work carried out during the period of the Show.

2020—Morris Lorry--The Borough Engineer reported that three tenders had been received for the sale of the old Morris lorry. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. F. J. McEwan & Co. amounting to £60 (being the highest), be accepted.



2021—Tewkesbury Depot—The Borough Engineer submitted alternative designs for a pair of houses to be erected on the site of the Depot at Tewkesbury. The layout incorporated, in addition to the pair of houses, a single building comprising garage, store and office, and also a hard standing for cast iron pipes. RESOLVED, That these plans be approved, and that the Borough Engineer be authorised to make application for the necessary licences.

2022— Annual Statement of Accounts—The Borough Treasurer submitted accounts for the water undertaking for the year ended 31st March, 1947, which showed a gross profit of £16,665 as compared with £26,410 for the previous year. The net revenue account showed a loss on the year's working of £11,419 as compared with £1,272 in the previous year.

The Committee also considered the reports of the Borough Treasurer and the Borough Engineer (copies of these reports and of the accounts accompany the minutes). RESOLVED, (a) That the accounts be approved and adopted.

(b) That the Council be informed the Committee are of opinion the time has now come when the charges for water must be increased (the majority of the charges were the same as were authorised in 1878) and that the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and Borough Engineer be instructed to consider and submit to the Committee proposals for the increase of charges to the various classes of consumers with a view to application being made at an early date to the Ministry of Health for approval to an increase in the charges with a view, if possible, to such increase taking effect as from 1st April next.

2023—Works Completed—The Borough Engineer reported that since the last meeting. 1413 inspections had been undertaken when the Inspectors found 35 defective flush boxes, 95 leaking taps, 56 defective stop taps, and 20 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 189 draw taps, 122 notices served on owners ; 129 houses connected owing to change of tenancies, etc., 106 supplies disconnected ; and 19 meters changed or fixed.

With regard to general maintenance work 240 yards of new main had been laid on the Lynworth Housing Estate. 286 yards at The Knole, St. Mark's and 70 yards in Brooklyn Gardens ; mains had been repaired in 7 areas; new sluice valves fixed in Francis Street, The Knole, Lynworth Estate and Kingsditch Lane, and sluice valves repaired in 13 streets. Mains had been washed out in 6 areas. No. 4 reservoir, Hewletts was being cleaned, and pumping, meter cleaning, repairing and testing had been carried out at Sandford Waterworks.

346

2024—Dowdeswell Court Cottage The Town Clerk reported he had received several applications for tenancy of this cottage. The cottage was, however, to be included in the proposed lease to the County Council who required the cottage in connection with the school for sub-standard children for which purpose the mansion was proposed to be utilised. It was not possible to enter into the lease with the County Council until Dowdeswell Court was de-requisitioned by the Air Ministry, and although no definite information had yet been obtained, there was reason to believe the Air Ministry might be giving up possession at the end of the year. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances the cottage be not let, but that it be suggested to the County Council they should arrange for somebody to occupy the cottage as soon as possible without waiting for the lease of the property to be executed.

2025—Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**22nd September, 1947.** Present--Councillors Bettridge (Chairman), S. Bendall, J. Bendall, Carter, Mann, Midwinter, Readings, Thompson and Ward.

2026—Annual Report—The Borough Treasurer submitted a statement of accounts of the Undertaking for the year ended 31st March, 1947, together with his report. The Borough Electrical Engineer also submitted annual report on the trading results of the Undertaking for the year in question. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned.

2027--Consents to Loan—The Town Clerk reported the following consents to loan which have been received from the Electricity Commissioners :—

- (i) Purchase of vehicles— £2,000 (Min. 1511).
- (ii) Sub-station, The Knole— £1,246 (Min. 1510).
- (iii) Increased cost of switchgear---- £5,203 (Min. 1341).
- (iv) Replacement of 2,000 volt single phase—£9,868 (Min. 785).
- (v) Kiosk sub-station, Hewlett Road— £800 (Min. 116/46).
- (vi) Conversions, Southwood— £784 (Min. 1339).
- (vii) Transformers— £6,870 (Min. 1115).
- (viii) Potentiometer equipment-- £425 [Min. 1343 (ii)].
- (ix) Additional E.H.T. Feeder, Alstone Lane to Montpellier Sub-station—£5,642 (Min. 9747).
- (x) Increased cost of Meter Testing Equipment—£374 [Min. 1343(i)].

2028—Street Lighting -The Town Clerk submitted circular No. 613 from the Ministry of Transport dated 9th July asking all lighting authorities to continue until 10th August restrictions which were announced in February. After that date restrictions could be somewhat relaxed, but lighting authorities were asked to effect a minimum saving of 50% of pre-war consumption ; trunk and classified roads in built-up areas should be lighted to a good standard, economy being effected by a saving on other roads. Traffic safety and police supervision should be mainly considered and approved street lighting should be extinguished at midnight in the absence of police recommendation to the contrary. If any authority could justify a minimum saving of less than 50% it should make representations to the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that application had been made to the Regional Fuel Controller for approval to the carrying on of the street lighting scheme which was carried out last winter but approval had not yet been received.

2029-Office Accommodation—The Town Clerk reported that in reply to a circular letter received from the Electricity Commissioners asking what office accommodation was at present held and occupied by the Electricity Undertaking, he had given them full information of the accommodation at Southwood. together with drawings, pointing out that if it was decided to set up headquarters of the Area Board in Cheltenham a complete wing of Southwood would be available for occupation by their staff. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved.

2030—Re-organisation of Administrative Section—Electricity Department—Min. 1714—A report was submitted from the Sub-Committee appointed to consider reports of the Borough Treasurer and Borough Electrical Engineer on the proposed re-organisation of the administrative section. The Sub-Committee had come to the conclusion that nothing should be done by either the Borough Treasurer or the Borough Electrical Engineer to expedite or delay the taking over by the new electricity authority of any particular section of the Undertaking, until such time as directions and regulations were received from the appropriate government authority. In these circumstances, therefore, it was not considered that any useful purpose would be served by submitting the reports of the two officers concerned for the consideration of this Committee. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

2031—Limehurst Sub-station—(Min. 1711)—The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the agents in regard to the acquisition by the Council of a strip of land for the expansion of the sub-station. An offer had been made to sell a piece of land approximately 12 feet square for £100, subject to the Corporation erecting a 9" brick wall to the height of the existing brick wall, to the tenant's fowl house being removed and re-erected where desired and to a doorway being made in the wall at the rear in place of the existing door. It was also stipulated that the offer was subject to permission being given for an opening to be made from Ash-ford Road to any garage which might be erected on the line of the existing buildings at any future date. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he was still considering the possibility of an alternative site but it did not appear that a satisfactory alternative could be found. The Committee considered that the price asked for the piece of land was excessive. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Borough Electrical Engineer continue negotiations but that if these are not successful, the Council be recommended to make a compulsory purchase order.

347

2032-50 & 51 St. George's Place—Read letter from Mrs. Freeman the owner of the yard at 50 & 51 St. George's Place which was let to the Council for use as a stores, stating that it was necessary for her to increase the rent payable from £13 to £23 per quarter as from 28th September, 1947. RESOLVED, That the increased rent be paid.

2033—Central Consumers' Records—(Min. 1717)—The Committee considered the reference made by the Council of this Min. The Borough Electrical Engineer now reported that he had been informed that the Electricity Commissioners would be prepared to consider sanctioning a loan for the cost of purchasing the necessary equipment repayable over a period of 10 years, provided they were satisfied with the proposed system. RESOLVED,

(a) That the quotation of Messrs. Remington Rand amounting to £1,255 for the supply of the necessary apparatus be accepted, subject to the consent of the Electricity Commissioners being obtained to a loan repayable over a period of 10 years.

(b) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £1,255 for the cost of supplying the necessary apparatus.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £1,255 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2034—Southwood—(a) Conversion—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the first and ground floors at Southwood were now occupied and the accommodation at the Municipal Offices given up, except for the show-room and an adjoining small office, stores and workshop in the

basement and the Demonstration Room. Of the work which had been completed or was in progress, £2,218 had been charged to the Suspense Account against the claim for dilapidations from the War Office, £785 to loan and £343 to revenue as authorised. The original claim on the War Office for £3,800 had not yet been settled.

No work had yet been carried out in the basement which was to be occupied by the meter section and some work in connection with the provision of the canteen and re-decoration of the proposed conference room was outstanding, Tenders had been invited for the remainder of this work and 7 tenders were now submitted. In addition, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the electric wiring in the basement should be extended and repaired at an estimated cost of £350 made up as follows :—

Repairs, £75 (to be charged to Suspense Account).

Fittings, £125 (to be charged to Revenue).

Additional wiring for Test Room, £150 (to be charged to Surplus Revenue).

RESOLVED, (a) That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer with regard to extension and repair of the electric wiring in the basement be adopted, (b) That the tender of Mr. H. J. Trigg for carrying out the remainder of the work at Southwood amounting to £1,317, being the lowest, be accepted, (c) That the Electricity Commissioners be informed that it may be necessary for the Council to apply for consent to loan of £1,317 at a later date, this being dependent on the settlement of the Council's claim for dilapidations on the War Office.

(b) Meter Racks—The Borough Electrical Engineer had obtained two quotations for providing racks for storage of meters and had accepted the quotation of Messrs. Acrow (Engineers) Ltd., amounting to £155 for providing and fixing, because of the long delivery delay. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Electrical Engineer be confirmed and the expenditure met from Surplus Revenue Account.

(c) Fire Insurance—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Southwood had been examined by an Inspector from the County Fire Insurance Co., and the provisional cover increased to £19,200. Provisional insurance had also been effected against loss of the caretaker's personal effects valued at £500 by fire originating in the rest of the building. RESOLVED, That this be approved and confirmed.

2035—Municipal Offices Accommodation—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that at a meeting of the Establishment Sub-Committee held to consider the re-allocation of the accommodation at the Municipal Offices, it appeared desirable that the accommodation occupied by the present Demonstration Room should be transferred to the ground floor of No. 77 Promenade. The floor space of the proposed Demonstration Room was less than that at present occupied and the layout was inferior but it could be improved by cutting back the buttresses between the two rooms which were separated by a folding door. It was suggested by the Borough Treasurer that a second cash collection machine should be brought into the existing electricity showroom so that both machines would be available simultaneously. In view of the restricted space in the showroom the Borough Electrical Engineer had agreed to this suggestion, subject to the whole of the counter space not being occupied by the Borough Treasurer, and details of the proposed re-arrangement were being worked out. RESOLVED, That the proposal to transfer the Demonstration Room to No. 77 Promenade be approved, subject to the cutting back of the buttresses above mentioned and the reasonable decoration of the room.

2036—Load Shedding—A memorandum from the Electricity Commission dated 16th August was submitted describing the proposed arrangements to prevent indiscriminate shedding of load during the coming winter. In January 1948, the total plant expected to be available would be capable of generating, 9,530,000 kilowatts and the anticipated maximum demand if no restrictions were enforced would be 10,030,000 kilowatts. The Commissioners had therefore arranged for the Central Electricity Board to allocate to each authorised undertaking target maximum demand, so arranged that the total of these target maximum demands adds up to the total available generating plant. It was then left to the individual undertaking to make the necessary arrangement, not to exceed their target.

The responsibility for ensuring that the necessary reduction in the industrial load was made, had been given by the Government to the various Regional Boards for Industry. Cheltenham was under the South Western Regional Board, and a local committee had been set up by this Board. It was anticipated that, either by working a night shift or by spreading working hours, the one-third reduction in the industrial load would be effected. The Borough Electrical Engineer was of the opinion that the importance of effecting a saving should be strongly emphasised to domestic consumers, as in the event of the target load being exceeded in times of national stress it might be necessary to interrupt the supply to parts of the town with consequent dislocation both to industrial and domestic consumers. RESOLVED, That in due course the Borough Electrical Engineer circularise domestic consumers urging the utmost economy in the consumption of electrical energy.

348

2037—Standardisation of Voltage—Read letter from the Electricity Commissioners dated 11th August drawing attention to the fact that the standard voltage of 240/415 volts would be mandatory for all new systems brought into use after 1st October, 1947. It was not intended to make this voltage mandatory on existing systems, but the Electricity Commissioners and the Electricity Supply Joint Committee had agreed on conditions which could reasonably be applied when the change-over to the new standard was made. The effect on this Undertaking was that no charge would fall on it for change over to the new voltage in the rural area where the present statutory voltage was 230 volts. Apparatus designed for this voltage would be suitable for use on the 240 volt system.

In the town area the statutory declared voltage was 220 volts and the cost of changeover of consumers equipment would fall as a charge on the Undertaking. Before any change over could be effected in this area an extensive preliminary investigation would be necessary and although sanction could be obtained for this investigation, staff facilities were not at present available.

In view of the ultimate change-over to the new standard voltage all new transformers had been ordered suitable for operation at the existing or the new standard voltage and consumers were advised to purchase equipment suitable for ultimate use at the new voltage. It was recommended that this policy be continued and that no further action be taken at present until general policy was decided by the new British Electricity Authority. RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

2038—Collapsible Shelters—The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended the purchase of one large shelter at £40 and two smaller shelters at £28 each to protect men engaged on cable laying work during inclement weather. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to purchase these shelters, the cost to be met from surplus revenue.

2039—Supplies to Temporary Houses—(Min. 719/45)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reminded the Committee that it had been decided to charge the whole cost of mains for the supply of

electricity to temporary houses to the local authority, but where all houses on one site were all electric the charge for laying the service main should be waived. The cost of the actual service had always been charged to local authorities who recovered this from the Ministry of Works. The appropriate charges had, therefore, been made to the Cheltenham R.D.C, in respect of three sites at Prestbury, Shurdington and Woodmancote each containing 10 houses which used both gas and electricity. The Rural District Council had applied for the cost of the mains to be waived since the Ministry of Health refused to consent to loan for this purpose, but this application had now been modified to a request for a refund of half the cost of the mains, it being stated in support that the Gas Company had only charged half the cost of the gas mains. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the Undertaking should bear the cost of that portion of the mains which might be used to give supplies to other premises. The resultant modified terms would then be—

- (a) The cost of services shall be met by the local authority and charged to the Ministry of Works.
- (b) The cost of service mains and mains on the curtilage of the site shall be met by the local authority unless the houses are " all electric."
- (c) The cost of mains in the roadway and substation equipment shall be met by the local authority except for that portion which may also be of use to give a general supply. The effect of this would be that a refund of £75 would be made to the Cheltenham Rural District Council in respect of the Shurdington site only. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted and that where appropriate these terms be applied to temporary housing sites in the Borough.

2040—Sub-station Telephones-----The pilot cable network was now sufficiently advanced to utilise a private telephone system between the major sub-stations which would make for greater speed and efficiency in cases of breakdowns. The Borough Electrical Engineer therefore submitted a scheme for connecting 13 sub-stations to the private telephone exchange at Southwood thereby effecting communication between sub-stations and also between them, Southwood and the Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Co.'s sub-station at Hesters Way. The only apparatus required would be thirteen telephone instruments which would be purchased from Telephone Rentals for connection to the exchange recently fitted by them. The estimated cost of the scheme was £120 but there would be a resultant saving of £23 per annum by the disconnection of Post Office Tele-phones in four sub-stations. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to proceed With the scheme and the cost met from surplus revenue.

2041-Change of Rural Transformers—It was reported that the transformers at Cowley Manor, Shurdington Village and the Reddings were now overloaded. It would be necessary to replace them with larger transformers at a total cost of £440. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out using transformers from stock and that re-placement transformers be ordered from the British Electric Transformer Co. RESOLVED ALSO, That the cost of this work be charged to the Unspecified Sub-station Plant Loan for which application has been made.

2042—Staff—(a) Telephonist—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Miss M. L. Cook had been appointed to the position as telephonist at Southwood and commenced her duties on 28th July. She had been placed provisionally on the scale of salaries for temporary officers, and he now recommended that as she had carried out her duties satisfactorily, she be placed on the permanent staff at the appropriate salary in the General Division. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be adopted.

(b) Assistant Demonstrator—Miss J. Pike had resigned and Miss I. M. Jones, who held a Domestic Science Certificate issued by the National Institute for Domestic Science had been appointed to this post in the General Division.

(c) Junior Entrants—Miss M. J. Abbott, who held the School Certificate, had been appointed to the vacant position of Junior Entrant.

(d) Typist—As authorised Mrs. A. Taylor had been appointed temporarily to the post of shorthand typist and she commenced duties on the 15th July.

(e) Caretaker--Mr, F. Adcock who was appointed to the position of custodian at Southwood took up duties on the 21st July. His service tenancy of the flat on the premises commenced on the 1st August.

349

(f) Examinations—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. A. Cook, Records Clerk in his department, had been successful in passing the Intermediate examination of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Mr. S. Hancock, a junior Entrant, the Intermediate of N.A.L.G.O. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the National Conditions of Service the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve grants of £15 being made in each case.

(g) Showroom Staff—Now that the clerical staff occupied accommodation at Southwood members who had also assisted in the Electricity Showroom were no longer available for that work, and as a result there was a shortage of staff in the Showroom which had to be opened during the lunch hour. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to increase the establishment by the addition of a junior(either sex) to be trained for showroom work.

(h) Demonstrator's Salaries—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a minimum scale of salaries for women: engaged on demonstration and allied work in the Electricity Showroom which was recommended by the British Electrical Development Association for adoption by all Electricity Supply Undertakings. If the new scale were adopted Miss M. A. Brown, the present Demonstrator would be placed in Grade 3, Class 11 of the recommended scale at a salary of £378 per annum rising to £423 compared with her present salary of £316 per annum plus £48 2s. 0d. bonus, rising to £340 per annum plus bonus. The newly appointed Assistant Demonstrator would not qualify for the new scale until she had obtained the E.A.W. Certificate. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to adopt the new scale of salary for Demonstrators and to place Miss M. A. Brown in Grade 3, Class B of that scale.

(i) Electrical Development Association Diploma—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Mr. H. J. Major of the Wages Sub-Section had been awarded the E.D.A. Salemanship Diploma.

(j) Accident to Mr. S. B. Frostad--On August 11th, Mr. S. B. Frostad, Assistant Engineer of the Distribution Section, fell from a ladder at a pole type sub-station while fitting his safety belt prior to making some electrical connections. As a result of his injuries it was anticipated that he would be in bed for at least another 3 weeks. Mr. Frostad would require to use his car as soon as he returned to duty and in view of the abolition of the basic petrol ration, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the basic car allowance should continue to be paid during Mr. Frostad's absence, since the standing charges of his car would continue. RESOLVED, That Mr. Frostad's basic car allowance continue to be paid during his absence. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Committee's sympathy and good wishes for a speedy recovery be sent to Mr. Frostad.

(k) Retirement—Mr. A. Goodridge, Street Lighting Attendant, was due to retire in September on attaining the age of 65, after completing 21 years' service in that Department. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr.. Goodridge the Committee's appreciation of his long and faithful service and their best wishes for a happy and long retirement. (1) The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had arranged with the Principal of the Technical College for suitable study courses for apprentices and ex-service members of his staff as follows

| Name            | Age | Section .                | Course                     |
|-----------------|-----|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Didcote, G.     | 16  | Trainee Service & Dev.   | City & Guilds Examination. |
| Turner, K. J.   | 16  | Trainee Service & Dev.   | City & Guilds Examination  |
| Jarvis, E. C.   | 24  | Ex Service Meter Section | National Cert. Elec. Eng.  |
| Jones, C. F. G. | 25  | Meter Section            | "                          |
| Hunt, W. C. R.  | 22  | Joiner's Mate (Dis).     | "                          |
| Taylor, B. W.   | 23  | Trainee, Distribution    | "                          |

All these courses would involve the attendance at the College one day and two evenings a week. RESOLVED, That permission be given for these employees to attend the courses at arranged and that the Labour Sub-Committee be informed accordingly.

(m) National Joint Board (Electricity Supply Industry)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported amendments to the conditions of employment of technical staff on which agreement had now been reached by the National Joint Board. The amendments were in regard to normal hours of employment, excess hours, excess hours on rechargeable work, standby duty and holidays.

2043—Golden Jubilee and E.A.W. 21st Birthday Exhibition—(Min. 1509)—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted proposals for the exhibition to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Undertaking on the occasion of the 21st birthday of the E.A.W.

The Committee gave very careful consideration to the matter but they felt that since the Council approved in principle the holding of this Exhibition, circumstances had changed and that it was now undesirable to hold the exhibition, particularly in view of the importance of the need for the utmost economy in use of electricity. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances, the Committee are unable now to recommend that the proposed exhibition be held and that Min. 1509 be rescinded. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Electrical Engineer communicate with the organisers of the Silver Lining Campaign with a view to co-operating by arranging an exhibit dealing with the Jubilee of the Undertaking in any exhibition which may be arranged in connection with the Cheltenham Silver Lining Week in November.

2044—Power Tools—Two quotations were submitted for supplying a mechanical road breaker for breaking up the surface of roads for the laying of cables. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. J. H. Johnson (Machinery) Ltd., amounting to £162 10s. 0d. including hammer attachment be accepted, and that this expenditure be met from surplus revenue.

2045-Application for Supply-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported one application for supply sod the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

350

2046—Change Over—Lower High Street—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted scheme for change-over of the lower High Street area to 3 phase supply. The scheme provided for a new sub-station the vicinity of New Street supplied from a new E.H.V. feeder linking Manchester Street and



Gloucester Road sub-stations. A pilot cable would be laid with this feeder to provide telephone and automatic protection services and three M.V. Cables would be required, one along Ambrose Street, one along the southern side of High Street, and one along New Street. The estimated cost of the scheme was £14,500, being made up of £400 for purchase of land, £1,600 for sub-station building, £6,900 for underground mains and £5,600 for sub-station plant. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to carry out this work and application he made to the Electricity Commissioners for a loan of £14,500. RESOLVED ALSO, That application hr made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £14,500 and that the Common Seal he affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2047—New Sub-Station, Mauds Elm—In order to furnish an adequate supply to the three-phase network in the Swindon Road area and a standby M.V. supply to the Lower High Street network it would be necessary to provide a new sub-station at Mauds Elm involving a loop being made in the existing 11 K.V. feeder and the installation of a pilot cable. The estimated cost of carrying out this work was £4,800 being made up of £300 for the purchase of land, £1,200 for sub-station building, £800 for underground mains and £2,000 for sub-station equipment. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to carry out this work and that application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for a loan of £4,800. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £4,800 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2048—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported 12 interruptions of supply during the month.

2049—Salary of Borough Electrical Engineer—(Min. 1607)—The Committee considered a request from the General Purposes and Watch Committee that they should recommend the payment of the appropriate cost of living bonus to the Borough Electrical Engineer in addition to his salary. RESOLVED, That this Committee recommend that bonus should be paid to the Borough Electrical Engineer to take effect as from the 1st April, 1947.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**23rd September, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Leigh, James, Lipson, Trye and Ward; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Bettridge, Readings and Thompson.

2050—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee.—RESOLVED, That the report of the Market and Public Control Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 3rd September, 1947 be approved and adopted (report circulated).

2051—Establishment Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Establishment Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 4th September, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated). It was also reported that Mr. R. S. Dawson, Scarborough, had been appointed Junior Assistant Solicitor [para. 1(i) (a)] and commenced his duties on the 22nd September, 1947.

2052—Labour Sub-Committee--RESOLVED, That the report of the Labour Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 18th September, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated). ALSO RESOLVED, That in regard to Para. 6 (Parks Department—Inquiry), the finding: of the Sub-Committee be also reported to the appropriate Committee, and that in any future case the matter be referred to the Sub-Committee immediately in order to avoid delay.

2053—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on the 19th September, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated).

2054-Non County Boroughs Association—(Min. 1599)—Having regard to the termination of the functions of this Association and the setting up. of a new Committee working through the medium of the Association of Municipal Corporations to deal with the interests of non-county boroughs, consent of this Council was asked to the transfer of the funds of the Association to the new Committee. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

2055—Cheltenham Committee for Education—(i) (Min. 393/46)—Reports of the Cheltenham Committee for Education were required to be submitted to the Council half yearly. It was, however, desired that the reports should be submitted to the Education Committee prior to presentation to the Council but this had not been possible to enable its submission to the July meeting. The report would, therefore, be submitted to the October meeting.

(ii) In accordance with Clause 5 (2)(b) of the Scheme of Divisional Administration, as amended by the Varying Scheme approved by the Minister of Education on the 4th July, 1947, the Town Clerk was communicating with the Managers and Governors of Voluntary Schools in regard to the nomination of representatives for the ensuing municipal year.

(iii) The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Education Act, 1946, and the Varying Scheme referred to above, teachers were now entitled to be represented on the Education Committee and provision ss as made for the appointment of two teachers. The Town Clerk reported upon the procedure which might be adopted and had discussed the proposals with the Chairman of the Education Committee, representatives of the Teachers' Association and the Education Officer. A draft of a nomination paper which it was suggested should be sent to all the teachers in Primary and Secondary schools, was also submitted. RESOLVED, That the proposed procedure and the form of nomination paper now submitted be approved, and that teachers of primary schools be asked to submit nominations for appointment of one person to represent their interests, and teachers of Secondary schools one representative in respect of their interests.

351

2056—Fuel—(i) Petroleum—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Fuel and Power indicating the measures to be adopted for reducing the consumption of petrol and asking local authorities to make every effort to secure an over-all reduction in consumption of at least 10%. The Ministry however realised it might not be possible to achieve a 10% reduction in respect of all vehicles.

RESOLVED, That Chief and Principal Officers be instructed to secure all possible economies.

(ii) Fuel Economy Campaign—The Ministry of Fuel and Power had arranged a conference at Bristol on 14th October which the Deputy Mayor (in the absence of the Mayor), the Borough Surveyor and the Deputy Town Clerk would attend. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

2057—Joint Airport—Letter was submitted from the Town Clerk, Gloucester, forwarding statutory notice from the Cheltenham R.D.C. requiring the provision of a piped water supply to two cottages known as "Lane's Cottages" situate at the Joint Airport. The Gloucester Council recommended that a scheme for providing a piped supply to both houses, including the provision of sinks, draining boards and waste pipes at an estimated cost of £60-£70 be approved, and that the tenants be required to pay an additional rent of 1s per week. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Gloucester Council be approved and that the necessary work be put in hand.

2058—Council Meetings—Letter was submitted from Councillor Midwinter intimating that he had been approached by members of the St. Peter's Ward and other wards of the town to ascertain whether in future Council meetings could be held in the evenings. RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances, the Council be recommended to adhere to the present time of the meetings.

2059—Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944—(Min. 1825)—The Committee further considered the letter from the North Gloucestershire Disablement Advisory Committee reported to the July Council meeting and the proposal for raising the percentage of employed disabled men from 3% to 5% within a period of two years. Consideration was being given to this matter by the Chief Officers, although it was again pointed out that the present percentage of disabled persons employed by this Council would exceed 3% but for the reluctance of disabled persons, for various reasons, to indicate their disability and become registered. Further steps were being taken to induce unregistered persons to become registered. RESOLVED, That the North Gloucestershire Disablement Advisory Committee be informed that this Council was sympathetic to the proposal and that every step would be taken to increase the percentage and that the matter be left to the Chief Officers to take steps to secure the registration of unregistered persons and for the submission of proposals for increasing the percentage in accordance with the views of the Disablement Committee.

2060—Grammar School Governor—RESOLVED, That Mr. Alderman Leigh James be re-appointed a Governor for the period expiring 29th July, 1950.

2061—Annual Council Meeting—RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended in pursuance of Sec. 75 of the Local Government Act, 1933, that the time of commencement of the annual council meeting to be held on the 10th November, 1947, be fixed for 3 p.m. instead of 12 noon.

2062—Shops—Closing Hours Winter Months—Letter, dated 16th September, was submitted from the Home Office intimating that Defence Regulation 60 AB would again come into force on the 2nd November, 1947. The Regulation provided that shops should close not later than 7.30 p.m. on a late day and 6 p.m. on other days, although local authorities could substitute earlier or later closing hours, provided such substitution did not exceed 8 p.m. on a late day and one other day and 7 p.m. on one or more of the remaining days. RESOLVED, That the Council take no action to vary the hours prescribed by the Regulation.

2063—Adoption of R.A.F. Station—Letter from the Air Ministry was submitted pointing out that in order to promote good feeling between the public and the Royal Air Force, and to stimulate recruiting, it was proposed that certain R.A.F. stations should be affiliated to neighbouring towns in a similar manner to that operating before the war. It was proposed that such stations be occasionally opened for public visits, generally on a day during " Battle of Britain " week ; that R.A.F. Squadrons should pay official visits to airfields, or fly in formation over towns, although it was not intended there should be anything in the nature of an air display, and that regular personal contact between the R.A.F. and the local population should be maintained by means of entertainments and the like. Subject to the Council agreeing to this proposal, it was suggested Cheltenham should adopt the station at Little Rissington. The Air Ministry had been informed that it was anticipated the Council would gladly adopt the scheme and do all in their power to foster it and the Town Clerk had already been in communication with the Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Station, Little Rissington. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve the proposal and that every effort be made to carry the scheme into effect. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk discuss the proposals with the Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Station, Little Rissington, with a view to suggestions being made to give effect to this decision.

2064—National Savings—Silver Linings Campaign—A report of the conference held at Gloucester between representatives of local authorities and local savings committees was submitted and the Mayor also reported on his attendance. The object of the conference was to obtain support in connection with the holding of a Savings Week in connection with the Silver Linings Campaign and authorities were asked to give every support to local savings committees. It was understood that the week commencing 15th November had been fixed as the Savings Week in respect of the Borough, and it was hoped that members of the Council and the Chief Officers would give as much assistance as possible.

2065—Rotunda—Messrs. Edward Eager & Son were executing repairs to defective columns and cornices to the Colonnade of the Rotunda, jointly owned by Lloyd's Bank Ltd., and the Council, and the necessary moulds had been obtained, new columns cast and scaffolding was about to be erected. Messrs. Eager enquired whether the Council desired them to carry out work to the portion in the Council's ownership simultaneously at a cost of approximately £125. Normally this matter would have been considered by the Town Improvement and Spa Committee, but in view of the urgency of the matter, this Committee was asked to give a decision. The Borough Surveyor had already reported to the appropriate Committee on the condition of the columns which had given some concern as to their stability. RESOLVED, That having regard to the condition of the and cornices, and the fact that Messrs. Eager had already obtained the moulds and other necessary materials, and that it would prove less expensive if the works were carried out simultaneously, subject to the Borough Surveyor being satisfied as to the cost mentioned above and to a contract to be prepared by the Town Clefs-Messrs. Eager & Son be instructed to carry out the necessary work to the Corporation portion.

352

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**22nd September, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Green and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Midwinter and Readings.

2066—Street Lighting—Lynworth Farm Estate—The Electricity Committee had considered lighting schemes. The by-pass road joining Priors Road with Prestbury Road was scheduled for through traffic and classed A, remaining roads being classed B, and the Ministry of Transport's prescribed standards of lighting would apply, although a skeleton scheme might operate temporarily for the latter. It was, therefore, recommended that the by-pass road be lit by 140 watt sodium lamps, height 25 ft. and spaced 133 ft.; 9 lamps within the Borough and 12 in the area of the Prestbury Parish Council at an estimated cost of £1,400. £570 chargeable to the Borough and £830 to the Parish Council. The annual running cost from dusk to mid-night was approximately £105 being £45 for the Borough and £60 for Prestbury.

For class B roads a skeleton scheme could operate and in place of fifty-four 45 watt sodium lamps in the Borough and 32 in Prestbury, 17 and 6 respectively could be provided, although mains sufficient for the whole scheme would be laid. The estimated cost of the skeleton scheme was £1,700 being £1,200 for the Borough and £500 for Prestbury, and the estimated annual running cost £45 and £15 respectively. The Electricity Committee recommended adoption of these two schemes. RESOLVED, accordingly, and that the Prestbury Parish Council be recommended to adopt these proposals.

2067—View Committee—The View Committee met on 2nd September (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2068—Salvage Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 10th September (report circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2069—Pittville Street Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 17th and 19th September (report circulated here-with). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2070—Labour Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 18th September. RESOLVED, That the report be received.

2071—Royal Well Omnibus Station—(a) Layout—The Town Clerk reported upon discussions with the Regional Transport Commissioner and the Royal Crescent owners upon the suggested layout. It was proposed to afford an effective screen between the houses and the station by means of a green belt of trees and shrubs planted at the rear of the garden and taking in the site of the 10 ft. footpath. RESOLVED, That the amended layout now submitted be forwarded to the owners' solicitors for observations and that the views of the Omnibus Companies concerned also be obtained. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate for the purchase of the premises now occupied by the Imperial Motor Mart.

(b) Snack Bar—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. W. T. Davis to rent a site near the station for the erection of a structure to serve snacks and light refreshment to travellers, be not entertained.

2072—Traffic Orders—(a) Trinity School Lane—The Ministry of Transport had confirmed the Prohibition of Heavy Traffic and One-way Street Order. This had been advertised and the appropriate notices erected.

(b) In view of the continued delay of the Ministry in confirming the Traffic Orders submitted many months ago, the Town Clerk had again, pressed for confirmation to be expedited.

2073—Parking Places—(a) Bayshill Road—The Ladies' College had been successful in their Appeal against the Council's proposal to provide a car park.

(b) The Orders under the Public Health Act, 1925, prescribing parking places in Imperial Square, (east side), Montpellier Spa Road and St. George's Road had now been made.

(c) Bye-laws—The Secretary of State had approved draft bye-laws under the Public Health Act, 1925, and Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed thereto and the Ministry's confirmation sought.

2074—Rodney Road Car Park—(a) Amendment of Bye-laws—(Min. 1205)—The Home Office forwarded for observations, the objection made by Mrs. G. Mellersh against the proposed increased charge of 1s for four hours parking, and suggesting 6d. for two hours or 1s per day. RESOLVED, That the previous decision be adhered to as the charges are considered reasonable.

(b) Mr. K. Adcock asked for re-consideration of his application for over-night parking. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their decision that the facilities are only available for business people desiring day-time accommodation. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor give necessary instructions to see that this condition is strictly enforced.

(c) RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. L. R. Hobson for over-night parking be not entertained.

2075—Cheltenham District Traction Co.—(a) Pike House—The Borough Surveyor had been unable to construct the draw-in as no provision was included in the estimates. The Company had, therefore, deferred erecting the shelters. RESOLVED, That provision be included again in next year's estimates.

(b) Shelters—(Min. 1810)—RESOLVED, That the offer of the Company to erect six additional shelters at key points, namely, Oaklands, Calcutta, L.M.S. Station (two, Gloucester and Queen's Roads), Norwood Arms and Harp Hill, upon similar terms and conditions as for the two shelters already approved, be accepted.

2076—Overhead Telegraphic Lines—(a) St. George's Drive, Hermitage and Francis Streets, and Carlton Street. RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in consenting to the erection of these lines subject to certain terms and conditions, be confirmed.

(b) Priors Housing Estate—(Min. 416)—As requested the Post Office had submitted amended scheme for extensions on this Estate. RESOLVED, That consent be given subject to compliance with the requirements of the Borough Surveyor and Borough Electrical Engineer.

353

2077—Gloucester Road—Speed Limit Sign—(Min. 1811)—The Borough Surveyor had approached the Ministry of Transport to move this sign to its war-time position in the vicinity of Arle Court, but the Ministry were un-willing to do so as few accidents had taken place outside the restricted area. Since then the St. Mark's Community Association and Councillor Thompson had stressed the need for some adjustment of the sign's position to slow down traffic before reaching Tennyson Road junction, thus avoiding further accidents at this point. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be urged to reconsider their decision and to move the sign either to its war-time position or to a point approximately 100 yards west.

2078—Trunk Roads—Design and Planting Schemes and Supply of Nursery Plants—The Ministry of Transport had appointed a Committee and also a horticultural expert to advise upon the layout of trunk roads with trees, plants and shrubs.

2079—Road Traffic Act, 1930—(a) Read Circular 614, Ministry of Transport, in regard to the Departmental Committee's Report on Traffic Signs 1944. Revised regulations giving effect to the Committee's recommendations were in course of preparation but in the meantime Interim Authorisation and Directions regularising certain types of signs were issued.

(b) Trunk Road 44—Signing--To conform to the report of the Departmental Committee on Traffic Signs a large number of signs would be required for this road. In view of delay in obtaining approval and supplies it had been agreed that temporary advanced and flag signs be erected, and the Chairman had approved the proposal and estimates amounting to £139 2s. 3d., had been forwarded to the Ministry the expenditure to be met out of grant for general maintenance. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

2080—Park Place/Andover Road Junction—(Min. 1790)—Census of traffic had shown that the number of vehicles passing this junction did not reach the Ministry's minimum standard necessary for traffic control lights to be installed. The Borough Surveyor had discussed the matter with the Ministry's representative and all relevant information had now been forwarded to the Divisional Road Engineer.

2081—College Road/Sandford Road Junction—A tree outside "Lindley," owned by the Cheltenham College, had recently blown down damaging the low wall at this blind corner. The College offered an area for setting back the boundary wall if the Council would undertake re-building to the new line. The Chairman had, therefore, authorised acceptance. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

2082—St. George's Road—Inner Garden—The occupier of No. 25 asked for the inner garden to be tidied, including trees and shrubs. Before the war the Committee considered taking over and maintaining these gardens but the owners were not in entire agreement and the proposal was abandoned. RESOLVED, That in view of labour and other difficulties no action be taken at present.

2083—Lansdown Crescent Gardens and Drives—Councillor Fisher suggested that the Council should also take over these gardens. RESOLVED, That for similar reasons no action be taken.

2084—Warwick Place—Halt Sign—Suggestions had been received that this sign which was not well located should be adjusted. RESOLVED, That in view of the narrowness of the footpath the suggestion cannot be entertained.

2085—Lane Rear Evesham Road—Complaints had been made of the condition of this lane and the Borough Surveyor had now removed refuse, deposited apparently by unauthorised persons. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor with the occupiers' co-operation endeavour to trace offenders.

2086—Clarence Square and Sunday Sweeping—The occupier of No. 15 complained of untidiness of the Square due mainly to the public depositing chipped potato wrappings on the pavements. The Borough Surveyor also drew attention to the untidy condition of many streets on Sunday mornings from the same cause. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to resume Sunday street sweeping where necessary at an estimated cost of £4 per week.

2087—County Infirmary—RESOLVED, That the application of the County Public Assistance Officer for the erection of direction signs to the Infirmary be granted and that it also be suggested that the County provide an adequate sign at the entrance.

2088—H.A.A. Regiment—Hutments, Alstone Lane—RESOLVED, That the application of the 498 H.A.A. Regiment for a direction sign to their new Headquarters to be erected on the lamp standard at the Gloucester Road/ Alstone Lane junction be granted subject to compliance with the requirements of the Borough Surveyor and to the Electricity Committee raising no objection.

2089—Bath Road/Suffolk Road Junction—The Irving Hotel Ltd. were endeavouring to improve their exit to these cross roads and suggested the removal of the bus stop to a point nearer Nazareth House. The Borough Surveyor reported that the present exit was unsatisfactory but he could not recommend the removal of the stop—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor prepare and submit improvement scheme for this junction after prior discussion with the Hotel.

2090—Prestbury Road—Read complaint of the condition of the road and footpath known as Roland Terrace between 132 and 162 Prestbury Road and leading to the Cleevemount Estate. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned for the Town Clerk to report upon the liability for repairs.

2091—Whaddon Road Footpaths—The condition of these footpaths, the responsibility of abutting owners, was the subject of complaint. The Borough Surveyor had made an inspection and estimated the cost of laying with tar macadam at 6s 6d. per super yard, or with concrete slabs at 8s 6d. per super yard. RESOLVED, That in view of prevailing conditions notices be not served upon abutting owners requiring them to execute repairs, but that the Borough Surveyor effect temporary reinstatement at the Council's cost with tar spraying and chippings at approximately 2s 3d. per super yard.

2092-Lansdown Road Railway Bridge (T.R.10—A.40)—(Min. 1393)—Reported letter from Ministry of Transport that it was impossible at present to give even an approximate date when work on bridge would commence. It was suggested, however, that the Council forward their proposals for road improvements so that consideration could be given thereto in conjunction with the question of increased bridge width. RESOLVED, That proposals be submitted to the next meeting.

2093-Tewkesbury Road Bridge (A. 4019) —The Ministry also intimated that there was no likelihood of the bridge re-building and widening scheme being undertaken but agreed that attention was necessary to the retaining wall on the southern side of the western approach: The Borough Surveyor was preparing scheme for the erection of a new wall outside the existing wall which would be submitted to the next meeting.

2094—Taxi Office, Royal Well Road--Central Taxis asked permission to extend their existing building on the east side. The Borough Surveyor recommended extensions on the northern side to avoid footpath obstruction. RESOLVED, That he submit amended scheme, after consultation with Central Taxis.

2095—Great Western Road/Millbrook Street Junction—Proposed Petrol Pump Site--Mr. B. Gregory of Alstone Garage submitted proposals for a petrol filling station on land at this junction and, if approved, it was understood he would transfer his present station in Gt. Western Road thereto. The Borough Surveyor recommended that subject to the approval of the Planning Committee the suggestion be adopted. RESOLVED, accordingly.

2096—Highbury Church—The Church Authorities suggested the planting of trees in Priory Terrace. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for view.

2097—Promenade—(a) Display of Posters—Messrs. Dale Forty & Co. asked permission to place a six-sheet poster advertising concerts against a tree outside the National Savings Centre. The Committee considered that erections of this character gave the Promenade an untidy appearance. RESOLVED, That this, and all future applications, be refused.

(b) Fountain-5 visitors regretted that the fountain was not in action as it gave life to the Promenade and was attractive in every way. The Committee agreed therewith but regretted that owing to fuel restrictions it was not possible for the fountain to operate at present.

2098—Private Roads—Cleansing—The Borough Surveyor sought instructions in regard to cleansing private roads. In the past it had been the Department's practice to undertake certain cleansing and the opening of gulleys and gullet' connections when these became choked. In some instances gulleys had been cleared but this was not a regular practice. Gulleys in private streets could be rodded but their cleansing might become expensive since the amount of erosion in an unmade road was considerable in comparison with roads well-surfaced. RESOLVED, That in future the Borough Surveyor undertake rodding of gulleys in private streets but no cleans-ing either of gulleys, roadways or footpaths.

2099—Accident Prevention Council—(a) Accommodation—Notice had been received terminating the Council's tenancy of No. 14 Regent Street on 25th December next, The Town Clerk reported that No. 8 Winchcomb Street was now vacant and it was anticipated that No. 12 would shortly be unoccupied. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inspect these properties and report whether either is suitable.

(b) Recommendations from Accident Prevention Council.



(i) Clarence Parade Lamp—Pedestrian Refuge. That a pedestrian refuge be constructed around this lamp. Careful consideration was given thereto but the Committee felt that the proposal was inadvisable as there would be added traffic danger and pedestrians should be encouraged to cross where traffic conditions are more favourable. RESOLVED, That the proposal be not entertained.

(ii) Knapp Road/New Street area—school signs—That additional school signs and barriers be provided. The Borough Surveyor had approached the Education Committee for a barrier for the main entrance to St. Gregory's School and one at the New Street entrance to the Parish Church Boys School. If the A.A. sign in New Street was replaced with a standard school sign and a further sign erected at the end of Knapp Road, opposite Railway Inn, further improvements would be effected. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(iii) Long Distance Buses—That to ease traffic congestion at the junction of Pittville and High Streets, these buses be re-routed. RESOLVED, That as the route is prescribed by the Traffic Commissioners no action be taken.

(iv) Portland Street, Bus Stop—That this stop be set back opposite Messrs. MacVitie's premises. RESOLVED, That as an alternative the stop remain as at present but the words " Bus Stop " be painted on the roadway to prevent cars parking and that a " Keep Clear " space notice also be painted at the Albion Street junction.

(v) Road Safety Exhibition, 22nd October—That temporary signing be provided. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

(vi) Cats Eyes, Bath Road to Bath Street—That cats' eyes markers be laid indicating the flow of traffic clue to one-way restrictions. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

(vii) "Keep Left" Sign, Gratton Road, Norwood Road, Gt. Norwood Street, etc., junction—RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to enable the Borough Surveyor to report fully thereon.

(viii) Junction of Promenade and Clarence Street—Pedestrian Crossing—RESOLVED, That the proposal be not entertained.

2100—Norwood Road/Suffolk Road junction—Cleared Site—RESOLVED, That consideration of an application for permission to cultivate this site be adjourned for view.

2101—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month.

950 of refuse tons in July and 837 tons, 16 cwts. in August had been disposed of at the tip as compared with 1,160 tons and 950 tons respectively for the preceding months.

355

2102—Annual Contracts--Cement Price Increases—Three price increases had been notified by Messrs. Geo. Bence Sons, namely, 1s and 3s 6d per ton for Portland and rapid hardening cements and 10s per ton where paper bags are used, due to increased cost of kraft paper.

2103—Central Depot—(a) Footpath Roller—Replacement--The petrol roller purchased in 1928 was in bad repair. A new or re-conditioned engine could not be obtained or spare parts. The Borough Surveyor recommended the acceptance of the quotation of Messrs. Wallis & Steevens the lowest, for an " Advance " diesel roller at approximately £855 with delivery 12 to 18 months hence. RESOLVED, That an order be placed and provision made in next year's estimates.

(b) Diesel Road Roller—This roller, ordered two years ago, had now been delivered.

(c) Karrier Vehicles—It was anticipated that delivery of the six karrier vehicles would commence at the end of September. There would probably be some reduction in price due to steel difficulties and inability to provide certain fittings. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to acquire sufficient spare parts at a cost of £125 17s. 8d. to enable essential repairs to be undertaken.

2104—Highways Department R. Skeen—The Medical Officer of Health was of opinion that this employee was permanently unfit for work. He had 22 years contributory and 8 years non-contributory service and on this basis his Superannuation allowance was approximately £93 per annum, RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, the Finance Committee be recommended to superannuate this employee and in view of the amount of his allowance it be suggested that this be calculated at the rate of one-sixtieths for non-contributory service, to increase the sum to approximately £100 per annum.

2105—Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents--(a) Annual Subscription--RESOLVED, That the annual subscription, £6 6s. 0d., be renewed.

(b) Safe Cycling—RESOLVED, That the Association's Safe Cycling Scheme be referred to the Accident Prevention Council.

2106—Borough Surveyor's Department—Wages Office—The Borough Surveyor stated that the Borough Treasurer had approached him in regard to the Finance Committee's suggestion that a report be prepared upon the computation and payment of wages with a view to the Finance Committee exercising greater control thereover through the Borough Treasurer. The Borough Surveyor had prepared a report upon the implications. RESOLVED, That the report be circulated to the Committee and consideration deferred to the next meeting.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**24th September, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Ward and Yeend,

2107—Parks Superintendent—The Committee considered recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee that the Council should purchase one of the houses in Brooklyn Gardens being erected by Messrs. Western Estates Ltd., in respect of which the Council have the right to approve proposed purchasers. The Committee felt that in view of the fact that they were endeavouring to ensure that occupiers of these houses would adequately fill them, they would be unable to take any action which would result in one of the houses being occupied by two people only. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to comply with the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee, but that the Town Clerk be instructed to consider whether any house at present held on requisition and suitable for this purpose could be purchased in which case the Committee would consider if they could rehouse the occupants.

2108—Requisitioning Policy—The Town Clerk reported on a meeting which he had had with the Principal Housing Officer on the 18th September. The Principal Housing Officer had pointed out that the original circular 2845 which was the basis of present requisitioning powers had been amended by Circular 138 and other subsequent circulars, and efforts had been made to obtain a consolidated circular co-ordinating these various circulars. It was not considered opportune at present to do this, but a memorandum had been issued by the Ministry to Principal Housing Officers enabling them to

give guidance to local authorities. The present views of the Minister on requisitioning were that the present powers (i) should not be used to institute a system of rationing of accommodation (ii) should not be used to prevent the normal change of ownership or tenancy (iii) should not be used to ensure that every house that changed hands should be diverted to persons of greatest need but (iv) should be used to prevent abuse, i.e., houses being kept empty for a considerable period or excess rents being demanded.

With regard to the question of rent of flats it was considered desirable that local authorities should look into this matter when licences were issued for conversion and for the Council to enquire the owner's intentions regarding rent.

The Council should continue requisitioning, but having regard to all circumstances, should be more ready to release properties, particularly those which were changing hands or tenancies in the normal way. RESOLVED, That the views of the Minister be borne in mind with regard to future requisitioning.

2109—Fences—Priors Farm—(Min. 1733)—The Borough Surveyor reported the position with regard to the provision of fencing to the front gardens on this estate. It was impossible at present to obtain materials or labour for this work as shown by the fact that of 18 enquiries for the provision of fencing to B.I.S.F. houses no satisfactory replies had been received. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned until the meeting of the Committee on the 15th October and the Committee inspect Priors Farm and Lynworth Farm Estates on the 10th October.

356

2110—Hawksley Two-Storey House—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that although the two-storey house which Messrs. Hawksley propose to manufacture had been passed by the Burt Committee as technically sound, the possibility of its production was still under consideration.

2111-1947 Housing Programme—(a) Read circular letter from the Ministry of Health that it had been decided that approvals of new tenders should be restricted to cases where it was the intention to let additional houses mainly to miners or agricultural workers. Tenders secured in accordance with the programme laid down at Zonal Conferences could, therefore, be submitted, but consideration of approval must necessarily be deferred pending further instructions from the Government, except where it was clear that the houses would be let to miners or agricultural workers. Where local authorities had not yet invited tenders where authorised, it was suggested that further action should be deferred, except where the above conditions would be fulfilled.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported on tenders received from Messrs. W. E. Chivers and Mr. E. L. Squire for the erection of 28 and 12 houses respectively on Lynworth Farm Estate. Messrs. Chivers' tender amounted to £44,214 and Mr. Squire's to £14,577.

A tender for the erection of four further houses was also submitted from Mr. G. W. Enoch amounting to £4,818 18s. 8d. which represented 2211d. per sq. ft. provided he would be reimbursed for such increases in costs of materials as had taken place since approval was given to that price by the Ministry in April last. Work of roofing in the four houses already under construction by Mr Enoch was commencing and if his tender for the further block of four were accepted he wished to commence immediately with the bricklayers and labourers already on the site The Borough Surveyor recommended that, in view of the Ministry's direction already referred to, the tenders of Mr. E. L. Squire and Mr. G. W. Enoch should be submitted to the Ministry for approval so that, even if

approval were not given at present, they would be considered immediately it became possible to give further approvals. He emphasised, with regard to Mr. Enoch's tender, that the labour force was available on the site, that he had made very rapid progress with the houses on which he was at present engaged and that the standard of workmanship was satisfactory in every way. The block of four houses for which Mr. Enoch now tendered was sited between Wimpey No Fines" houses and if approval were not obtained, the site, which would have all the services and drainage in position, would be derelict. RESOLVED, That the tenders of Mr. E. L. Squire and Mr. G. W. Enoch be submitted to the Ministry for approval and that the Town Clerk draw the attention of the Ministry to the considerations reported by the Borough Surveyor.

2112—Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported that the Urban District of Nailsworth had been included in the area served by the local Rent Tribunal as from 22nd September, 1947.

2113---149 High Street—Shed—The Town Clerk reported application from Messrs. Bloodworth to rent a shed at the rear of these premises for use as a cycle store for their employees. RESOLVED, That this shed be let to Messrs. Bloodworth at a rent to be approved by the Chairman.

2114--4 Tivoli Road—Three tenders were received for the conversion of this requisitioned house into two self contained flats. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Son, amounting to D69 19s 6d., being the lowest, be accepted, subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to the acceptance of this tender.

2115-Whaddon Boys Club—Three tenders were received for the electrical installation at the hut to be used by the Whaddon Boys Club. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. F. H. Bastin & Son Ltd., amounting to £70 13s. 9d., being the lowest, be accepted.

2116—Staff--(a) Temporary Assistant—The Housing Manager had appointed Miss Pennington, Temporary Assistant on the temporary scales of salary.

(b) Student Assistant—Miss Marle had now passed her examination and the Training Committee of the Society of Women Housing Managers had approved the completion of her practical training as from 1st August. RESOLVED, That Miss Marle be placed on the A.P.T. Division Grade 1 as from that date.

(c) Student—Miss Clayton had finished her probationary period on the 1st August and was now entitled to a salary of £1 per week. RESOLVED, That this be paid as from 1st August.

2117—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 29th August and 9th September were submitted. The following matters (inter alga) were dealt with:-

(a) Nine applicants were interviewed and eight applications considered.

(b) 26 applicants were allocated tenancies of prefabricated bungalows at the Knole.

(c) Change of User—Consent had been given to the use of one room at 49 Clarence Street as Office accommodation and to the use of Bargate, St. George's Road and 1 Lypiatt Lawn as Nursing Homes.

(d) Arrears—The Housing Manager submitted statement of arrears and was instructed in future to inform the Town Clerk when any tenant was four weeks or more in arrear and report monthly on the

progress made with the collection of arrears. The Town Clerk had also been instructed to take appropriate action for recovery of arrears and where necessary possession of the house.

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved.

2118—Requisitioning Sub-Committee—Report of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee at their meeting held on 12th September was submitted. Two properties had been requisitioned, one of which was subsequently released. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2119—Temporary Housing Site, The Knole—The Borough surveyor reported that the erection of bungalows had commenced on this site and 24 had now been completed. It was estimated that the remainder would be in position within a week. He pointed out that after erection was completed, a good deal of work remained to be done to paths, fencing, etc, and since the labour force engaged on this work was small some considerable time must necessarily elapse before its completion. It was felt, therefore, that on these houses being allocated, it should be pointed out to the tenants that although the Council would make every effort to complete the work at the earliest possible moment, there must be in the meantime a certain amount of inconvenience to the tenants.

357

2120—Hesters Way Compulsory Purchase Order—With regard to the suggestion made by the Ministry that Messrs J. A. Pye Ltd. should erect houses on the land owned by them for sale to the Council under Circular 92/47, the Borough Surveyor had obtained plans of their houses for submission to the Ministry. He had also asked Messrs' Pye to submit estimates for the erection of houses to the Council's plans and specifications. RESOLVED, That, in view of the Ministry's instructions with regard to submission of further tenders for approval, no further action be taken at present.

2121—Whaddon Avenue—The Borough Surveyor submitted a request from the Planning Committee for the views of this Committee with regard to a plan submitted by the tenant of the above house for a shed 17 ft. 6 ins. long and 7 ft. 1 ½ ins. wide which had been erected in the garden. Although the shed had been erected without submission of plans, the tenant asked that he should be allowed to retain it or that a new site should be found. The shed had been erected for the purpose of carrying on the business of furniture repairing and french polishing. RESOLVED, That the tenant be required to remove this shed within three months.

2122—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Retention Money—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from Messrs Wheeler & Mansell with regard to the release of retention money on Scheme 1. The Committee had agreed that the retention money should not exceed £3,500, of which 50 per cent. should be paid on the completion of the whole contract and the balance on the expiration of a maintenance period of six months Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell had interpreted this to mean that the balance would be released on each individual house as the six months maintenance period expired.

The Borough Surveyor had calculated the figure at which the retention money would stand if no limit had been laid down and this would now amount to £4,038 instead of £3,500. In order to assist the contractors, he recommended that when the £4,038 referred to fell to £3,500, the latter should be released on the terms which would have applied if no amendment to the terms of retention money had been made. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

(b) Claims for increased costs of materials—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell regarding the Council's recent decisions with regard to these claims.

With regard to the claim for £87 7s. 2d. for timber, they pointed out that the basic price for constructional timber included in the Contract was based on timber available at the time of tendering, but when orders were placed, this grade of timber was not available so that a different grade, which was dearer than that originally quoted but still within the controlled prices, had to be supplied and in some instances larger sizes had to be converted. They therefore claimed that the difference in price was payable by the Council in accordance with the terms of the Contract. The Town Clerk reported that in his opinion under the terms of the Contract the Council were required to pay the controlled price of timber at the time of purchase.

Regarding increased costs of materials other than those shown in the basic schedule in the Contract, the contractors held that as the schedule was compiled jointly by them and the Council, responsibility for the fact that a full schedule was not prepared rested on both parties and the loss should therefore be equally borne. The Town Clerk pointed out that it was never intended that all materials should be included in a basic schedule since this would leave little room for competitive tendering. Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell also asked that the Council should reconsider the figure of f6 per house which they had agreed to pay for the loss in production and offered to produce a more accurate statement of figures RESOLVED (a) That Messrs. Wheeler and Mansell's claim for increased costs on timber be paid subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health and that application be made for such consent (b) That the Council cannot accept the responsibility for any increase in the cost of materials not included in the schedule of basic prices in the contract. (c) That the Committee adhere to their previous decision to pay the sum of per house for the contractors' loss in production, due to circumstances beyond their control.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**24th September, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Ward ; Councillors Fildes, Gardner and Ward.

2123—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

2124—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

2125—Remission of Rates—The Committee interviewed and dealt with four applicants for a reduction or remission of rates on grounds of poverty and considered and dealt with one application.

2126—Accommodation—RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the re-arrangement of the accommodation of the Finance Department including the Rates Office, as recommended by the Establishment Sub-Committee.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**26th September, 1947.** Present Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Alderman Ward, Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Mann and Morris.

2127—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer was submitted on the collection of the first instalment of this rate. Amount collected £31,674; amount outstanding £4,948.

2128—Water Rate and Charges-- -Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half-year ending 30th September, 1947 was submitted. Amount collected £31,674 ; amount outstanding £501.

2129--Electricity Charges--The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £13,152 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £739 for re-chargeable works carried out and £413 for electricity supplied.

2130—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date.                | Proposal.                       | Amount. | Term.     |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 30th August, 1947    | Sub-station building, The Knole | £1,246  | 30 years. |
| 13th September, 1947 | Purchase of motor vehicles      | £1,560} | 7 years.  |
|                      |                                 | £400}   | 5 years.  |

2131—New Exchequer Grants to Local Authorities—Circular 136/47, Ministry of Health, was submitted referring to Government proposals to introduce legislation providing for a new system of Exchequer grants from the 1st April, 1948, the basis of calculation of such grants being at present subject to confidential consultation with Local Authority Associations. It was anticipated that the new Exchequer grants payable in respect of the year 1948/9 might differ substantially from existing block grants. Local Authorities might desire to be informed some time before making the rate of the amount of the new grants payable during 1948/49 and authorities were therefore asked to complete and return by the 30th September, 1947, forms giving the estimated expenditure on various rate fund services and otherwise. At a later stage authorities might be asked to provide additional information on the basis of ascertained figures, and, to avoid inconvenience arising from any consequent adjustment, it was desirable that estimates now given should be as nearly as possible in accordance with facts. The Borough Treasurer reported that the forms were being completed in time for submission by the date required, and again called attention to the effect of the Registrar General's alleged understatement of population upon the grants payable. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk again urge the Registrar General to reconsider the population figures in respect of Cheltenham with a view to their increase to the figure which the Council suggest was a correct one.

2132—Electricity and Water Accounts Year Ended 31st March, 1947--The Borough Treasurer submitted accounts for the electricity and water undertakings in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1947, which had been submitted to the appropriate Committees.

2133—Accommodation—The Borough Treasurer reported on the allocation of office accommodation (Establishment Sub-Committee Para, 10). A central collection hall in the showroom would be delayed for a considerable time and he had arranged with the Borough Electrical Engineer for the installation of a second cash collection machine in the showroom. The retention of the electricity showroom prevented a complete re-organisation of the cash collection system at the present time and in view of the nationalisation of this industry the Committee expressed the view

that immediate steps should be taken to find showroom accommodation outside the Municipal Offices. RESOLVED it That approval be given to the installation of a second machine in the showroom ; (ii) That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman of this Committee and the Electricity Committee, in consultation with the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and Borough Electrical Engineer consider and discuss alternative proposals for the setting up of a showroom outside the Municipal Offices.

2134---Insurance—Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts—One of the conditions of advances under these Acts was that the property should be insured by the Council, premium being recovered from the mortgagor. It was recommended that the insurance should be comprehensive, covering, in addition to tire, such risks as water-pipe bursts, damage by tempest and aircraft. As this type of insurance was not covered by the arrangements recently approved by the Council, quotations had been invited. RESOLVED, That the offer of the Municipal Mutual Insurance Company be accepted. ALSO RESOLVED, That in the event of a mortgagor desiring to effect insurance of a property in excess of the figure fixed by the Council, the necessary arrangements be made by the Borough Treasurer subject mortgagor paying the increased premium.

2135—Loans—Loans amounting to £5,050 had been repaid since the last meeting.

2136—Superannuation—(a) The following refunds of contributions had been made ;

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Mrs. E. W. Todd (Public Library)                  | £18 10s. 5d. |
| Miss M. D. Fairs (Thirlestaine Court Nursery)     | £30 7s. 4d.  |
| Miss M. Holz (Nurseries)                          | £32 2s. 7d.  |
| Miss E. F. Cooke (Public Library)                 | £6 5s. 9d.   |
| Miss J. M. Styman (Borough Surveyor's Department) | £11 9s. 11d. |
| Mr. E. L. Gregory (Delancey Hospital)             | £6 9s. 6d.   |

(b) The following transfers were payable to the authorities mentioned, subject to agreement of the computations with those authorities :—

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Cheltenham R.D.C. (Miss M. J. Lawrence, Rates Office)        | £97 12s. 0d. |
| Scunthorpe Borough (Mr. N. P. Crompton, Town Clerk's Office) | £178 0s. 4d. |

359

(c) The Committee considered the recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee in regard to the retirement of R. Skeen, owing of ill health, and a recommendation that in view of the small allowance payable to this employee, he be paid 60ths in respect of non-contributory service in lieu of 80ths. A certificate was also submitted from the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Section 8 (i) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the effect that R. Skeen was incapable of discharging his duties by reason of permanent ill health. RESOLVED, That notwithstanding anything contained in the resolution of the Finance Committee adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938 a superannuation allowance of £107 5s. 3d. be paid to R. Skeen, to be calculated on 60ths in lieu of 80ths in respect' of his non-contributory service, and based on 9 years non-contributory service and 22 years contributory service.

(d) Superannuation--W. L. Booy—Application was submitted from W. L. Booy, appointed pupil sanitary inspector in October, 1938, subsequently called up for military service in September, 1939, and appointed District Sanitary. Inspector on 11th August, 1947, for his service under articles and war service and his period of training under the Government Further Education and Training Scheme



on demobilisation to be reckoned as non-contributors service in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 (4) of the Local Government Staffs (War Service) Act, 1939: and Section 12 (6) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, as in the case of three similar officers of the Council (Min. 2223 (v)). RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended that the service of this officer as above be reckoned as non-contributory service for the purposes of the above Acts.

2137—Chief Sanitary Inspector—Min. 1607)—The Committee considered recommendation of the Establishment Sub-Committee (Para. 9) asking this Committee to concur in making an appropriate recommendation for the consolidation of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's salary and the honoraria received by him from the Ministry of Food in respect of his appointments as Food Executive Officer and National Registration Officer. The Committee had before them the letter of application written by Mr. Jefford. RESOLVED, That the Committee were unable to accede to the application and recommend the Council to adhere to their previous decision not to consolidate this Officer's salary and honoraria.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

#### SELECTION COMMITTEE.

**29th September, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Smith, Trye and Waite; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Compton, Fisher and Readings.

2138—Appointment of Mayor, 1947-48—The Committee report that they have extended an invitation to Mr. Councillor H. T. Bush to accept the Mayoralty for the Municipal Year 1947-48 and they have pleasure in stating that he is willing to undertake this.

2139—Membership of Committees—The Selection Committee will meet on 6th November, 1947, at 3 p.m. to consider making recommendations as to membership of Committees and all members of the Council will be invited to be present at the meeting.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

360

#### Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1947

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **meeting of the Council to be held, at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on FRIDAY, the 31st day of October, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 6th October, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—



(An amendment moved by Councillor Tucker Brown " That Min. 3 of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee (Cheltenham Spa Open Competitive Music Festival) referred to in Min. 1953 of this Committee be not approved" was not seconded).

(An amendment moved by Councillor Yeend, seconded by Alderman Green "That Min. 1953 (ii) (Cheltenham Floral Fete) be referred back for further consideration " was lost).

Electricity and Lighting                      September 22

Street and Highway ...                      September 22

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Mann "That Min. 5 of the report of the Pittville Street Sub-Committee, referred to in Min 2069 of this Committee be referred back for further consideration and that the Finance Committee be consulted on the proposed rents" was lost). (An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, seconded by Councillor Addis "That Min. 2098 (Private Roads—Cleansing) be not approved " was lost).

General Purposes and Watch      September 23

On consideration of Min. 9 of the report of the Establishment Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 4th September, 1947 (Salary, Chief Sanitary Inspector) referred to in Min 2051 of this Committee IT WAS RESOLVED, That the Council go into Committee.

Upon resuming in open Council, the proceedings of the General Purposes and Watch Committee were approved as mentioned above.

Rating                      September 24

Finance                      September 26

Except in regard to Min. 2137 (Salary, Chief Sanitary Inspector) which was dealt with on the report of the General Purposes Committee).

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.

2143—Selection Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Selection Committee of their meeting held on the 29th September, 1947, be received.

2144—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on the 19th September, 1947, be received.

2145—Cheltenham Committee for Education—RESOLVED, That the report of the Cheltenham Committee for Education in accordance with Min. 393/46, be received.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

## ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

**7th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Addis (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green and Smith; Councillors Compton and Yeend; Mr. A. Ball.

2146—Horticulture Committee—This Committee met on 2nd October (report circulated).  
RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2147—Cultivation (Min. 1912)—(a) It was decided to terminate tenancies of certain allotments which were in bad condition. The tenant of No. 38, Agg Recreation Ground asked for re-consideration for health reasons and the tenant of No. 12 Thorncliffe Drive could not be traced.  
RESOLVED, That the former tenant be given until the next meeting in which to satisfactorily cultivate his plot, failing which his tenancy be terminated. ALSO RESOLVED, That possession be taken of No. 12 Thorncliffe Drive, the allotment re-let and arrears, amounting to 10s, written off as irrecoverable.

(b) Tenants of Nos. 23 Baglins Piece, 96 Hatherley Park and 38 Charlton Park Gate could not be traced although in some instances cultivation was continuing without rent payment. RESOLVED, That possession be taken.

2148—Lettings and Terminations---Since the last meeting 14 tenancies had been terminated and 10 allotments let.

2149—Sandy Lane Allotments—The Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee had now inspected this site and the owner had undertaken that six dirty plots would be cleaned and cropped.

2150—Hatherley Road Allotments—The occupier of No. 167 Hatherley Road wished to rent, or take on a long lease, for planting fruit trees and keeping poultry land at the rear of his premises which was in an uncultivated condition. RESOLVED, That subject to the Gardens Superintendent agreeing the exact area, the applicant be granted a lease for 10 years, subject to a break at the 5th or 7th year, the Council resuming possession without compensation if the land was required for building or other essential purposes.

2151—Alderman P. T. Smith Perpetual Challenge Cup—Miniatures (Min. 1914)—Four miniatures for previous holders of the cup had been purchased at £1 5s. 0d. each and were being engraved.  
RESOLVED, That the Chrysanthemum Society be approached to arrange a suitable time during the November Show for presentation.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

## PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

**7th October, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Green (Chairman) and Smith; Councillors Addis, Compton and Waite.

2152—Athletic Ground—(a) Car Park—The Cheltenham Rugby Football Club complained of ruts and uneven surface. The car park scheme was excluded from the estimates but the Borough Surveyor would endeavour to fill in ruts, move rubble, and replace and generally tidy up the corrugated iron fencing near the entrance. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly.

(b) Fencing—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor purchase 500 ft. of galvanised fencing at a cost of £30.

2153—Victory Sports Ground—The Association Football Club expressed appreciation of the work undertaken by the Council in extending the covered stand and providing terracing. A small gate was

necessary between the pa) box and stand to prevent unauthorised entry and the pitch required rolling. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor provide the gate suggested and that when suitable the ground be rolled.

2154—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—Playing Pitches—Attention was called to the bad condition of the rugby pitch where fun fairs had encroached and it was recommended that future fun fairs be excluded from playing areas. The Gardens Superintendent proposed to re-turf the pitch. RESOLVED, accordingly.

2155—Pittville Gardens—(a) Area in front of Pump Room—The proposals suggested by the Gardens Superintendent to be undertaken by direct labour when the site was de-requisitioned and the hutments removed, were favoured by the Committee. RESOLVED, That the layout be re-submitted at a later date.

(b) Badminton—The Cotswold Badminton Club asked for re-consideration of the rental of 7s 6d per hour for Thursday and possibly other evenings, and for provision of lighting for dressing rooms. RESOLVED, That the rental be reduced to 5s per hour for three hours per evening, that lighting be provided in the dressing rooms, namely, the " King's room and old custodian's living room, that the old bathroom be used as a ladies' convenience.

(c) Boating—RESOLVED, That in view of existing conditions the suggestion for enlarging the children's boating lake and the provision of electric bumper boats be not proceeded with at present.

(d) Report and Control Centre—The County Council enquired whether the Council wished to retain this building. RESOLVED, That in view of its unsightly appearance and the difficulty of adaptation, the building be demolished.

364

2156—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—The St. Mark's Community Centre could only be allocated a football pitch for their youth club when other clubs were not using the ground, and they asked for the filling in of the gun sites to make an additional pitch. This work would be undertaken by the Borough Surveyor as soon as possible and the surplus soil used for reinstatement of shelter sites, but the area required seeding and could not be used this season. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed accordingly.

2157—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground--Shelter site—RESOLVED, That as soon as practicable this site be reinstated.

2158—Tewkesbury Road Playing Field—Pavilion—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor undertake essential maintenance repairs.

2159—St. George's Square Bowling Green—Despite improvement, the Gardens Superintendent considered that surface treatment would not provide a first-class green and recommended provision in next year's estimates for lifting and re-laying the playing area and the replacement of the decayed edging with new material at an estimated cost of £90, work to be carried out next Autumn. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

2160—Sandford Park—The Gardens Superintendent reported nuisance and damage to the park and playground equipment due to the absence of railings on the Chelt footpath boundary. RESOLVED, That the Police Superintendent be approached to provide increased supervision and to eject offenders at night-time.

2161—Montpellier Gardens—The Street and Highway Committee suggested that certain trees be felled or pruned. RESOLVED, That eight of the eighteen trees indicated be felled.

2162—Football Season, 1947/48—(a) RESOLVED, That the application of the Cheltenham Federation of Youth Organisations for a pitch on Alstone Playing Field on Saturday afternoons be granted, no preparation charge to be made to this Club.

(b) The St. Mark's Community Association protested at the increased charge of 7s 6d per game for maintenance. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision.

2163—Playing Fields and Recreation Grounds—Cricket Squares—The Gardens Superintendent proposed to lay three cricket squares at Tewkesbury Road Playing Field and one each at Brooklyn Road, Hatherley Park and Clyde Crescent. Provision had also been included in the schemes for three squares at King George V Playing Field and one at St. Peter's Recreation Ground. Material was available and expenditure for labour for the former included in the estimates. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved.

2164—RECEIPTS—Receipts for the month of September were reported, namely :—

|             | 1947               |   | 1946    |
|-------------|--------------------|---|---------|
|             | £ s. d.            |   | £ s. d. |
| Tennis      | 58 11 6            |   | 28 7 9  |
| Putting     | 15 1 0             | — |         |
|             | (closed 24th Aug.) |   |         |
| Deck Chairs | 14 11 5            |   | 4s 3d   |
| Boating     | 59 14 3            |   | 54 2 6  |

2165---Deck Chair Canvas---The Entertainments Sub-Committee were purchasing a quantity of canvas at 2s 9d per yard reduced by 1d. per yard for 500 yards, and suggested that this Committee co-operate to obtain the discount. RESOLVED, That as costs may increase before next season, 300 yards be purchased at £40.

2166--Tennis Courts--St. Mark's Community Association called attention to charges for courts at St. Mark's Recreation ground. Charges were now 2s 6d per hour as against 1s 6d pre-war for residents, and for seasonal bookings £45 for one court as against £40 pre-war for two courts. They also applied for a rebate for 1946 due to restricted use caused by weather.

The pre-war rates were found uneconomical for occasional bookings, but contract bookings were still 1s 6d per hour and when attendances justified a second court was placed at the Club's disposal at the same rate. The second court had this season been booked not by the Club but by individual members and, therefore, the usual charge of 2s 6d had been made. The Club had used the court 680 hours this year for their contract payment as compared with approximately 244 hours pre-war. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly and that no rebate be granted for 1946, it being suggested that if they are not prepared to risk weather conditions contract bookings should be abandoned and the courts hired hourly at the normal rate.

2167—Maintenance of School Gardens and use of Recreation Grounds—(Min. 1967)—Discussions had taken place with the Education Officer upon the charges to the Education Committee for the use by schools of recreation grounds, including preparation and maintenance. Calculated on a 44 hour week and dividing actual cost of surface maintenance between the hours the grounds were occupied by schools and public, the sum amounted to £552 per annum. This took into account Alstone Croft

Playing Field and also play leadership during holidays. As to ornamental gardens, the Gardens Superintendent estimated £120 for reinstatement work at Gloucester Road and Whaddon Schools before maintenance commenced and suggested the matter be deferred and rein-statement work undertaken during the winter of 1948/49. RESOLVED, That the sums apportioned for the use of recreation grounds be approved. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Education Committee be informed of the Gardens Superintendent's recommendations as to ornamental school gardens.

2168---Naunton Park Recreation Ground—The Mayor had received a complaint of damage in the neighbourhood by children, with the suggestion that they be encouraged to use the recreation ground. The Education Officer re-commended play leadership during the summer holidays and possibly increased playground equipment. RESOLVED, That play leadership be welcomed and that when the time is opportune consideration be given to provision of additional playground equipment.

365

2169—Hatherley Park—Fish—Pending the cleaning of Pittville lakes, the Council's share of fish netted from Dowdeswell Reservoir had been deposited in this lake.

2170—Lansdown Crescent—Gardens and Drives—Councillor Fisher suggested the Council undertook the maintenance of these gardens but the Street & Highway Committee were unable to agree in view of prevailing conditions. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur therein.

2171—Allotments Site Nos. 1-12 Brooklyn Road—RESOLVED, That as suggested by the Allotments Committee, if no applicants are forthcoming for plots on this site, food production be undertaken by the Parks Department.

2172—Town Hall—Floral Decorations—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had received complaints of lack of floral decorations on the stage and celebrity artistes protested at its bare appearance. It was, therefore, again urged that more adequate displays be provided. The Gardens Superintendent pointed out his difficulty with restricted glasshouse space due to production of salads, of little food value, and of which there was now a glut. If this space was available for propagation the demands could be met. RESOLVED, That the production of salads in the greenhouses be discontinued.

2173—Staff—(a) Gardens Superintendent—accommodation—(Min. 1974)—The Housing Committee were unable to agree to this Committee's recommendation to purchase a house in the Brooklyn Gardens for the Gardens Superintendent. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue his efforts to find accommodation.

(b) Up-grading of Gardeners—The Labour Sub-Committee had received a renewed application from the National Union of General & Municipal Workers for up-grading of staff, and in view of the delay in the issue of the National Joint Council's standard rates and working conditions, they recommended that an establishment for the Parks Department be prepared with appropriate classifications. The Gardens Superintendent had endeavoured to obtain information from other local authorities and reported thereon. RESOLVED, That he pre-prepare an establishment based on 4 grades and submit recommendation's for appropriate gradings.

(c) Landscape Foreman—[Min. 1973(c)]—The Labour Sub-Committee approved the terms and conditions of this appointment, but suggested that the filling thereof be deferred until conditions were more suitable. RESOLVED, accordingly.

J. GREEN, Chairman.

**ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**8th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors S. Bendall, Carter, Midwinter, Thompson and Ward.

2174—Load Shedding—Read, circular from the Electricity Commissioners asking undertakings to ensure that arrangements for load shedding were carried out on a selective basis with a minimum of dislocation to important industries. It was suggested that telephone facilities between sub-stations might be improved, and the General Post Office had undertaken to co-operate in this matter. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that this had been anticipated, and when the system authorised by Min. 2040 had been installed the sub-stations would be on the private telephone system.

2175—I.M.E.A.—The Town Clerk submitted circular from the I.M.E.A. with regard to the future of the Association setting out the constitution of the Association and its objects which were, in thymain, to promote the interests of municipal electricity undertakings. After the vesting date there would be no local authorities possessing powers under the Electricity Supply Acts and therefore no local authority would be eligible for membership of the Association. The Association had therefore to decide prior to the vesting date whether (a) to reconstitute and continue or (b) wind up and dissolve. If the Association decided to reconstitute, such an association could not be confined to local authorities who now owned undertakings but membership would have to be opened to each of the 1,758 local authorities in the country. If the Association was dissolved it had been suggested the local authorities' interests with regard to electricity supplies could be dealt with adequately by existing local authority associations. An extraordinary general meeting would be called for the purpose of making a decision Whether the Association decided to continue or wind up it would be necessary to snake application to the Court to alter the memorandum of association or to give or transfer surplus assets to some other association or institution. The Borough Electrical Engineer was of the opinion that the Association should consider whether it was not possible to continue for a comparatively short time during the transfer period so as to have an association specifically to deal with electricity interests during the period of transfer to the new British Electricity Authority. RESOLVED, That, whilst this Committee feel that the Association should be reconstituted and continued for a limited time during the transfer period. the General Purposes Committee be asked to give their views on the matter and in particular whether they consider the electricity interests can be adequately protected during this vital period and in the future by the associations of local authorities and in particular the Association of Municipal Corporations.

366

2176--Applications for Loan—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Electricity Commissioners regarding the Council's application for loan of £18,200 for supply to a new factory in the Tewkesbury Road area, change-over to three-phase in the Battledown area, and provision of a duplicate automatic supply to the Leckhampton Depot Sub-station.

With regard to the last two schemes, the Commissioners were not satisfied that they were sufficiently urgent to be carried out at the present time in view of the shortage of labour and materials. They therefore asked the Council to review the schemes postponing for the present those works which were not immediately required, and further information should be given of the grounds on which it was felt that the remainder of the work was necessary.

With regard to the supply to the new factory, further information was required indicating the nature of the factory, and whether the whole of the proposed works were essential. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the factory for the manufacture of cardboard boxes off the Tewkesbury Road



and the construction of the Dairy in connection with Swindon Hall Farm was completed. Another factor): for light metal products, was under construction, and due for completion in December. The present supply system of this area was unsatisfactory, and the work which it was proposed to carry out was most essential. With regard to the changeover to three-phase in the Battledown area, this scheme was one prepared under the general policy of the undertaking, five of which had already been approved by the Commissioners. It was not intended to proceed with these six schemes as first priority works, but until they had been sanctioned, it was impossible to plan the most suitable method of carrying them out. The provision of a duplicate supply to the Depot, although desirable, could have been deferred had it not been for the fact that trenches were being opened along the route of the proposed extension. It would therefore, be better from the point of view of cost and labour to carry out this scheme at the same time. RESOLVED, That the Commissioners be informed that the Council consider it essential to carry out the schemes and that they be asked to issue their consent to loan.

2177—Brooklyn Gardens and Arle Road Extensions—RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £3,625, for the cost of the above extensions, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2178-2,000 Volt Change-over---Evesham Road and Prestbury Area--RESOLVED, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the sum of £7,973 for new works in connection with this changeover, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2179—Demonstrators' Conference—RESOLVED, That the Senior Demonstrator (Miss Brown) be authorised to attend a conference for Electricity Showroom Demonstrators in London on 22nd-24th October. 2180—Applications for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported two applications for supply, and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. .

2181—Interruption of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported one interruption of supply during the month.

2182—Power Tariff—Load Spreading Rebate—In view of pressure being brought to bear upon industrial consumers to ensure that they would not demand large supplies of electricity during peak hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. the maximum demand of such consumers might occur during off-peak hours and might be greater than it would have been had their supply been used in the normal way. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended therefore, that where this occurred as a result of load-spreading peak loads outside the normal peak hours should be ignored for the purpose of the fixed charge portion of the contract rate tariff and that only peak load during the period from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. should be taken into account for this purpose, It was pointed out that a reduction in the day-time load would result in a reduction of charge for bulk suppliers, which savings should be passed on to the consumers responsible. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

2183—National Joint Industrial Council—The Borough Treasurer reported that agreement had recently been reached between both sides of the Council for reduction of the 47 hour week to 44 hours. It was intended that the 54 day week should continue at any rate for the time being. As a result of the reduction of working hours there was a consequent adjustment of the hourly rates of pay in accordance with the schedule now submitted. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

2184—Golden Jubilee—As instructed, the Borough Electrical Engineer submitted proposals for the production of a brochure commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the Undertaking. It was estimated that the cost would be approximately £250 for the first 500 copies. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be asked to submit alternative proposals with a view to the cost of the publication being limited to not exceeding £125.

2185—Southwood—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that in the contract with Mr. H. J. Trigg, a contingency sum of £90 had been included. This sum had been exceeded by £13 18s. 0d. owing to the necessity for carrying out further work which was discovered during the course of the repairs to the roof. RESOLVED, That the additional £13 18s. 0d. be paid.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

367

#### WATER COMMITTEE.

**8th October, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; the Mayor ; Aldermen Green and Waite ; Councillors Addis, Morris and Strickland.

2186—Borough Engineer's Monthly Report—Report of the Borough Engineer for the month of September, was read :—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

|                 | For month ended<br>31st September, 1947 | Average for<br>corresponding period<br>last 3 years |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Spring          |   |   |
| Hewletts Spring | 73,000                                  | 105,000   |
| Dowdeswell      | 270,000                                 | 704,000   |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 32,270,000 gallons.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 29th September                 | 60,540,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury 4 weeks ended 29th September                  | 15,837,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1st April, 1947 | 318,725,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947 ...                | 88,059,000  |
| Average daily consumption   | 3,621,000   |

| Rainfall for September | During month | Average monthly rainfall |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford               | 1.86"        | 2.25"                    |
| Hewletts               | 1.78"        | 2.27"                    |
| Dowdeswell             | 2.09"        | 2.38"                    |
| Tewkesbury             | 1.93"        | 2.00"                    |

2187—Rural Water Supplies—(a) The County Council had appointed a Sub-Committee to consider contributions to be made to County District Councils under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944. The position had been examined in detail and a report prepared embodying important proposals which the County Finance Committee would shortly consider. As the matter was one of

some complexity representatives of the County District Councils were invited to a conference on 17th October. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, with the Town Clerk, Borough Engineer and Borough Treasurer, be authorised to attend.

(b) Ullenwood Supply—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the D.C.R.E. Gloucester as to the reimbursement of cost of electricity and labour for running the electricity pumps in connection with the Ullenwood supply from the date of the agreement for taking these over in 1943, together with the Borough Engineer's observations and recommendations. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate on the basis now approved by the Committee.

(c) Down Hatherley—The Parish Council thanked this Council for providing a stand pipe and tap outside Woodfold. As the Parish pump was out of order the supply had been greatly appreciated. Enquiries were also made as to when it was anticipated the comprehensive scheme would commence and the Borough Engineer had informed the Council of the position of negotiations.

2188—Water Main Extensions—(a) Tewkesbury, Priors Park Housing Estate—The Tewkesbury Borough Council would shortly erect 100 prefabricated bungalows and would submit plans of their development, but meanwhile made application for a water supply.

The Borough Engineer estimated 663 yards of 3" main would be required at an estimated cost of £753 including valves. The Tewkesbury Council would provide fire hydrants to the satisfaction of the National Fire Service. RESOLVED, (i) That the Borough Engineer be authorised to undertake the work.

(ii), That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan for £753 for the cost of the work.

(iii) That application also be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £753 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the order, mortgage and receipt.

(b) Crippetts Road, Leckhampton—The owner of a property in this road asked for a main extension, approximately 156 yards estimated at £160. He would also be required to incur £90 for service pipe and in view of this expenditure applied to enter into an agreement in accordance with Section 37 of the Water Act, 1945 whereby he would guarantee a gross annual income from the main extension of 12 ½ % of the cost for a period of 12 years or until the normal income reached that percentage, whichever was the shorter. The Town Clerk reported that Section 37 of the Act only applied to supplies to new houses. RESOLVED, That the Council agree to make the extension subject to the owner entering into an agreement to guarantee an income of 12½% for the period of 12 years and to deposit £50 by way of advance payments under the agreement.

2189—Dowdeswell Court—(a) Read letter of 30th September from the Clerk to the County Council that the County Council had recently had their attention drawn to another property which they were advised would, in many respects, provide more suitable accommodation for educationally sub-normal pupils than Dowdeswell Court, and of which they would be likely to obtain possession at a much earlier date. They had therefore decided not to proceed with the negotiations in respect of Dowdeswell Court. The Town Clerk reported he had accordingly written to the Air Ministry pointing out there was now not such great urgency for the de-requisitioning of the property. RESOLVED, That this be approved, but that the Air Ministry be asked to give adequate notice of any intention to de-requisition the property so that the Committee may have ample time to consider its future use.

(b) Lower Lodge—In view of the above, the County Council would also not require the Lower Lodge. The Borough Engineer recommended that this be let on a service tenancy to a waterworks employee who was being required to give up a cottage at Castle Barn Farm, as the new tenant of the farm required this for an agricultural worker. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved, and that the Town Clerk be authorised to let the lodge to the employee at an appropriate rent.

2190—Dowdeswell Reservoir---(a) Fish—The Severn Fishery Board had netted coarse fish and approximately 20,000 were removed, 40 trout being returned. Owing to pending cleaning of Pittville Lakes, the Council's share of the coarse fish was transferred to Hatherley Park lake.

(b) During netting operations a number of obstructions were visible and others discovered below the water. Owing to shortage of labour it was not possible to remove them at present.

(c) The Dowdeswell Works were now shutting down as the reservoir had reached a level of 16 ft. 4 ins. below top water level or a loss of 80% of storage. An opportunity was being taken of cleaning the slow sand filters and as soon as the mechanical navvy could be released from use on housing sites, the residuum would be cleaned.

2191—The Langett, Dowdeswell—The tenant, Mr. J. W. Cresswell, had left the district, and had sub-let the 35 acres of land contrary to his tenancy agreement. A considerable portion of the land was very neglected and over-grown with weeds. After consultation with the Chairman, twelve months' notice had accordingly been given to terminate the tenancy. RESOLVED, That this be approved. RESOLVED ALSO, That the matter be reported to the War Agricultural Executive Committee, and that they be asked to take steps to require the tenant to cultivate the land in a proper manner, or to dispossess him forthwith.

2192—Advertising Board, Woodlands Farm—The Planning Committee drew attention to the unauthorised erection of an advertising board at Dowdeswell Hill on land belonging to this farm. The owners of the board had been requested to remove it forthwith otherwise the Council would do so. RESOLVED, accordingly.

2193--Timber, Dowdeswell--(Min. 20121—Mr. W. T. Payne of Charlton Kings would like to purchase fallen timber and enquired the Council's price including that for underwood. Mr. J. E. Boulton of Whitehill, Stroud, also wished to purchase growing timber from Castle Barn Farm, RESOLVED, That the disposal of fallen timber be referred to the Borough Engineer and that the sale of growing timber be deferred and considered later when the views of the Forestry Commission have been obtained.

2194—Tewkesbury Depot—The Town Clerk was asked to negotiate for the purchase of a small area of land adjacent to that recently acquired from the Great Western Railway Co. for use as a depot site and upon which it was proposed to erect two houses. This additional land was a well cultivated garden and the owner had recently expended £50 on a greenhouse and was unwilling to sell. RESOLVED, That negotiations be not proceeded with.

2195—Water Rate Arrears—The Town Clerk reported upon the collection of arrears. RESOLVED, That the offer of £4 per month in one instance be accepted and that in 28 other cases now indicated, the supply be disconnected unless the arrears are paid.

2196—Works Completed—The Borough Engineer reported that since the last meeting 504 inspections had been under-taken when the Inspectors found 12 defective flush boxes, 13 leaking taps, 19 defective stop taps and 13 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 92 draw taps ; 47 notices served on owners ; 52 houses connected owing to change of tenancies, etc. ; 55 supplies disconnected and 40 meters changed or fixed.

Maintenance work had included the laying of 320 yards of new main at Priors Park Housing Estate, Tewkesbury ; mains repaired in 8 areas ; new sluice valves fixed at Priors Park and Henrietta Street ; new hydrants fixed at Priors Park ; 2 conversions and one repair of ball hydrants ; sluice valves repaired in three streets - mains had been washed out in London Road from Copt Elm Road to Dowdeswell, St. Paul's and Swindon, College and Sandford Roads.

No 4 reservoir at Hewletts was now being filled from water taken from No. 3 chlorinated. Northfield Spring and Sandford Pump water was being discharged into No. 4 reservoir. General work had included pumping ; meter cleaning ; repairing and testing at Sandford Works ; replacement of old meters ; fixing of new hydrants and indicators in various districts, and repair of lead service pipes.

2197—Appeals--The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

369

### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**7th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Irving and Strickland.

2198—National Health Service Act, 1946—(a) Ambulance Services—(Min. 1698)—The Town Clerk reported that as instructed representations had been submitted to the Ministry of Health in connection with the proposals of the County Council for the provision of ambulance services under Part III, Section 27 of the Act. Letter had now been received from the County Council intimating that the views expressed by the Council as to desirability of making the fullest use of the existing organisations in the new ambulance services were fully shared by them, and they were anxious to satisfy as far as possible Local Authorities and major voluntary organisations at pre-sent carrying out such services. The County Council were of the opinion that the matter could best be dealt with by discussions between the parties concerned, and invited the Council and Ambulance Headquarters to send representatives to a meeting of the Local Health Committee on 13th October, 1947, at 10.30 a.m. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillor Bayliss, together with the Town Clerk and Medical Officer of Health be appointed the Council's representatives.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare Services--Letter had also been received from the County Council inviting the appointment of representatives to meet a Sub-Committee of the Local Health Committee to discuss proposals to be made by the County Council in connection with Sections 22, 23, 24, 25 and 29 of the Act. The letter would also be considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (Min. 2220, Maternity Committee). RESOLVED, That the Chairman be appointed to represent this Committee.

(c) Delancey Fever and Longhill Smallpox Hospitals—(i) The Minister of Health has indicated that he was of the opinion that these hospitals were hospitals that were transferable to him under Secs. 79 and 9 (1) of the Act and that he had so advised the Regional Hospital Board. The Minister had power to disclaim any hospital, the transfer of which would not be required for the purpose of providing hospital and specialist services, and requested the observations of the Governing Body or Trustees if they considered that a hospital should be so disclaimed. The matter had been considered by the Delancey Hospital Trustees, who saw no reason why the hospital should not be transferred to the Minister. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the views of the Trustees.

(ii) " Transfer of Staff "—Read circular 150, Ministry of Health, of 22nd September, 1947, in regard to officers to be transferred to the Regional Hospital Board, employed immediately before the appointed day solely or mainly at any hospital transferred to the Minister. The Minister had been advised that such staff would include all officers employed for more than half their time on hospital work. Where all officers were not employed more than half their time, the Minister asked that the employing authority should re-arrange the work of the department in such a way that certain officers would become employed for more than half their time, and thereby become legally transferable. The Town Clerk reported that none of the four officers employed by the Trustees, namely the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health, Borough Treasurer and Borough Surveyor were engaged more than fifty per cent. of their time on Delancey Hospital work, and it would not be practicable to adopt the Minister's suggestion to so re-arrange the duties so that one or more of these officers would work more than half their time on hospital work and so become transferable. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Health be informed accordingly but that in order to assist the Regional Hospital Board in administering the hospitals, until such time as the Board are able to make appropriate arrangements, the Council are prepared for their officers to continue with this work subject to the full cost being reimbursed to the Council.

2199—Housing Act, 1936—(a) 1 Northfield Passage—[Min. 1935(v)]—The Committee further considered making a demolition order in respect of this property. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting to enable the owner to submit offers for the carrying out of works or the future use of the building.

(b) 25 Bath Street and Columbia House, Winchcombe Street—The Committee considered official representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to the whole of the building, 25 Bath Street, and rooms situate on the ground floor of Columbia House, Winchcombe Street. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the above building or parts of buildings, which are occupied, or are of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, are unfit for human habitation, and are not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, that notices be served under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners, upon the persons having control of the said building, or parts of the said building, and the mortgages, if any, that the condition of the said building and part of the said building respectively, and any offers with respect to the carrying out of works or the future use thereof, would be considered at a meeting of the Committee on the 12th November, 1947.

(c) Unfit Houses—(i) Re-licensing of premises—Licence for the re-occupation of 56 Albion Street was renewed until 12th May, 1948.

2200—Central Council for Health Education—RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health attend a conference on Food and Drink Infections in London on the 9th October, 1947.

2201—National Smoke Abatement Society—The Chief Sanitary Inspector was elected to the Executive Committee of this Society for this year. RESOLVED, That Mr. Jefford be congratulated upon this success and that permission be given for him to attend meetings (approximately four a year) and that his expenses be borne by the Council.

2202—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon defects at the following properties : —Oakhurst, Parabola Road 6 Royal Crescent ; 1 Rosehill Cottages, Rosehill Street; 25 Malvern Street. RESOLVED, That notices be served in pursuance of Sec. 93, Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of Oakhurst, Parabola Road, and 1 Rosehill Cottages, Rosehill Street ; under Sec. 45 upon the owners of 25 Malvern Street, and under Secs. 39, 45, and 93

upon the owners of 6 Royal Crescent, requiring them to execute the necessary works within 21 days from the date of such notices, and that failing compliance, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings.

370

(ii) Dust-Bins—RESOLVED, That notices be served under Sec. 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936; upon the owners of 88 and 142 Brunswick Street requiring them to provide regulation dust-bins for these properties.

(iii) Smoke Abatement—[Min. 1936(iv)]—(a) Gas Works—The Chief Sanitary Inspector had discussed with representatives of the Gas Company complaints arising from smoke and dust. The discharge was not, in his opinion, sufficient to constitute a smoke nuisance within the meaning of the Act, but the Company were carrying out further experiments with a view to completely eliminating any complaint.

(b) Cheltenham Original Brewery—The nuisance previously reported had greatly abated.

2203—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Report of the Public Analyst was submitted upon samples Nos. 942-947 inclusive (milk) which were genuine.

2204—Diphtheria Immunisation—Campaign—Arrangements had been made for double-sided posters to be exhibited on omnibuses, slides shown in cinemas, and advertisements in the Gloucestershire Echo and Cheltenham Chronicle on four Fridays and Saturdays in October and November, in connection with the Diphtheria Campaign. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

2205—Provision of Insulin—Scale—The Medical Officer of Health submitted suggested scale of charges for the provision of insulin, as follows :—

|            |                   |                 |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Net Income | £2 5 0 and under— | No payment.     |
| “          | £2 5 0—           | £3 5 0- ¼ cost. |
| “          | £3 5 0----        | £4 5 0- ½ cost. |
| “          | £4 5 0—           | £5 5 0- ¾ cost. |
| “          | £5 5 0 and over—  | Full cost.      |

Deduct from Income, Rent Children under 16—10s per week ; Husband, if living at home 15s per week. RESOLVED, That the scale be approved and adopted.

2206—Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936-38—(a) Samples of pasteurised milk have been taken from two firms all of which were satisfactory.

(b) Gloucestershire Dairy Co. Ltd.—[Min. 194360]—The apparatus required for the pasteurising plant of the Gloucestershire Dairy Co. had now been supplied and the plant was now working satisfactorily.

2207—Poliomyelitis—The Medical Officer of Health reported that one case had been notified since the last meeting, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

2208---Hayden Sewage Works—Sewage Works Manager and Chemist—Resignation was submitted from Mr. H. Dixon, to take effect from the 3rd November, 1947, and advertisements had been inserted for a successor.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

**9th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Gardner (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Compton and Yeend. Mesdames Hopkins, Grist, Mellersh and Wood; Miss Tinson.

2209—Quarterly Statistics—In order to shorten the printed minutes, the usual quarterly statistics have been stencilled and accompany the minutes.

2210—Maternity Fees—The Medical Officer of Health submitted particulars of twelve cases where patients or their husbands stated they were unable to pay the amount assessed in accordance with the Council's scale. RESOLVED, That in three cases no further payment be required, that in four cases the patients be required to pay the amount assessed, and that in the remaining five cases the Medical Officer of Health obtain further details and refer the same to the Sub-Committee appointed at the last meeting.

2211—Children Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of five foster mothers for registration. RESOLVED That the Medical Officer of Health obtain further information as to the existing accommodation in order to ensure there was no overcrowding, and that he report to the above mentioned Sub-Committee, who be authorised to deal with the notifications. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Medical Officer of Health insert a further series of advertisements in the " Gloucestershire Echo" drawing attention of the public to the necessity of giving notice before taking a child for reward.

2212—Children's Homes—(a) Boys' Orphanage—The Town Clerk reported the Committee of the Boys' Orphanage had invited members of this Committee to meet them and discuss the report made by the School Nurse, and arrangements were accordingly made for the Vice-Chairman, together with Councillors Bayliss and Brown and Mrs. Mellersh, in company with the Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Town Clerk to meet the Boys' Home Committee on 18th September, and the Town Clerk submitted report of the meeting. RESOLVED, That this report be forwarded to the Home Office at the same time as the original report on the inspection was sent.

(b) Girls' Orphanage—The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the inspection of this Orphanage on 1st August by a Health Visitor. Many improvements had been effected recently at this Home, and the Committee look forward to receiving a further report in due course.

(c) Nazareth House—The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the inspection of the Children,' Home at Nazareth House, where there were fourteen babies between the ages of 11 months and two years and 28 toddlers aged 2-5. It appeared that the toddlers' sleeping quarters were overcrowded. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health suggest to Nazareth House that rooms at present unoccupied should be used for sleeping quarters for the toddlers, thereby reducing the overcrowding of the existing room, and that he report thereon at the next meeting with a view to a maximum number of toddlers being fixed for each sleeping room

371

2213 Women Public Health Officers' Association—RESOLVED, That three of the Health Visitors be authorised to attend the annual conference of this Association to be held at Bournemouth on 18th October.



2214—Nursery Nurses Conference—RESOLVED, That the Matron of Thirlestaine Court Nursery, the Supervising Matron of the Day Nurseries and the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to attend this conference at Bristol on the 11 th November.

2215—Midwife Teachers—Read circular 142/47, Ministry of Health, giving details of the scheme for a limited number of Government scholarships to be awarded in 1948 to State Certified Midwives for the Midwife-Teachers' Diploma examination of the Central Midwives Board, RESOLVED, That this be referred to the District Nursing Association for their consideration.

2216—Midwives Salaries--The Town Clerk submitted circular containing supplementary recommendations of the Nurses Salaries Committee as to increased salaries for certain grades of nurses and midwives. The Town Clerk reported copies had been forwarded to the District Nursing Association who were considering same. RESOLVED, That the Council agree to adopt the recommendations as from 1st October insofar as they affect the nurses and midwives employed by the District Nursing Association and in respect of whom grant was payable by the Council to the Association.

2217—National Society of Children's Nurseries--The Committee considered circular from this Society containing details of a new scheme offering collective membership to all local authorities at an annual fee of £3 3s. 0d. irrespective of the number of nurseries involved. The Town Clerk reported that at the present time a fee of £3 3s. 0d. was payable in respect of each nursery. RESOLVED, That the new scheme be accepted, and an annual contribution of £3 3s. 0d. made in respect of the residential nursery and three day nurseries.

2218—District Nursing Association—(Min. 1256/47)—As instructed, the Town Clerk had communicated with the Ministry of Health in regard to the proposal to increase the grant to this Association. He now submitted letter of 18th July from the Ministry of Health that the Minister would raise no objection to the Council's proposal that payment to the Association should be adjusted to take account of the fees actually collected. With regard to the Association's application for contribution towards the salaries of the Superintendent and Secretary, the Minister was not, on the information available, able to judge whether one third was a fair proportion to attribute to the administrative expenses in respect of the domiciliary and midwifery side of the Association's activities, but on the assumption the Council were satisfied this was reasonable he had no objection to the inclusion of such a proportion in the grant claim. The Borough Treasurer estimated the proposal would increase the grant by approximately £340 per annum. RESOLVED, That as from 1st April last, the Council's grant to the Association be increased so as to provide for the present payment to the Association to be adjusted to take account of fees actually collected and for payment of one-third of the salaries of the Superintendent and Secretary. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary modifying agreement with the Association.

2219—Day Nurseries—Read, reports of the meetings of the Nurseries Sub-Committee held on 31st July, 6th August, and 4th, 10th and 18th September.

(a) Supervising Matron—Miss Parsbo, the Supervising Matron, had resigned her appointment as she was shortly leaving the country. The Sub-Committee had advertised the appointment, and had appointed Miss K. E. Perry on the same salary scale as paid to Miss Parsbo, namely £320 rising by £15 to £395 per annum, followed after one year at £395 by a further increment of £10 plus an allowance of £20 per annum in respect of the additional responsibility involved in the supervision of three separate nurseries, with a deduction of £20 for meals while on duty. A uniform allowance of £5 would also be paid. RESOLVED, That this appointment be confirmed. RESOLVED ALSO, That the

Committee desire to record their sincere appreciation of the excellent services rendered by Miss Parsbo since the inception of the nurseries.

(b) Deputy Matron—The Sub-Committee had also interviewed applicants for the appointment of Deputy Matron at the Clarence Square Nursery, and appointed Miss M. Hurley on a salary scale of £250 rising to £340 with no deduction for meals. The Sub-Committee pointed out this salary was in excess of the salary recommended by the Ministry of Health, and was the scale recognised by the Rushcliffe Committee as applicable to an S.R.N. or National Nursery Examination Board Certificate. This Committee, in common with many other authorities, have for a long time been pressing the Ministry to revise the scales of salaries approved by the Ministry for grant purposes in view of the great difficulty which authorities experienced in obtaining staff. The Ministry of Health in September, 1946, had agreed to an interim increase of 10% and had emphasised that this increase was a provisional measure only, and that the matter of the final scales was under consideration, but pointing out welfare authorities had full discretion to pay such higher rates as they thought appropriate. The Town Clerk had recently communicated again with the Ministry of Health urging the Ministry to issue their final recommendations. RESOLVED, That this appointment be confirmed. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Sub-Committee be authorised to deal with the salaries of the Deputy Matrons of the Whaddon Road and Swindon Road Nurseries with a view to these salaries being adjusted to the same scale as now adopted for the Deputy Matron at Clarence Square Nursery.

(c) Thirlestaine Court Nursery—The Ministry of Health had now approved and authorised the alterations and decorations to this nursery at an estimated cost of £285 9s. 0d. and the Borough Surveyor had been instructed to proceed with the work. RESOLVED, That the reports of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

2220—National Health Service Act, 1946—Read, letter of 6th October from the Clerk of the County Council inviting the attendance of representatives of the Council at a meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Local Health Committee who were considering formulating proposals in connection with Sections 22, 23, 24, 25 and 29 of the Act. RESOLVED, That the following be appointed to attend as representatives of this Committee namely Councillor Gardner (Vice-Chairman), the Deputy Mayor and Mrs. E. E. Hopkins.

2221—Thirlestaine Court Nursery—Stag—RESOLVED, That the appointment of Miss B. Cripps, Certified Nursery Nurse, as Staff Nurse at a commencing salary of £115 be approved and confirmed.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

372

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**10th October, 1947.** Present—Alderman Waite (Chairman) ; the Mayor ; Aldermen Green, Smith and Ward; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Mann, Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite. Messrs. E. Baring and A. Palmer.

2222—Playhouse Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 30th September (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2223—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 30th September (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2224—Entertainments Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 1st October (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

2225—Town Hall—(a) Floral Fete, 21st to 25th June, 1948—(Min. 1953)—The Floral Fete Committee considered the use of Montpellier Gardens impracticable owing to absence of fencing. With regard to the proposed contribution to the Council of £50 towards the loss they would sustain from the cancellation of functions, the Floral Fete Committee asked that this be reconsidered, pointing out the financial support given by other municipalities. Should the Council adhere to their decision, the Floral Fete Committee recognised that £50 was not an excessive charge and agreed thereto. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to adhere to their previous decision.

(b) Church Missionary Society, Afternoon Meeting 15th October—RESOLVED, That the application of this Society for a reduction in the hire charge of the Drawing Room to £2 2s. 0d. be granted.

(c) British Red Cross Society—Blood Transfusion Service.- -RESOLVED, That the free use of the Pillar Room be granted from 9.15 a.m. to 6 p.m. on 17th November.

(d) Bar Extensions—RESOLVED, That application be made to the Justices for extensions of the licence to 11.30 p.m. on 23rd October for the Mayor's reception and dance to the Residential Hotels Association Conference ; and to midnight for the Cheltenham & District Meat Traders' Association's Annual Ball on 10th November, and the N.S.P.C.C. Annual Blue Bird Dance on 29th December, which are special occasions.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**13th October, 1947.** Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Green and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher, Midwinter, Readings, Strickland and Ward.

2226—Street Lighting—(a) Brooklyn Road Area--Complaints had been received of the time taken to install lighting in this area but the Ministry of Transport would not agree to proposals for Brooklyn Gardens and Orchard Estate unless the Police certified that lighting was necessary for their duties. The Ministry also required further information of Group A lighting in Brooklyn Road including its traffic value. The Police supported lighting for general safety reasons. There was also a bus terminus at the junction of Orchard Way with Orchard Avenue which necessitated buses reversing into an unlighted roadway.

The fuel economy recommendations were that alternate lamps in Group B installations be extinguished and the Electricity Committee recommended that the Ministry be pressed to consent either to the whole or alternatively a skeleton scheme on lines similar to the Lynworth. Farm Estate, RESOLVED, That the Ministry be urged to consent to t

(b) Street Lamps—One column was damaged during the past 3 months ; 2 replacement lamp posts had been erected during the same period. and connections made to 3 replacements previously provided.

(c) Additional Lamp, Tewkesbury Road—A request had been received for a lamp at the bus terminus at Kingsditch Lane. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer's recommendation for a main extension and lamp at an estimated cost of £27, with an annual running cost of £2, be approved.

2227—Labour Sub-Committee—This Sub-Committee met on 8th October. RESOLVED, That the report be received.

2228--Trunk Roads Acts, 1936 and 1946—The Town Clerk reported that, following discussions between the Ministry of Transport and Associations of Local Authorities, the Ministry had

terminated the present agreement for the maintenance of trunk roads as from 31st March next and proposal for a revised agreement would be issued shortly. RESOLVED, That the position be noted.

2229-Maintenance of Trunk Roads-Snow, Frost and Flood Damage-The Ministry of Transport had approved the Council's estimate of £420 for special repairs and re-surfacing to T.R. 10 during the year 1947/48.

2230—Paley Bridge—The Co-operative Party forwarded resolution deploring the length of time in replacing this bridge and calling upon the Council to expedite the work. The Town Clerk had informed them of the preparation work already undertaken and the consultations necessary with the Ministry of Transport and other bodies. The Borough Surveyor now submitted scheme and estimate amounting approximately to £18,250 which sum would probably be divided between the War Damage Commission, the Ministry of Transport and the County Council, but this Council might be asked to make a contribution for local improvement value. RESOLVED, That the scheme be forwarded to the Ministry of Transport for approval.

373

2231—Priors Road Widening—(Min. 837)—Plan and estimate of the proposed improvement line to this classified road was submitted amounting approximately to £2,210. There was no footpath and the fence adjacent to Oakley Farm and other properties should be set back to the new line and abutting owners approached to surrender the required area to enable a footpath to be constructed. It was suggested that negotiations should proceed on the basis of abutting owners being relieved of their liability for paving, kerbing and channelling in consideration of the surrender of the area required. The improvement was very necessary in view of the establishment of Oakley Training College with its large number of students. RESOLVED, That the scheme be approved and forwarded to the Ministry of Transport and the County Council for approval. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue negotiations with the appropriate Government Department and abutting owners for the surrender of land on the lines indicated.

2232—Osborne House—(Min. 1584)—Mr. Dickens had agreed to leave the choice of suitable gates for Osborne House entrances to the Council, feeling sure that they would provide gates in keeping with the property. The Borough Surveyor submitted designs in sawn oak timber which material he had in stock, RESOLVED, That Mr. Dickens be informed accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor proceed in due course with the improvement.

2233—Gloucester Road--Speed Limit Sign—The Borough Surveyor was still in communication with the Ministry of Transport urging adjustment of the position of this sign to a point further west.

2234—Lansdown Castle—Improved Road alignment—Following the recommendation of the View Committee, approaches had been made to the Post Office Telephones to remove their pole from the kerb edge, and they were agreeable. This, with the felling of the overhanging tree on the bend, would permit improved alignment. RESOLVED, That the scheme be deferred and considered again in conjunction with the scheme for the widening of Lansdown Bridge.

2235—Park Place/Andover Road Junction—(Min. 2080)—The Ministry of Transport, having considered the traffic census and accident reports together with their Inspector's report, stated that the conditions were not such as would justify authorisation of traffic signals. RESOLVED, That at the next meeting the Borough Surveyor submit alternative proposals for traffic regulation.

2236—Bridle Path from Hayden Hill to Hester's Way—Complaints had been received by the Cheltenham Rural District Council of obstructions, and investigations showed that a section was in

the Borough. The Borough Surveyor would shortly make an inspection with officers of the Rural District Council. RESOLVED, That the removal of obstructions be left in his hands.

2237—Evesham Road/Central Cross Drive Junction—The Rev. Bellerby forwarded a copy of the St. Paul's Parish magazine drawing attention to accidents at this junction and the danger to pupils of the Girls' Grammar School. The Committee were of opinion that with the " stop " lines already painted on the roadways of Central Cross Drive, and with due care, no danger should arise. RESOLVED, That the matter lie on the table.

2238—Prestbury Road—(Min. 2090)—The Town Clerk reported upon the liability for repair of the road and footpath known as Roland Terrace leading from Prestbury Road to the Cleevemount Estate, which was the responsibility of frontagers. The road was however used extensively by residents from the Cleevemount Estate and it seemed to the Committee unfair that under present conditions the cost should fall upon frontagers whilst the improvement would largely benefit Cleevemount Estate residents. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at present.

2239—High Street/Grosvenor Street Junction—Additional Bus Stop Pole—The Cheltenham District Traction Co. asked permission to erect another request bus stop pole at this junction. Difficulty was experienced by passengers and drivers due to the fact that three routes and stopping places were served by the existing pole. The Committee considered the proposed site undesirable in view of traffic congestion but were agreeable to an additional pole in the vicinity of the Belle Vue Hotel. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed accordingly, the exact position of the pole to be to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor.

2240—Promenade Name Plate—The occupier of No. 133 complained of the position of this name plate erected on two posts in front of his property and asked for its removal. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

2241—Taxi Rank—Signs—RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Market & Public Control Sub-Committee that appropriate signs be placed on the lamp standard in Clarence Street and at the junction of Promenade and Clarence Parade directing to the taxi rank, be approved.

2242—Malvern Road/St. George's Road Junction—The Police Superintendent called attention to the difficulty experienced by visitors arriving at Malvern Road Station in locating the town's centre and suggested a sign at this junction with an arrow pointing to the bus stop on the railway bridge. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be adopted.

2243—Moorend Park Road/Shurdington Road Junction—RESOLVED, That the A.A. " Cross Road " signs in Moor-end Park Road be replaced with authorised " Slow—Major Road Ahead s' signs.

2244--Traffic Signs—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor replace all A.A. signs at cross roads in the Borough with standard signs of the Ministry of Transport's design.

2245—Rodney Road Car Park—A complaint was made of the nuisance and mis-use of the passageway between 3 Oriel Villas and the N.F.S. shed, and a gate was suggested with which the Borough Surveyor agreed. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised.

2246—Control of Car Parks—The National Car Parks Ltd. offered to control all municipal car parks. RESOLVED, That the Council adhere to their previous decision that such offers be not entertained.

2247—Car Parks for Military Vehicles—(a) Warwick Place—The Military Authorities were erecting additional notices that the park was only suitable for light vehicles and requesting that the right of way to adjoining properties be kept clear. Occasional Military Police patrols would also be undertaken to see that the behaviour of drivers at night was not such as to create a nuisance.

(b) The Military Authorities enquired if the Council could suggest a suitable park for heavy vehicles such as tank transporters which occasionally were required to stay in the town overnight. RESOLVED, That they be recommended to seek accommodation on the outskirts of the town.

2248—Winchcomb Street Properties—(a) The Borough Surveyor had inspected Nos. 8 and 12 for accommodation for the Accident Prevention Office and recommended No. 8, a double fronted shop suitable for propaganda purposes. Certain works and decorations would be necessary including the provision of lavatory accommodation. RESOLVED, That No. 8 be let to the Accident Prevention Council on a monthly tenancy at the approved rental of £6 5s. 0d. per month exclusive, and that the Borough Surveyor undertake essential works.

(b) No. 12—Mr. F. N. Bedwell, the tenant of Nos. 10 and 11, applied for the tenancy for the extension of his business. With the restricted accommodation, the Borough Surveyor recommended that the application be could more conveniently be used in conjunction with Mr. Bedwell's other tenancies. acceded to as the premises RESOLVED, That Mr. Bedwell be granted a monthly tenancy at the approved rental of £4 6s. 8d. per month exclusive.

2249-3 Albion Street-Conversion —The period of maintenance of the contract works for the Caretaker's quarters at the Youth Centre had now expired. RESOLVED, That the retention money of £12 4s. 3d. be repaid to Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Sons.

2250—Annual Stores Tenders—Price Increases—Messrs. Geo. Bence & Sons Ltd. notified a price increase of 5s 6d per ton for lime, and the Stanton Iron Works Ltd. 3d. per square yard for 2-inch concrete flags both increases to operate from 1st October. RESOLVED, That the same be noted.

2251—Central Depot—Footpath Roller—(Min. 2103)—Since the last meeting when the quotation of Messrs. Wallace & Stevens amounting to £855 was accepted, the Borough Surveyor had received a notification from the Ministry of Supply that they may have a few diesel and petrol rollers for disposal. He was in communication with the Ministry and would take an opportunity of inspecting the rollers in due course, and if one could be acquired at a reasonable price, he recommended that the order already placed be cancelled. RESOLVED, That the report of the Borough Surveyor be awaited.

2252—Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month. 1155 ½ tons of refuse had been disposed of at the tip in September as compared with 837 tons 16 cwts. for the preceding month.

2253-Borough Surveyor's Department-Wages Office-(Min. 2106)-The Borough Surveyor's observations upon the Finance Committee's suggestion that a report be prepared upon the computation and payment of wages with a view to the Finance Committee exercising greater control thereover through the Borough Treasurer, had been circulated to the Committee. The Borough Treasurer had also prepared his observations which would be submitted to the Finance Committee at their next meeting. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to enable the Finance Committee to consider the Borough Surveyor's observations and for the Borough Treasurer's observations to be circulated to this Committee.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

**9th October, 1947.** Present-Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss and Morris; Major Beale Browne ; Messrs. Clegg and Harris.

10th October, 1947. Present-Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillor Bayliss.

2254-Plans--(a) Within the Borough-In accordance with Min. 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                       | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| 6030        | Montal Watch Fittings Ltd. | 2 semi detached houses (modified layout)<br>Priors Road | Approved                     | Approved.                                      |
| 6192        | H. J. Beale                | Garage,<br>41 Arle Avenue                               | Approved                     | Approved.                                      |
| 6228        | A. H. Gillman              | Workshop,<br>63 Whaddon Road                            | Approved                     | Disapproved.                                   |
| 6245        | J. Elsley                  | Cycle and tool shed,<br>6 Brooklyn Gardens              | Approved                     | Approved.                                      |

375

| No. of Plan | Name              | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|-------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| 6257        | A. J. J. Williams | Garage,<br>60 Brooklyn Gardens  | Exempt                       | Approved.                                      |
| 6258        | A. J. J. Williams | Coal and tool shed,<br>60 Brooklyn Gardens                            | Exempt                       | Approved.                                      |
| 6259        | W. C. Ackerman    | Cycle and store shed<br>21 Brooklyn Gardens                           | Exempt                       | Approved.                                      |
| 6260        | R. Twyning        | Conversion of W.C. and coal house into Bathroom,<br>13 Princes Street | Disapproved                  | Approved.                                      |
| 6261        | A. M. Vick        | Cycle and coal shed,<br>56 Welland Lodge Road                         | Disapproved                  | Disapproved.                                   |
| 6263        | Glos. County      | Nissen hut for  | Exempt                       | Approved.                                      |

Council Education  
Committee

Tradesmen's instruction,  
The Lypiatt's,  
Lansdown Road

|      |                                   |  |  |   |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 6264 | K. Parnall                        | Extensions,<br>Woodford,<br>Eldon Avenue                                     | Approved   | Approved.   |
| 6265 | A. D. Rothin                      | Cycle and garden shed,<br>57 Brooklyn Gardens                                | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6266 | C. A. Holmes                      | Fruit store,<br>New house,<br>Shurdington Road                               | Exempt   | Approved subject to the<br>new work harmonising<br>with the existing building.                        |
| 6267 | Mrs. Gillman                      | Additions, Onchan,<br>Hall Road  | Approved subject to<br>the sanitary arrange-<br>ments being to the<br>satisfaction of the<br>Chief Sanitary<br>Inspector | Approved.   |
| 6268 | Mrs. E. J. Veale                  | Garage, Trenfield,<br>Eldorado Road  | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6269 | H. Attwood                        | Tool shed,<br>42 Carlton Street  | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6270 | R. H. Dane                        | New bathroom,<br>88 Swindon Road   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6267  | Approved for a period of<br>5 years from date of<br>consent. Site in proposed<br>re-development area. |
| 6271 | Dr. R. W.<br>Stephenson           | Conversion of loose<br>box into garage,<br>Carlton, Pittville<br>Circus Road | Approved   | Approved.   |
| 6272 | Gloucestershire<br>Dairy Co. Ltd. | Garage for delivery<br>vehicles,<br>Prestbury Road Milk<br>Depot             | Approved subject to<br>steel work details<br>being to satisfaction<br>of Borough Surveyor                                | Approved.   |
| 6273 | A. J. Biddle                      | Conversion of 43<br>Portland Street<br>into 2 flats                          | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6267  | Approved.   |
| 6274 | Cheltenham                        | Additional kitchen,  | Approved as in   | Approved.   |



Shopfitting Co. Ltd.      Station Works,      Plan No. 6267  
 St. George's Place

|      |                                |   |                                 |  |
|------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| 6275 | Leckhampton<br>Scout Troop     | Scout hut,<br>rear of Pilford Avenue  | Approved                        | Approved.  |
| 6276 | Sharpe & Fisher<br>(1924) Ltd. | Installation of bathroom,<br>39 Swindon Road  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6267 | Approved.  |
| 6277 | B. Gregory                     | Proposed filling station,<br>and repair yard,<br>Junction Millbrook<br>Street and Great<br>Western Road | Disapproved                     | Approved for a period of<br>10 years from date of<br>consent. Site in proposed<br>re-development area. |
| 6278 | T. C. Clark                    | Additions,<br>9 Short Street  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6267 | Approved.  |
| 6279 | Mrs. E. Holland                | Alterations,<br>400 High Street   | Disapproved                     | Approved.  |

376

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of<br>Plan. | Name                 | Description  | Recommendation under<br>interim Development Order,                              |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|---|
| T.P.2371        | R. Shipway           | Proposed greenhouse, The Leys,<br>Station Road, Bishops Cleeve.          | Deferred.   |
| T.P.2372        | Lt. Col. H. R. Gibbs | Proposed greenhouse, Post Box<br>Cottage, Uckington.                     | Deferred.   |
| T.P.2373        | R. H. Jenner         | Proposed dairy and boiler house,<br>Langley Hill Farm,<br>Winchcombe.    | Approved.   |
| T.P.2374        | J. Morrison          | Proposed greenhouse, Lake<br>Cottage, Lake Street, Prestbury.            | Approved.   |
| T.P.2375        | J. H. Watson         | Internal alterations,<br>Woodmancote Farm, Gambles<br>Lane, Woodmancote. | Approved, subject to the<br>new work harmonising with<br>the existing building. |
| T.P.2376        | A. E. Godwin         | Agricultural shed, Primrose<br>Gardens, Tewkesbury Road.                 | Approved.   |
| T.P.2377        | R. H. V. Cutlan      | Proposed garage, 17 Chargrove<br>Grounds, Shurdington Road.              | Disapproved.  |
| T.P.2378        | R. Black             | Proposed additions, The<br>Bungalow, The Crippetts Road,<br>Leckhampton. | Approved.   |
| T.P.2379        | H. T. Bromley        | Proposed greenhouse, Leys Close,   | Approved.   |

|          |                     |  |           |
|----------|---------------------|--|-----------|
| T.P.2380 | F. H. Longland      | Gretton Road, Winchcombe.<br>Proposed storage shed,<br>Stanboro, Tewkesbury Road,<br>Elmstone Hardwicke. | Approved. |
| T.P.2381 | Miss E. Wills Brown | Proposed storage shed and<br>garage, Seven Springs House,<br>Coberley.                                   | Approved. |
| T.P.2382 | E. Lamer            | Proposed greenhouse,<br>3 Detmore Cottages,<br>London Road, Charlton Kings.                              | Approved. |
| T.P.2383 | W. M. Mellville     | Proposed garage, Plot 17,<br>Charlton Drive.   | Approved. |

2255—Development Plans—(a) Welland Lodge Road—Application from Mr. W. T. Chase to use a builders office on Cleevemount Estate as a workshop for making travel and shopping bags, RESOLVED, That consent be given for a period of 2 years from the date of consent, subject to no nuisance being caused.

(b) St. George's Place—Application from Mr. J. H. Storey to use a yard in St. George's Place as a builders yard, and to erect temporary huts for use as offices and stores. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of 10 years from date of consent, as the site is in a re-development area, subject to plans of any buildings erected being submitted to, and approved, by the Committee.

(c) Lansdown Crescent Lane—Application from The Walton Construction Co., Ltd. to use 26a Lansdown Crescent Lane as a builders yard. The site was in the area in respect of which complaints of nuisance were being investigated. RESOLVED, That the application be refused.

2256—Industrial Development—(Min. 1926)—(a) The Town Clerk reported upon the discussion with representatives of Government Departments and the Council. It was now proposed to hold these meetings bi-monthly, and the next meeting had been arranged for 2nd December, 1947. RESOLVED, That the same representatives be asked to attend on behalf of the Council at all future meetings (Chairman, Deputy Mayor and the appropriate officers).

(b) Trading Estate—The report of the Planning Officer was submitted setting out particulars of existing industries in the planning area, The time was now opportune for the preparation of a final scheme for the provision of a trading estate, which he considered would best be located to the west of the L.M.S. Railway, bounded on the south by the River Chelt, and by the proposed by-pass on the north and east, comprising approximately 150 acres. RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer be authorised to proceed With the preparation of the final scheme for submission to the Council for approval as soon as possible.

2257—National Housing and Town Planning Council—No representatives were appointed to attend the National Housing and Planning Conference at Harrogate.

2258—New Court, Lansdown Road—Application was submitted from the New Court School, Ltd., to erect a temporary but at the rear of these premises. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, final consent being deferred pending submission and approval of detailed plans.

2259--Signs and Advertisements, Gloucester Road—(Min. 1778)—Letter was submitted from Mason & Lang Ltd. requesting re-consideration of the Council's decision requiring the sign in Gloucester Road, advertising Messrs. Haines and Strange, to be removed forthwith. The immediate removal of the sign would entail a financial loss to the Company, as its cost could not be covered until 8th April, 1949. The Town Clerk also reported upon his interview with a representative of the firm. RESOLVED, That having regard to the circumstances, the sign be allowed to remain in position until 8th April, 1949, subject to the firm undertaking to remove it not later than that date and waiving any claim for compensation.

2260—Crown Factory, Stoke Orchard—(Min 1925)—The Council at their last meeting decided that a deputation should attend on the Minister of Supply to discuss the use of this factory. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mr. Clegg, be appointed members of the deputation, and the Town Clerk make arrangements as soon as possible.

377

2261-Town and Country Planning Act. 1947 --The Town Clerk drew attention to the position which would arise when this Act came into force. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Mr. Clegg be appointed to consider this matter further and discuss it, if necessary, with the County Council.

2262—Town Hall Entrance- The Cheltenham and District Chrysanthemum Society submitted application to place two 6-sheet poster boards at the Town Hall entrance for the two days of the Chrysanthemum Show, on 12th and 13th November. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

2263—Building Industries National Council---No representatives were appointed to the Fourth Building Congress of this Society at Folkestone.

2264---Hilton Lodge, Lansdown Road (Min. 1934)—Mr. B. Lee-White has appealed against the Council's refusal to consent to the proposed extensions to the garage at these premises.

2265—Rear of Lansdown Crescent and Lansdown Place—The Planning Officer reported that a survey of this area had revealed there were 15 firms operating, mostly under unsatisfactory conditions, in the area, and that the floors above eleven of the workshops were being used for living accommodation. Some of the workshops had been in occupation for a long period. and were " existing workshops" within the meaning of Section 53 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932. RESOLVED, That the firms as indicated, be requested to make formal application to the use of their respective premises, and that consideration be deferred until the next meeting.

2266—Montpellier Street--Application was submitted from Messrs. Arlex Ltd. for permission to replace existing sheds in front of their premises by a nissen hut. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for a period of 3 years from the date of consent, subject to the hut being satisfactorily screened from the road.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**10th October, 1947.** Present—Councillors Readings (Chairman), Bettridge, Brown, Carter and Yeend.

2267—Superintendent's Report--During the month of September there were 42 interments and 44 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, 2; 2nd position, 2 ; 3rd position, 1 ; 4th position 6. New memorials erected 16 ; additional inscriptions 14.

2268—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11,592 to 11,602 inclusive.

2269—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 4,426 to 4,432 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

2270—Maintenance of- Graves in Perpetuity---(a) The Committee considered the question of limiting the period for which maintenance should be undertaken. In the past the Council have agreed to undertake maintenance of graves in perpetuity, the Council being under no obligation however, to replace a memorial when it became perished or damaged. RESOLVED, That in future the period of maintenance of graves be limited to 50 years, with an option to relatives to renew the period if desired, the agreements to include provision as at present that the Council shall not be liable to replace any memorial which becomes perished or damaged.

(b) The Town Clerk submitted five applications for the Council to undertake the maintenance of the following graves on payment of the respective amounts' mentioned namely:—

Grave No. 1763, Section B.1. £55.

Grave No. 2464, Section P. £75.

Grave No. 844, Section K. £75.

Graves Nos. 18457/18458, Section Q. £100.

Grave No. 2960, Section Q. £150.

RESOLVED, That the applications be granted, and the Common Seal affixed to agreements to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

2271—Staff—Cemetery Foreman—The Cemetery Foreman, Mr. E. G. F. Pitts had resigned, and the Superintendent recommended that Mr. S. Gale. Grave digger, be promoted to fill the vacancy at the same rate of pay, namely £5 4s. 0d. a week. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

2272—Grass Mats—The Superintendent submitted samples of the grass mats which he recommended should be purchased and used for lining graves to improve the appearance. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved, and that provision be made in next year's estimates for the purchase of three sets at £17 5s. 0d. per set.

2273—Recorded Music—(Min. 186)—The Chairman and Superintendent reported that as a result of their recent inspection of a sound reproduction equipment at the works of Messrs. E.M.I. Services Ltd. they were unable to recommend this particular installation. They subsequently viewed an installation at Mortlake Crematorium by Messrs. Guy R. Fountain Ltd., agents for Messrs. Tannoy Products Ltd. The Borough Surveyor submitted tender obtained from Messrs. Fountain Ltd., amounting to £135 16s. 7d. excluding the wiring, for which they were prepared to tender. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Guy R. Fountain Ltd. amounting to £135 16s. 7d. be accepted subject to Contract. RESOLVED ALSO, That they be requested to submit quotation for the wiring and if this is satisfactory, the Chairman be authorised to accept same and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contracts to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

**GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**14th October, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, Waite and Ward Councillors Addis,, Biggs, Bettridge, Readings and Thompson. ;

2274—Market and Public Control Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Market and Public Control Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 1st October, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated).

2275—Establishment Sub-Committee—The report of the Establishment Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 9th October, 1947, was submitted (report circulated :— Min. 5 (Provincial Council Recommendations)—Letter was submitted from the South Western Provincial Council intimating that the minute of that Council in regard to leave of absence to employees attending conferences had been incorrectly recorded and the matter had been deferred. A further recommendation would be submitted in due course. RESOLVED (i), That Min. 7 (Office accommodation) be referred back to the Establishment Sub-Committee to enable the cost of the alterations to be further investigated and reduced if possible.

(ii) That with the above exceptions, the report of the Establishment Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

2276—Labour Sub-Committee- RESOLVED, That the report of the Labour Sub-Committee of their meeting held on the 8th October be approved and adopted (report circulated). ALSO RESOLVED, That in regard to any future inquiry referred to the Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee be given power to reach a decision and to communicate the same to the appropriate committee for their information and guidance and for any necessary action.

2277—Fire Services Act, 1947—Circular 7/1947, dated 1st October, Home Office, was submitted indicating that under the Act, fire authorities were required to submit to the Secretary of State, schemes for approval not later than the 1st January, 1948. County Councils were required in the first instance to submit a draft scheme to Councils of county districts, giving them an opportunity of making representations within one month. A conference of local authority associations had been held -in regard to the making of Regulations prescribing standards of proficiency which the Secretary of State was authorised to make under the Act, but in view of difficulty of framing, Regulations having regard to present conditions, and certain other reasons, it was agreed to postpone the making of Regulations for the time being. For the preparation of first establishment schemes, it was agreed that the National Fire Service standard would form a satisfactory basis, subject to certain minor reservations. The circular contained information of the standards and other information necessary for the preparation of establishment schemes. RESOLVED, That the contents of the circular be borne in mind when the draft scheme the Gloucestershire County Council was received for this Council's consideration.

2278—Road Traffic Act, 1930—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Transport asking for nominations for appointment of Traffic Commissioners for the ensuing year. The nomination of the Deputy Mayor last year in place of Alderman Captain Trye who did not wish to be nominated, was unsuccessful. RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham be again nominated as a Traffic Commissioner for the ensuing year.

2279--Food Control Committee (Constitution) Order, 1943—Circular dated 22nd September was submitted from the Ministry of Food in regard to the nominations for appointment to the Cheltenham Borough Food Control Committee for the year 1948. RESOLVED, That the following persons be nominated :—

Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.  
Alderman W. J. Green  
Councillor Miss E. K. Bayliss  
Councillor Miss F. L. Carter  
Councillor H. F. W. Bishop  
Councillor G. B. Compton  
Mrs. J. G. Hooper  
Mrs. K. Greening  
Lt. Col. J. F. Tarrant  
Mr. H. T. Howker (Glos. Co-operative Society Ltd.)  
Mr. J. P. Holborrow (representing Dairymen)  
Mr. P. E. Gardner (representing Bakers)  
Mr. W. J. Roberts (representing Grocers)  
Mr. J. N. Nash (representing Butchers)  
Mr. P. King (Trade Employee Representative)  
Mr. H. Midwinter (Cheltenham & District Trades Council).

2280—Cheltenham Chamber of Commerce Transport Committee—RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor Bettridge be appointed the Council's representative on this Committee in place of Mr. Councillor Grimwade, deceased.

2281—Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association—The Committee considered Min. 2175 of the Electricity Committee in regard to the future of the Association in view of the nationalisation of the industry. RESOLVED, That the Committee were of opinion that the Association should be re-constituted and continue in any event to operate during the transitional period but were unable to offer any opinion on a long term policy at the present time, as this depended on the action taken by the Association of Municipal Corporations.

2282—Land, Old Bath Road—Letter, dated 7th October, was submitted from the Charity Commissioners enclosing a notice of a proposal to sell a piece of land having frontage of 20 ft., and adjoining, No. 174 Old Bath Road. This land formed part of an area which had been requisitioned by the Council for allotment purposes, and both the Housing and Allotment Committees had previously decided not to purchase the land. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposed sale but that the Charity Commissioners be informed that the land was under requisition and that any proposal for building on the strip of land would also be subject to the requirements of the proposed town planning scheme and building- byelaws.

379

2283—Re-organisation of Local Government—A report of the General Purposes Committee of the Association of Municipal Corporations was submitted referring to resolutions passed at the 1946 conference expressing deep concern at piecemeal legislation which was removing the powers and responsibilities of Municipal Authorities. The Committee were then asked to give further consideration to the existing structure of local government. Reference was also made to a report to

the Association in 1942, dealing with the possible continuation of war-time regional administration in peacetime and attention was called to serious objections to any such system which might endanger the democratic basis of local government and impair the right of local authorities to have direct access to Government departments. The duties of the Local Government Boundary Commission were to make, as far as practicable, all Local Government Authorities, both individually and collectively, effective and convenient units, but large issues of policy arose which might necessitate legislation or enlargement of the Commission's powers. One dealt with large administration areas and there were suggestions that the existing one and two-tier systems of local government should give way to a two-tier system.

In the case of smaller Boroughs, the question as to whether areas could be devised suitably for all local government purposes was an important one, but what was suitable for one purpose might not be suitable for another. In the Association's opinion, suitable cases of a two-tier (or perhaps in some cases three-tier) system should be considered which would embrace existing Local Authorities, whether County Councils, County Boroughs, non-County Boroughs, County Districts or Parishes.

The effective functioning of a two-tier system would depend upon proper allocation of responsibilities, services and functions between the major authorities and the second-tier authorities, and whilst the former must be responsible for planning, or in some cases administration, there must be allocated to the second-tier authority, responsibility for the control and administration of a sufficient number of services of such importance as to attract the right type of public representative and to justify the appointment of officers of the requisite calibre. The responsibility for levying and collecting rates for all functions must be a duty of the minor authority.

The Association also considered it would be unwise to suggest the setting up of completely new bodies, and for an experimental period of, say, 6 years, it would be advisable to constitute the major authority by a proportion of members appointed by the minor authorities and the remainder elected direct by the ratepayers.

The problem facing the Association was a formidable one, and in view of the many changes which have taken place in the last ten years, it was essential that the Association should formulate a policy which, whilst accept-able to its members, was also regarded generally as good government, and if members of the Association desired to take some part in influencing the future form of local government, it was important to express their views before the Boundary Commission had settled the whole matter. Before giving further consideration to the more detailed matters, the General Purposes Committee of the Association required approval or otherwise to their report, so that further consideration could be given to outstanding matters.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **HOUSING COMMITTEE.**

**15th October, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Deputy Mayor; Alderman Lipson; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bishop, Compton, Gardner, Strickland and Ward.

2284-Cheltenham and District Housing Group—The Town Clerk reported on a meeting of the Cheltenham and District Housing Group held on the 3rd October, 1947. The original object of the meeting was to consider the best course of procedure with regard to the unfinished sites at Stroud following the withdrawal of prisoner-of-war labour. It was disclosed at the meeting that a labour force of 14 was now employed on this site and it was hoped to complete the work in six to eight weeks. The Superintending Officer had submitted a report on the work carried out to date and a

prime cost statement of expenditure. He recommended that 90% of the £10,000 outstanding in respect of fees should be paid to the contractor, but it was pointed out that no loan sanction had yet been obtained either for this or other works in excess of the normal cost of the work owing to the employment of prisoner-of-war labour. The representative of the Ministry of Health who was present was asked to expedite consideration of the Council's application for consent to an interim loan on account of excess expenditure amounting to £30,000, or alternatively to obtain Treasury consent to the borrowing by the Council by way of overdraft.

The Town Clerk now submitted letter from the Ministry of Health authorising the Council, in pursuance of the Minister's powers under regulation 54 BA of the Defence Regulations, to borrow by way of overdraft the sum of £30,000.

The Superintending Officer had also recommended that the administrative costs of the Group should be borne by member authorities in proportion to the cost of measured works instead of in proportion to acreage of sites as provided in the agreement, and this had been agreed. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve of the administrative costs being apportioned as recommended.

2285—Cornish Unit Housing—The Town Clerk submitted basic prices, specifications and plans from Messrs. Schick Nicholls and Co., for the erection of houses in Cornish Unit construction. This was a type of construction which had been recommended for consideration by the Principal Housing Officer. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to report further on this method of construction.

380

2286—Fences, Priors and Lynworth Farm Estates—Read report of the Housing View meeting held on 10th October, 1947, when the Committee inspected Priors Farm and Lynworth Farm estates with a view to considering their title policy regarding the erection of fences or hedges round front gardens.

It was observed that several front gardens were uncultivated and overgrown and the Housing Manager was instructed to report further on this to the Estate Management Sub-Committee.

Two pieces of land at the junction of South Avenue and Central Avenue were in a bad state and it was considered that the Parks Superintendent should be asked to clean and seed the land and keep it tidy. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Nissen Hut on the shop site had been taken down and was being handed over to the Whaddon Community Association for re-erection at the Community Centre, Whaddon Road on a site to be agreed.

Complaints were received of the state of the ditch at the rear of South Avenue and the Borough Surveyor was instructed to inspect this and report.

On Lynworth Farm Estate the Committee inspected houses completed and in course of construction and considered that when the B.I.S.F. houses were repainted consideration should be given to the adoption of a different colour scheme. Gates erected by tenants to the back gardens of two houses in Cromwell Road were inspected and considered satisfactory. RESOLVED, (a) That the proceedings of the View Committee be approved and adopted ;

(b) That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to obtain tenders for altering the position of the existing fencing to the back gardens on Priors Farm Estate and providing additional fencing so as to enclose the back doors as well as the gardens ;



(c) That the Committee will be prepared to approve the erection by tenants at Priors Farm of suitable fences or hedges round the front gardens, not exceeding 18" in height, of a material in keeping with the general appearance of this estate, but that no gates be permitted to the front gardens, and that the tenants be informed that the appearance of such fences or hedges will be taken into consideration in the annual gardens competition ;

(d) That no fences be allowed round the front gardens on Lynworth Farm Estate, but that tenants be permitted to grow a low hedge not exceeding 18" in height.

2287—Solid Fuel Burning Appliances—Read circular letter from the Ministry of Fuel and Power inviting delegates to attend an exhibition at Bristol on the latest models of solid fuel burning appliances. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to make the necessary arrangements for members and officers to visit the exhibition on 26th November.

2288—Building Science Exhibition -Read circular from Ministry of Health inviting representatives to attend an exhibition of research in housing standards at Bristol. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to attend.

2289--Brooklyn Gardens Estate- The Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. Western Estates Ltd., enclosing the names of four applicants who wished to purchase houses on this estate. RESOLVED, That the proposed purchasers be approved.

2290—Footpaths—Selkirk Gardens—Three tenders were received for the carrying out of footpath works on this estate. RESOLVED, (a) That the tender of Mr. Reg. Towell amounting to £321 5s. 6c1., being the lowest be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £321 the cost of carrying out the works.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £321 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

2291—Building Materials—Read letter from the Chief Sanitary Inspector enclosing copy of a letter received from the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association regarding the acute shortage of lavatory pans S. type. The Council were asked to approach the appropriate Ministry with a view to the release of more pans of this type to this area as it was understood that it was possible to obtain them in other areas. RESOLVED, That the Progress Officer of the Ministry of Health be asked to assist in this matter and that in the event of no satisfaction being obtained the Borough Member be asked to take the matter up with the appropriate Ministry.

2292—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 3rd and 6th October were submitted. The following matters inter alia were dealt with:-

(a) Nine applicants were interviewed and two applications considered.

(b) Messrs. George Wimpey & Co. Ltd., wished to provide a site canteen for the provision of hot midday meals. Such a facility was not provided for under the terms of the contract and accordingly they required the Council's consent to their providing this, in which case they would expect to be reimbursed. Subject to their being able to cater for reasonable numbers, Messrs. Wimpey would bear any loss resulting from the provision of meals at the prices laid down. Recommended, That Messrs. Wimpey be asked to discuss the matter with the Supervisor of the British Restaurant to see

if it is possible to come to any arrangement for the men to be catered for at the Restaurant, or for hot meals to be sent to Lynworth Farm. Failing this, Messrs. Wimpey to be informed that the Committee are prepared to approve the arrangement in principle, subject to the exact details being settled and approved by the Committee.

(c) Twenty-four bungalows at The Knole were allocated and twelve houses at Lynworth Farm Estate.

(d) Beechway, Western Road—The Sub-Committee recommended that this property should be de-requisitioned in order that it could be purchased by the present tenant for occupation, partly by himself, the remainder to be let to tenants of his own choosing.

RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

381

2293—Arrears—The Borough Treasurer submitted a statement of arrears up to 28th September amounting to £942.

2294—The Knole--Street Name—The Committee considered recommendation from the Market and Public Control Sub-Committee that the road on the Knole Estate should be named " Griffiths Avenue " in memory of the late Canon Griffiths, former vicar of St. Mark's. RESOLVED, That the proposed name be approved.

2295—Rowanfield Road Estate—(i) Compulsory Purchase Order—The Town Clerk reported that the Rowanfield Road Compulsory Purchase Order had with two minor modifications been confirmed by the Minister of Health.

(ii) Site Preparation--The Borough Surveyor reported that tenders for the construction of roads and sewers had been invited for Wednesday, 22nd October, but in view of requests by several contractors he suggested that the time should be extended to, 28th October and that the Chairman be authorised to open tenders received with a view to acceptance by the Committee of a tender before the next meeting of the Council. Seven firms had already applied for contract documents.

With regard to the preparation of a time table for taking possession of the site to secure that occupiers were not disturbed until their land was actually required, the Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that subject to the required labour and materials being available, this work should be nearing completion within twelve months so that it was unlikely that present occupiers could derive benefit from any crops in this time. He therefore suggested that consideration of the time table should be deferred until a tender for site preparation had been accepted, when it would be possible to establish a more detailed time table. RESOLVED, That the time for submission of tenders be extended until 28th October ; that the Chairman be authorised to open tenders and that a special meeting of the Committee be held on the 31st October to accept a tender.

2296—Requisitioned Houses—Canobie, Montpellier Terrace—The Borough Surveyor reported that this house which was occupied by five families had only one bathroom, the water to which was heated by means of a domestic boiler in one of the flats, which arrangement was entirely unsatisfactory. The Borough Surveyor now submitted quotation for installation by the Cheltenham and District Gas Co., of a gas geyser with connections at a cost of £34 7s. 6d., the geyser to be controlled by a prepayment meter. RESOLVED, (a) That the quota-tion of the Cheltenham and District Gas Company for the provision of a geyser and connections at a cost of £34 7s. 6d. be accepted ;

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the acceptance of this tender.

2297—Hales Close--Temporary Housing Site--The Borough Surveyor submitted account from Mr. Reg. Towell amounting to £253 4s. 4d. for residual works on this site. The original contract amounted to £194 17s. 0d., the extra cost being due to the fact that before the footpaths had been completed tenants had deposited garden rubbish on them which involved extra work by the contractor, including the haulage of this material to a tip. The Boroughs Surveyor reported that similar circumstances had occurred at Lynworth Farm Estate where tenants were occupying houses opposite which the footpaths had not been completed, but where the ash foundation had been laid in readiness for the slabs. RESOLVED, That Mr. Towell's account for £253 4s. 4d.- be paid and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £253 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and form of receipt. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Housing Manager be instructed to inform tenants that they must not deposit garden refuse on footpaths.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### RATING COMMITTEE.

**15th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Alderman Ward ; Councillors Gardner Morris.

2298—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

2299—Arrears--The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

2300--Unpaid Rates—A statement of unpaid rates for the half year ended 30th September was submitted and signed by members of the Committee

2301—Irrecoverable Rates—The Rating and Valuation Officer submitted a statement of irrecoverable rates amounting to £2,333 13s. 11d. which was inspected and signed by members of the Committee. This amount was made up as follows:

|                         |     |                  |
|-------------------------|-----|------------------|
| Voids                   | ... | £1,835 3s. 2d.   |
| Reduced Assessment      |     | 264 2 3          |
| Legally excused         |     | 214 16 10        |
| Otherwise irrecoverable |     | <u>19 11 8</u>   |
|                         |     | £2,333 13s. 11d. |

2302—Reduction of Rates—The Committee considered and dealt with one application for a reduction of rates on grounds of poverty.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

## BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

**16th October, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (in the Chair) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Compton and Thompson, Mrs. Lipson and Mr. Bache.

2303—Acquisition of Restaurant—(Min 771)---The Ministry of Food's computation of the value of the assets for the purpose of transfer of the St. Margaret's British Restaurant had now been received and consideration was deferred to enable the Borough Treasurer to report further.

2304—Name of Restaurant—RESOLVED, That the restaurant be known in future as St. Margaret's Civic Restaurant.

2305—Re-painting of Restaurant—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain tenders for re-painting and clean-ing the kitchen and that the Chairman be authorised to accept the most suitable tender. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to arrange for a road sweeper to tidy up periodically the forecourt to the restaurant.

2306--Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted financial statement for the six months ended 30th September, 1947. There was a profit of £53, after provision for loan charges of £76. The June quarter showed a net loss of £57 and the September quarter a net profit of £110 due to the increase in prices operating from the 9th June. The total number of meals served during June quarter was 17,051 and in the September quarter 17,627—the cost per meal, before charging amortisation, was 15.2034d. and 13.6408d. for the June and September quarters respectively, and after charging amortisation 15.7370d. and 14.1569d.

2307—Organiser Cook's Report—(a) Meals Served—The total number of meals supplied at St. Margaret's Restaurant during May, June, July, August and September was as follows :--

|            | Meals | Takings    |
|------------|-------|------------|
| May        | 6,875 | £422 1 5   |
| June       | 5,243 | £338 12 10 |
| July       | 5,294 | £347 0 2   |
| August ... | 6,495 | £421 7 10  |

The comparison between figures for May, 1946, and May, 1947, showed a decrease of 1,314 in the number of meals and £74 12s. 2d. in the takings ; for June, 1946, and June, 1947, a decrease of 1,011 and £45 7s. 10d. ; for July, 1946, - and July, 1947, a decrease of 730 and £23 9s. 3d. ; for August, 1946, and August, 1947, a decrease of 1,002 and £34 3s. 7d. ; and September, 1946, and September, 1947, a decrease of 125 and an increase of £15 12s. 5d.

(b) Weighing Machine-- RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in authorising the purchase of a weighing machine at a cost of £5 be approved.

(c) Notice Boards—RESOLVED, That the notice boards outside the restaurant be re-painted in red and white, and that the Street and Highway Committee be recommended to agree to a suitable sign being erected near the junction of North Street and High Street, preferably on the corner lamp-post outside Messrs. Boots' premises.

2308—Priority Tickets—The question of priority tickets for workers with short lunch periods was discussed, but the Committee decided to adhere to their previous decision that these should only be issued to people taking their meal between 12 and 12.30 p.m.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

**17th October, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) : Councillors Bettridge, Bishop, Mann.

2309—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer was submitted on the collection of the first instalment of this rate. Amount collected £56,052 as against a sum to be collected of £254,474, giving a credit balance, after allowances, voids, Irrecoverables and arrears, and taking into account advanced payments, of £1,578.

2310—Water Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the first instalment of this rate was submitted. Amount collected ; £19,072 amount outstanding £238, representing voids, Irrecoverables and arrears, (excluding water charges).

2311—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £12,337 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £723 for re-chargeable works carried out and £356 for electricity supplied.

383

2312—Lynworth Farm Housing Estate—(Min. 1796)—Letter dated 6th October was submitted from the Ministry of Health in regard to excess costs for the preparation works on this estate amounting to approximately £39,000. Pending settlement of the final costs the Minister, in pursuance of Para. 1 of Regulation 54 BA of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, authorised the Council to borrow by way of overdraft a sum of £30,000. Lloyds Bank had accepted this authority and were advancing the money at interest similar to that obtaining with the Public Works Loan Board, but required a resolution from the Council to borrow the sum now authorised. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to borrow by way of overdraft from Lloyd's Bank Ltd., the sum of £30,000 in accordance with the above authority and that the Common Seal be affixed to any necessary documents.

2813—Banking Facilities----Overdraft Arrangements—Under the existing arrangements with the Bank, provision was made for borrowing monies by way of overdraft to meet expenditure pending payment of rates and other monies to the Council. In view of the number of commitments for capital purposes, the Bank desired authority from the Council authorising the Borough Treasurer to borrow temporarily up to £30,000 for this purpose. RESOLVED, That the Council authorise the Borough Treasurer to borrow from the Bank by way of overdraft a sum up to £30,000 in pursuance of Section 215 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act, 1933 for the purpose mentioned above

2314—Loans—Loans amounting to £900 had been repaid since the last meeting.

2315—Corporation 1956 Stock—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Stock Certificate No. 157 in respect of the transfer of stock amounting to £3,200 from Mr. A. G. Bradshaw to Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Co. Ltd., and Mr. A. E. Bradshaw,

2316—Superannuation—(i) Transfer values had been received from the following authorities ;

Norwich Corporation     K. W. Finch (Electricity Department) ... £824 18s. 2d.

City of Manchester     Miss M. K. Boyle (Treasurer's Department) ... £199 11s. 2d.

(ii) 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 4th July, 1938, a superannuation allowance was payable to A. Goodridge, Electricity Department, who retired on 19th September, 1947 amounting to £54 14s. 5d. based on 12 years 9 months non-contributory service and 8 years 5 months contributory service. RESOLVED, That the allowance be paid accordingly.

2317—Insurance---(i) Third Party Claims—The Borough Treasurer reported that the Fine Art and General Insurance Company, by whom this Council were " covered " for third party claims had called attention to the serious increase in claims during the last few years, which had rendered re-consideration of the premium necessary. In his opinion no insurance company would be prepared to give " cover" at the present premium having regard to the claims submitted, and proposals were submitted for increasing the " cover " from £5,000 to £10,000 at an increased premium which he recommended should be accepted. RESOLVED, That the " cover " be increased as mentioned above and that the terms now submitted be approved.

(ii) Sharing Agreements—The Town Clerk reported on a claim made upon the Employers' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., for repair to the fence at Dowdeswell Reservoir. The Company suggested settlement on payment of 75 per cent. of the claim, which was the practice in cases where the Corporation had a sharing agreement with the Insurance Company. It was recommended that the Council enter into a sharing agreement with the Company, as in the case of other companies, and also that an application by the Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Company to enter into a similar agreement be approved. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into sharing agreements as suggested and that the offer in respect of the Dowdeswell Reservoir fencing be approved.

2318—Borough Surveyor's Department---Wages Office—The Committee considered Min. 2253 (Street and Highway Committee) and reports of the Borough Treasurer and Borough Surveyor in regard to the computation and payment of workmen's wages. RESOLVED, That having regard to the various changes taking place, the Street and Highway Committee be informed that in the view of this Committee consideration of this matter should be deferred for one year.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

384

### **Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices. Cheltenham,

6th, November, 1947.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend the **Annual Meeting of the Council to be held at the TOWN HALL on MONDAY, the 10th day of November. 1947. 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 31st October, 1947.

3. To adopt the proceedings of the Selection Committee at their meeting held on 6th November, 1947.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. 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 Friday, 31st October, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, S. Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Compton, Fisher, Gardner, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, Morris, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite, Ward and Yeend.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Leigh James Councillors J. Bendall and Fildes.

2319—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 6th October, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

2320—H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth---(Min. 1893)—The Mayor, with the Chairman of the Charlton Kings Urban District Council and the Town Clerk, attended at Buckingham Palace and presented Cheltenham's gift to Her Royal Highness. The Princess, in a letter dated 29th October, 1947, expressed her warm thanks to the people of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, including the members of the Cheltenham Ladies' College, for the present, and her pleasure that any surplus would be devoted to the Children's Hospital. The Mayor also expressed his appreciation of the town's generous support and his thanks to those who had given so much time in organising collections.

2321—Retiring Members of the Council—The Mayor referred to those members of the Council whose terms of office expired on 31st October, 1947, and who had decided not to offer themselves for re-election, namely, Councillors J. Bendall, Fildes and Yeend. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their appreciation of the services rendered by the retiring members during their years of office.





authorised to agree the cost of the alterations of the Municipal Offices in accordance with a revised and reduced estimate to be prepared by the Borough Surveyor."

Housing                      October 15

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Committee be authorised:-

(1) To accept a suitable tender for the construction of roads and sewers on the Rowanfield Estate and to affix the Common Seal to the Contract.

(2) To make application to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan sanction for the amount of the accepted tender.

(3) To make application to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the amount of the tender, and to affix the Common Seal to the Mortgage, Order and Receipt.

Rating                      October 15

British Restaurants      October 16

Finance                      October 17

(Subject to the words "number of" and "for capital purposes" being deleted in the third line of Min. 2313 (Banking Facilities—Overdraft Arrangements) ).

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.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

#### **ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.**

**27th. October, 1947** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors Bendall, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, Readings, Thompson and Ward.

2324—Electricity Showroom—The Committee considered the desirability of removing the showroom from the Municipal Offices as soon as possible having regard to the impending transfer of the Undertaking to the British Electricity Authority. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to the showroom being transferred to No 122 High Street and Nos. 2 and 4 Pittville Street and that the Council be recommended to give one month's notice terminating the tenancy of the present tenant, Mr. E. Posner, ALSO, That the Street and Highway Committee be recommended to let these premises for the purposes of the Electricity Showroom on terms to be arranged.

2325—Billing Machine—The Committee considered the disposition of a billing machine which had been ordered by the Borough Electrical Engineer. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting of the Committee and that in the meantime the Borough Electrical Engineer be instructed to take the steps now indicated by the Committee.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

(Adopted at the meeting of the Council held on 31st October, 1947, except Minute No 2324).

## **Borough of Cheltenham**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 2nd January, 1947.

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 January, 1947, 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 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.        |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ALLOTMENTS ...                   | 9th December, 1946.     |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS ... | 9th                     |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...                | 9th & 19th Dec., 1946.  |
| HOUSING ...                      | 10th & 18th Dec., 1946. |
| WATER ...                        | 10th December, 1946.    |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ...     | 10th                    |
| PLANNING                         | 12th & 13th Dec., 1946. |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM         | 13th December, 1946.    |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA         | 13th                    |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...            | 16th                    |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH       | 17th                    |
| RATING ...                       | 18th                    |
| FINANCE                          | 20th                    |

4. Staff Joint Advisory Committee—To receive report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting held on the 13th December, 1946.

5. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

**Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices. Cheltenham, 30th, January. 1947.

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 February, 1947, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the afternoon, 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 approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of Committees and to deal with the Council :--

| Committee.                   | Date of Meeting.        |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| PLANNING                     | 9th & 10th Jan., 1947.  |
| ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ...   | 10th January, 1947.     |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY ...           | 10th                    |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 13th                    |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 13th                    |
| PUBLIC HEALTH                | 13th                    |
| HOUSING ...                  | 14th & 24th Jan., 1947. |
| WATER ...                    | 14th January, 1947.     |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 14th & 23rd Jan., 1947. |
| MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  | 15th January, 1947.     |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 17th                    |
| TOWN . IMPROVEMENT AND SPA   | 17th                    |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 20th                    |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 21st                    |
| RATING ...                   | 22nd                    |
| FINANCE ...                  | 24th                    |
| SELECTION                    | 27th                    |
| BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...      | 27 <sup>th</sup>        |

4. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

**Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 27th, February, 1947.

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 March, 1947, 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 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 ...   | 7th February, 1947.     |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY ...           | 7th                     |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 10th                    |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 10th & 12th Feb., 1947. |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...            | 10th February, 1947.    |
| HOUSING ...                  | 11th & 19th Feb., 1947. |
| WATER ...                    | 11th February, 1947.    |
| ELECTRICITY AND -LIGHTING    | 11th                    |
| PLANNING                     | 13th & 14th Feb., 1947. |
| MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  | 13th February, 1947.    |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 14th                    |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 14th                    |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 17th & 27th Feb., 1947. |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 18th February, 1947.    |
| RATING ...                   | 19 <sup>th</sup>        |
| FINANCE                      | 21 <sup>ST</sup>        |

4. Staff Joint Advisory Committee—To receive report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting held on the 14th February, 1947.

5. To receive report of the Cheltenham Committee for Education in accordance with Min. 393/46 (report circulated). 6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

### **Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 31st March, 1947.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend **a special meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Wednesday, the 26th day of March, 1947, 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 or otherwise the proceedings of the special meetings of the Finance Committee held on the 14th and 15th March, 1947, in regard to the making of a general rate for the year commencing 1st April, 1947, and if approved, 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, 1947, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1948, 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 20s 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, 1947, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1948, and that the said Rate be payable by two instalments, namely, one moiety thereof on the first day of April, 1947, and the other moiety thereof to be payable on the first day of October, 1947 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."

2. To make an Order under Section 47 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930, temporarily restricting and prohibiting traffic in Lansdown Road and at Westal Green during the carrying out of necessary works.

Yours faithfully, F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**14th and 15th March, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Aldermen Ward and Waite - Councillors Biggs, Bettridge, Mann and Morris.

The following Chairmen of Committees also attended : Alderman Trye, Councillors Addis, Gardner (Vice -Chairman), Green and Readings.

Estimates 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 a special meeting to be held on the 26th March, 1947, and that the Council be recommended to make a general rate of 20s in the pound for the year commencing 1st April, 1947.

THEO L. THOMPSON, Chairman

#### **Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 1st May, 1947.

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 May, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 9th April, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. 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.         |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| PLANNING                     | 10th & 11th April, 1947. |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 14th April, 1947.        |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 14th                     |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...            | 14th                     |
| HOUSING ...                  | 15th & 24th April, 1947. |

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| WATER ...                    | 15th April, 1947. |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 15th              |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 18th              |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 18th              |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 21st              |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 22nd              |
| RATING ...                   | 23rd              |
| MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  | 24th              |
| FINANCE ...                  | 25 <sup>th</sup>  |

4. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

**Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 39th May, 1947.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on MONDAY, the 2nd day of June, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 5th May, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS—Town Clerk to report receipt from the Returning Officers of the All Saints' and St. Mark's Wards of the Borough, the result of the election of Councillors to fill the casual vacancies.
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.       |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| PLANNING                         | 8th & 9th May, 1947.   |
| ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ..        | 9th May, 1947.         |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY ...               | 9th                    |
| ALLOTMENTS ...                   | 12th                   |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS ... | 12th                   |
| PUBLIC HEALTH                    | 12th                   |
| HOUSING ...                      | 13th, 21st & 23rd May. |

and to consider making a Compulsory Purchase Order under Section 1 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, for acquisition of land for sites for 300 permanent prefabricated bungalows.

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| WATER ...                    | 13th May, 1947. |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 13th            |
| BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...      | 14th            |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 16th            |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 16th            |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 19th            |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 20th            |
| RATING ...                   | 21st            |
| FINANCE ...                  | 23rd            |
| SELECTION                    | 2nd June, 1947  |

(Report to be circulated at meeting).

5. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully.

F. D. LITTLEWOOD, Town Clerk.

### Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 26th June, 1947.

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 June, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 2nd June, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. 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.        |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 9th June, 1947.         |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 9th                     |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...            | 9th                     |
| HOUSING                      | 10th & 18th June, 1947. |
| WATER ...                    | 10th June, 1947.        |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING     | 10th                    |
| PLANNING                     | 12th & 13th June, 1947. |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 13th June, 1947         |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 13th                    |
| FINANCE                      | 16th                    |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 16th                    |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 17th                    |
| RATING                       | 18th                    |

4. Staff Joint Advisory Committee—To receive report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on the 13th June, 1947.

5. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

### **Borough of Cheltenham**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 24th July, 1947.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on MONDAY, the 28th day of July, 1947, 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 meeting of the Council held on the 30th June, 1947.

2. Communications by the Mayor.

3. 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       | 4th July, 1947.         |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY ...           | 4th                     |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 7th                     |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 7th                     |
| PUBLIC HEALTH ...            | 7th                     |
| HOUSING ...                  | 8th & 28th July, 1947.  |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 8th                     |
| WATER ...                    | 9th                     |
| MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE  | 9th                     |
| PLANNING                     | 10th & 11th July, 1947. |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 11th July, 1947         |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 11th & 23rd July, 1947. |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 14th                    |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 15th                    |
| RATING                       | 16th                    |
| FINANCE ...                  | 18 <sup>th</sup>        |

4. Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee—To consider report of the Joint Committee of their meeting held on the 18th July, recommending approval in principle to the sale of the Staverton Aerodrome.

(See Min. 1823 General Purposes Committee and Min. 1841 Finance Committee).



5. Grammar School Governors—To appoint a representative Governor of the Cheltenham Grammar School to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Alderman Leigh James, who is eligible for re-election.

6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

**Borough of Cheltenham.**

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 2nd October, 1947.

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 October, 1947, all 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 meeting of the Council held on the 1st September, 1947.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. 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       | 5th September, 1947.     |
| PUBLIC LIBRARY ...           | 5th                      |
| PLANNING                     | 11th & 12th Sept., 1947. |
| HOUSING ...                  | 12th & 24th Sept., 1947. |
| WATER ...                    | 12th September, 1947.    |
| ALLOTMENTS                   | 15th                     |
| PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS | 15th                     |
| PUBLIC HEALTH „.             | 15th                     |
| CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM     | 19th                     |
| TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA     | 19th                     |
| ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ... | 22nd                     |
| STREET AND HIGHWAY...        | 22nd                     |
| GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH   | 23rd                     |
| RATING ...                   | 24th                     |
| FINANCE ...                  | 26th                     |
| SELECTION                    | 29th                     |

4. Staff Joint Advisory Committee—To receive report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on 19th September, 1947.

5. To receive report of the Cheltenham Committee for Education in accordance with Min. 393/46 (Report circulated).

6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

### **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 Monday, 10th November, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.). The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Brown, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Carter, Fisher, Gardner, Irving, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Ward and Waite.

1—Election of Councillors—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Returning Officers of the several Wards of the Borough results of the election of eight Councillors as follows :—

| Name of Councillor           | Ward        | Date of Retirement |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Morris, Arthur Leonard       | St. Paul's  | November, 1950     |
| Strickland, Frank            | Pittville   | November, 1950     |
| Jewell, Paul                 | All Saints  | November, 1950     |
| Bayliss, Emily Katherine ... | College     | November, 1950     |
| Parker, Alfred John          | Park        | November, 1950     |
| Waite, Thomas Kenneth        | Lansdown    | November, 1950     |
| Morris, Charles William      | St. Mark's  | November, 1950     |
| Mudway, Edward John          | St. Peter's | November, 1950     |

The Town Clerk also reported that the new members had made Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

2—Election of Mayor—On the motion of Alderman P. T. Smith, seconded by Councillor P. E. Gardner, and supported by Councillor E. K. Bayliss, it was unanimously RESOLVED, That Councillor Horace Trinley Bush 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 to H.M. The King.

The Mayor thereupon took the chair.

3—Appointment of Deputy Mayor—The Mayor signified in writing that he had appointed Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., to be his Deputy, and it was RESOLVED, That the appointment be recorded in the minutes of the Council.

4—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, and that he had accepted.

5—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 31st October, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

6—Selection Committee—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Selection Committee at their meeting held on 6th November, 1947, be approved and adopted.

7—Local 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, 1948, and that eight members be a quorum of the Committee.

H. T. BUSH, Mayor.

1

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE.**

**6th November, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green, Smith, Waite, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Biggs, Fisher and Readings. Also present—Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Bishop, Brown, Carter, Gardner, Irving, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Ward.

8—Constitution of Committees and other Appointments—The Committee considered the constitution of the Committees of the Council for the ensuing year, and the nomination and appointment of representatives on other authorities and bodies. RESOLVED, That the appointments to the Committees, authorities and bodies and assignment of duties, as set out hereunder be approved and adopted :—

**Public Health Committee**—Aldermen Leigh James, Waite and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Carter, Gardner, C. W. Morris, Mudway and Strickland.

**Housing Committee**—Aldermen Green, Lipson and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Bush, Fisher, Gardner, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Strickland and Ward.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Committee**—Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Smith and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Brown, Carter, Gardner, Mudway and Parker. Co-opted Members—Mrs. Lewis Grist, Mrs. E. E. Hopkins, Miss Tinson, Mrs. W. L. Mellersh, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. E. Booy.

**Street and Highway Committee**—Aldermen Green, Trye, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Fisher, Irving, Midwinter, Readings, Strickland and Ward.

**Planning Committee**—Aldermen Waite and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Jewell, Mann, A. L. Morris and C. NV. Morris.

**Town Improvement and Spa Committee**—Aldermen Green, Lipson, Smith, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Bush, Carter, Jewell, Mann, A. L. Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite. Two Members on nomination of Chamber of Commerce.

**Electricity Committee**—Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors Bendall, Bettridge, Carter, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker, Readings and Thompson.

**Water Committee**—Aldermen Green, Trye, Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, Bush, A. L. Morris, Midwinter and Strickland.

**Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee**—Alderman Green and Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bishop, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter and Waite.

**Cemetery and Crematorium Committee**—Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Jewell, Mudway, Parker and Readings.

**Rating Committee**—Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Gardner, Irving, Mann, A. L. Morris and Parker.

**Allotments Committee**—Alderman Green and Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bishop, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter and Waite. Co-opted Members—Messrs. A. Ball, C. Barlow, H. Roe and E. G. Whittall.

**Art Gallery and Museum Committee**—Aldermen Leigh James, Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Biggs, Fisher, Parker and Waite.

**Consulting Members**—Messrs. H. J. Lewis, C. R. Mapp and J. S. Bond.

**Public Library Committee**—Alderman Lipson ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Brown, Irving, Mann, C. W. Morris and Parker. Consulting Members—Rev. Barbara Thomas, Rev. E. C. Hanson, Messrs. S. J. Clarke, F. Vernall, and H. J. Norris.

**Civic Restaurant Committee**—Aldermen Smith and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Mudway and Thompson.

Co-opted Members—Mrs. K. Greening, Mrs. D. L. Lipson and Mr. W. J. Bache.

2

**Finance Committee**—Aldermen Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Mann, A. L. Morris and Thompson.

**Selection Committee**—Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, Smith, Trye, Waite, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bush, Fisher, Readings and Thompson.

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

**Cheltenham Committee for Education**—Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Brown, Bishop, Bush, Carter, Gardner, Irving, Jewell, Parker, Strickland and Ward. Rev. L. J. Coursey, Mrs. I. M. B. James, F. K. Ball, Rev. H. Clarkson, A. G. Bishop, W. D. Barker and Miss M. Miles.

**Appointed by County Council**—Lt.-Col. A. B. L. Lloyd Baker, D.S.O., and Major K. W. Sherman.

**Guardians Committee**—Alderman Green ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Bishop, Carter, Gardner, Midwinter and Ward. Mrs. Garland, Rev. Barbara Thomas, Mr. S. J. Clarke and Mrs. Lewis Hall.

**Assessment Committee**—Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Brown, Carter, Midwinter, Readings, Thompson and Waite.

**Local Pensions Committee**—This Committee comprises all the members of the Council.

**Local Pension Sub-Committee**—Councillors Bettridge, Irving, Mudway and Ward.

Co-opted Members—Messrs. W. H. Ball, J. W. Gough, E. V. Phillips, W. H. Lane, J. K. Troughton, S. J. Clarke and G. B. Compton and Mrs. E. E. Hopkins. Ward Returning Officers—

| Ward             | Returning Officer                     |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| St. Peter's Ward | Alderman D. L. Lipson, M.A., M.P.     |
| St. Paul's Ward  | “ P. T. Smith.                        |
| Pittville Ward   | “ T. W. Waite.                        |
| All Saints' Ward | “ W. Green.                           |
| College Ward ... | “ Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. |
| Lansdown Ward    | “ E. L. Ward.                         |
| Park Ward ...    | “ Leigh James.                        |
| St. Mark's Ward  | “ J. H. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.).   |

**Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and Gloucester and Cheltenham point Airport Committee** (6 each)—Alderman Ward ; Councillors Brown, Bush, A. L. Morris, Strickland and Thompson.

**Cheltenham Youth Committee**—Councillors Gardner and Mudway.

Western District Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services (Employers' Side) and South Western Provincial Council for Local Authorities Administrative, Technical and Clerical Services—Councillor Strickland.

Cheltenham Grammar School—Representative in place of Mr. H. O. Barnett, resigned—Councillor Ward.

H., T. BUSH. Chairman.

(ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10TH NOVEMBER, 1947.)

3

#### **ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.**

**12th November, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, Biggs, Fisher and Waite.

9—Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

10—Curator's Report for September and October, 1947—

Visitors during September and October, 8,846 (last year, 7,202). Daily average, 167 (last year 138). Included 9 parties, comprising 177 students, from colleges and schools.

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, etc., £14 0s. 1d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum " Account, £10 9s. 4d.

Exhibitions—An International Exhibition of Photography, September 15th-27th, was visited by 2,006 persons, an average of 169 per day. Works of Charles M. Gere, R.A., October 3rd–November 5th, was visited by 5,054 persons, an average of 174 per day.

1/5 Glosters—The Curator has received requests from the 5th Bn. The Gloster Regt., Drill Hall, Cheltenham, and from the 5th Bn. The Gloster Regt., Drill Hall, Gloucester, for new copies of the engraving of the "1/5 Gloucesters at Hebuterne 1916 " by Fred Roe, to replace copies which had been damaged during the War. A copy of the print had been presented in each case. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Oak Bureau and Chair—The Curator reported the gift by Miss E. Mathieson of Budleigh Salterton of an Oak Writing Bureau and Chair made in 1935 by Edward Barnsley, C.B.E., who was formerly in the work-' shops of the Barnsley Brothers and Ernest Gimson on the Cotswolds. RESOLVED, That the best thanks of the Committee be sent to Miss Mathieson, and that the specimens be insured for £60 and £20 respectively.

War Artists' Advisory Committee The Curator reported the receipt of the greater part of the 22 Water-colours by Contemporary Artists (including E. Bawden, Thomas Hennell, Henry Lamb, John and Paul Nash, Sir William Rothenstein, and Graham Sutherland) as a gift from the War Artists' Advisory Committee. RESOLVED, That the best thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors, and that a display of the pictures be made at a suitable date.

Donations—Gifts had been received from the following donors :—Mrs. C. M. Heaton ; Miss E. A. Tovey; Mr. F. Bedford (Botanical specimens collected by Mr. Bedford from 1900 onwards); Mrs. Seymour. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

Loans—A Wood-carving of Wrens by W. Perry, 1863, and 2 pages of a 15th Century Benedictine Breviary, had been lent to the Museum for an indefinite period. by Mr. H. Vincent.

Specimens purchased—RESOLVED, That the following purchases be approved :—

General Account :— Painting by Joseph Southall, " St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich " and painting by Percy des C. Ballance Dove-Cot, Naunton " (£4); Cotswold Smock worn at the Village of Corsley, Wilts., in the 19th century (£3).

11—Exhibitions—RESOLVED, That the following Exhibitions be arranged : --

(i) Exhibition by Mr. A. Rigden Read, December 10th-31st, 1947.

(ii) Cotswold Art Club, June, 1948.

(iii) C.S. Exhibition of Photography for 1948 (Fee 5 guineas as before). Date to be arranged.

(iv) Cheltenham Art Club, 15th March-3rd April, 1948.

(v) Exhibition by Mr. and Mrs. E. Godwin, if and when convenient.

12-Insurances--The Curator reported the difficulties involved at the present time in arriving at Insurance values of Art Properties and Museum Specimens. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to proceed on the lines indicated by the discussion, and if possible to cover some of the larger items against fire risk only.

13—Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be closed on December 25th, 26th and 27th, 1947.

14—Museums Association—The Curator read a letter from the President, suggesting that Junior Officers of Museums and Art Galleries should be given facilities for keeping in touch with their colleagues, by means of attending periodical meetings in different parts of England. The Committee

viewed the matter with sympathy but as there is at present no Museum Assistant, it was decided that the matter be deferred until occasion arises.

15—Captain Sturt's Water Bottle—The Town Clerk has received a letter from the Deputy High Commissioner for Australia stating that the High Commissioner will be pleased to attend a ceremony in Cheltenham, on the 16th June, 1948, to receive the Water Bottle belonging to the late Captain Sturt, which the Council had agreed to give to the Commonwealth National Library, Canberra.

16—Staff Party—RESOLVED, That permission be given for the Staffs of the Public Library and Art Gallery and Museum, to hold a Christmas Party in the Art Gallery on the evening of Friday, December 19th, 1947.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman,

4

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**

**12th November, 1947.** Present—Councillors Mann (Chairman), Irving and Parker ; Rev. B. Thomas, Rev. E. C. Hanson; Mr. H. J. Norris.

17—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Lipson be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

18—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Mann be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

19—Sub-Committees--RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Rev. E. C. Hanson be appointed the Sub-Committee for the ensuing year and that the same members do form the School Libraries Sub-Committee.

20—Librarian's Report for September and October, 1947 :

Issues—Ref. Dept. 8,473 ; Lending Dept. 71,369 ; Junior Dept. 9,892 ; Branch Libraries 3,723 ; School Libraries (July-Sept.) 4,834 ; Loan Collections 800. Total, 99,091 (last year total, 101,769).

Receipts amounted to £166 14s. 11d.

Replacements and Binding—288 volumes had been replaced. 549 volumes had been dispatched to the Binder and 775 returned and placed in circulation.

Library Association Examinations—The following members of the Staff passed Library Association Examinations in June 1947:—

Entrance Examination :—Miss K. M. Petrie, Miss I. Jacques, Miss M. Sealey, Miss E. Cooke, Miss E. Johnson. Preliminary Examination : —Miss E. Loder.

21--Books--RESOLVED, (a) That 849 volumes published at £426 7s. 3d. be purchased for £378 19s. 10d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on binding. (c) That the sum of £50 be spent on replacements.

22—Donations--135 volumes had been received from 21 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

23—Chambers's Encyclopaedia—The Librarian reported that the Publishers of a proposed new edition of Chambers's Encyclopaedia in 15 volumes at approximately £40 0s. 0d. had enquired

whether support would be forth-coming from Cheltenham. RESOLVED, That a copy of this new edition be ordered at the approximate price quoted.

24—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That (a) the following periodicals be added to those already purchased—" John O'London's Weekly " (fortnightly 3d.); " Aeronautics " (Monthly 2s) ; " Collins Magazine for Boys and Girls " (Monthly, .19s 6d per annum);

(b) That the following periodicals be NOT added to the Library—" Theatre Notebook " (Quarterly, 12s 6d per annum); " Practical Engineering " (Weekly 4d.); " Practical Mechanics," (Monthly 9d.); " Humanity "-(Monthly 6d.); " Political Quarterly " (Quarterly 5s);

(c) That consideration of the " Modern Quarterly " be deferred.

25—The Ginner Mawer School of Dance and Drama—The Librarian reported that application had been made by the Ginner Mawer School of Dance and Drama, for Home Reading facilities for their students and teachers up to 30 in number, these students residing at Temple Guiting House, Glos. RESOLVED, That tickets be issued on payment of a lump sum by the School at the rate of 2s 6d per reader per annum.

26--Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That all Departments of the Public Library be closed on December 25th, 26th and 27th, 1947.

27—Lectures--The Librarian detailed names of proposed Lecturers for the Session, January-April, 1948, and was authorised to proceed with the programme and to use his discretion as to the time fixed for the talks.

28—Annual Report—By deferring printing of the Annual Report for 1946-1947 and issuing a report covering two years, there would be certain economies of paper and printing. RESOLVED, That this be done on this occasion.

A. MANN, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**11th November, 1947.** Present—The Mayo, ; Deputy Mayor Alderman Green; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bishop, Bettridge, Fisher, Gardner, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Strickland and Ward.

29—Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

30—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, Councillor Strickland be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

31—Estate Management Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the following constitute the Estate Management Sub-Committee for the ensuing year:

|                  |            |              |
|------------------|------------|--------------|
| The Mayor        | Councillor | Bishop       |
| Alderman Green   | "          | Fisher       |
| Councillor Addis | "          | Gardner      |
| " Bayliss        | "          | A. L. Morris |
| " Bettridge      | "          | Strickland   |

5

32—Requisitioning Sub-Committee--RESOLVED, That the following constitute the Requisitioning Sub-Committee for the ensuing year :—



|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| The Mayor        | Councillor Bendall    |
| Deputy Mayor     | Councillor Bayliss    |
| Councillor Addis | Councillor Strickland |

33 St. Mark's Community Association—RESOLVED, That Councillors Bayliss and C. W. Morris be appointed the Council's representatives on the St. Mark's Community Association Council.

34 Arrears—The Borough Treasurer submitted a statement of arrears to the 28th October, amounting to £820 1s. 9d.

35—Nissen Hut--Priors Farm—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Whaddon Community Association stating that in view of the fact that the above Nissen Hut was in a bad state of repair they wished to withdraw their application for this.

36-41 Brighton Road—Application was received from the Post Office Telephones for permission to erect one pole in the garden of No. 41 Brighton Road. RESOLVED, That permission be given, subject to payment of the usual acknowledgment and to the position of the pole being approved by the Borough Surveyor.

37—Brooklyn Gardens--Arle Road—Read letter from Messrs. Western Estates Ltd., submitting names of two prospective purchasers of houses on this estate. RESOLVED, That the proposed purchasers be approved.

38—Revision of Housing Rents—(Min. 1986)—The Borough Treasurer stated that his report on the revision of housing rents was now ready. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Mayor, Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Fisher, Gardner, Strickland and Ward be appointed to consider and report on this matter.

39—Control of Civil Building—Circular R.H. 50 from the Ministry of Health was submitted instructing local authorities that in future no licence for work of conversion, adaptation, or repair, at a cost exceeding £500 should be granted, without prior approval of the Principal Housing Officer. The present supply of timber was inadequate and applications for special approval should be restricted to exceptional cases. Even if total cost did not exceed £500 careful consideration should be given to economising on materials in short supply.

Conversion and adaptation work should only be licensed where additional family units of accommodation would be provided and when applications for approval to issue licences exceeding £500 were considered by the Principal Housing Officer, the cost would be related to the number of additional family units to be provided.

40—Hesters Way Estate—(i) Compulsory Purchase Order—The Town Clerk reported that the Hesters Way Compulsory Purchase Order had now been confirmed by the Minister of Health without modification.

(ii) Uncultivated Land—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the War Agricultural Executive Committee expressing concern over the derelict state of the land at Hesters Way owned by Mr. Pye which was included in the Compulsory Purchase Order. The Town Clerk had informed the Committee that the Council had not yet acquired the land under the Order which had only recently been confirmed and had asked them whether they would be able to arrange for the land to be cultivated in the event of the Ministry of Health not being prepared to allow further building next year.

(iii) Site for public house--The Borough Surveyor submitted application from Messrs. Flower & Sons, Ltd., for a public house site on this estate. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned until a later date.

41-36 Hungerford Street—The Town Clerk submitted application from Mr. H. D. F. of 36 Hungerford Street for an advance under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts to purchase this house which he occupied. The purchase price was £425 and the purchaser desired an advance of £300. The Borough Surveyor submitted his report on the property which he valued at £525. RESOLVED, That an advance on mortgage of £300 be made at interest at the rate of 2 ¼ % repayable within a period of 15 years, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage.

42—Housing Programme 1947/8—Read, Circular 160/47 from the Ministry of Health referring to the statement of the Government's proposals regarding the housing programme for 1947/48. 260,000 permanent houses were now in course of construction, with 90,000 more under contract, and it was anticipated that more houses would be finished in 1948 than in 1947. Timber imports must be restricted, the effect on the housing programme being that the number of houses which could be completed in 1949 might not be more than 140,000. It was important to complete quickly houses on which an effective start had already been made, and also minor works which prevented the houses from being occupied.

The importance of a balanced programme was stressed and available resources must be concentrated on a smaller number of houses so that the number of fresh contracts must be strictly controlled. To this end local authorities were reminded that approval of the Principal Housing Officer was necessary before tenders were invited, and distribution of new contracts between authorities would be related to progress made on existing contracts, due regard being given to the priority for houses for miners, agricultural workers, and key workers in development areas. It appeared that most local authorities had enough work in progress for at least next year, and no further approval should be sought until the available resources were distributed efficiently over houses in course of production.

Permanent aluminium houses were an additional provision for the three classes of workers already mentioned. Existing contracts should be reviewed, any causes of delay removed, organisation and arrangements for super-vision should be overhauled, and it was suggested that three-quarters of the retention money should be paid on completion of individual houses or batches of houses, and the balance at the end of the maintenance period in respect of such houses. The employment of sub-contractors was strongly urged and contractors should be encouraged to adopt targets and bonus rates. The formation of joint production committees should also be considered. Local authorities could ensure even distribution of materials and fittings by the judicious issue of W.B.A., certificates, and issue of licences for repair and maintenance work should be rigorously controlled. It would be necessary for special action to be taken to avoid delays after houses had been plastered in connection

6

with provision of flooring, soil pipes and rain water goods, electrical equipment and grates, and consideration should be given wherever possible to the use of alternatives. In order to avoid delays wide discretion should be given to responsible officers to accept alternatives without waiting for confirmation, and where alternatives were not available the difficulty should be referred to the Regional Progress Officer. The Borough Surveyor reported that most of the instructions contained in the circular had been anticipated, and were already adopted, the Progress Officer being notified of

every delay. Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell, had already intimated that they would be prepared to institute a bonus scheme, but at that time such a system had not been approved by the building trade. With regard to sub-contracting, the Council had already agreed to this wherever possible at Lynworth Estate. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor approach the contractors at present erecting houses for the Council and ascertain their proposals regarding the implementing of the Government's suggestions concerning targets, bonus schemes, and joint production committees.

43—Lynworth Farm Estate—" No Fines" Houses—(i) Sub-Soil—The Borough Surveyor reported that whilst excavations for these houses were in progress, patches of bad ground were found. Messrs. Wimpey suggested that the ground should be tested before proceeding and 5 bore holes were made and samples of the sub-soil tested. Small traces of peat were found in one boring, but otherwise foundation conditions were satisfactory. The foundations for the houses on the unsatisfactory site had been widened and reinforced and in other cases the standard foundation was considered satisfactory. Messrs. Wimpey would be making a charge for carrying out these tests. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved, and the cost of the tests met in due course.

(ii) Canteen facilities—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wimpey had approached the St. Margaret's Civic Restaurant who had offered to supply hot meals at 1s 4d each provided they could be collected. The contractors estimated that the initial cost of small equipment for not more than 40 men would be £26 0. 0. including containers and provision of crockery. In addition, cost of transport was estimated at £4 10. 0. per week and collection of money, serving meals, washing-up, etc., would be £2 0s. 0d. per week. This would mean that the cost to the Council of such a service would be approximately £7 5s. 0d. per week for 40 men. So far labour employed on the site was chiefly local, and no request had yet been made for the provision of mid-day meals, but as it was anticipated that imported labour would be necessary, Messrs. Wimpey had asked for permission to introduce such facilities when circumstances warranted it. RESOLVED, That permission be given when sufficient demand for the service justifies the same.

44-20 Kipling Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted final account for the rebuilding of 20 Kipling Road, amounting to £1,372 6s. 7d. He had inspected the house and considered that the work was satisfactory and recommended that the retention monies of £82 6s. 7d. be paid. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

45—Building Apprenticeship Scheme—It was reported that a meeting was to be held in London at which a number of Supervising Officers and Apprentice masters would attend to discuss the future of Apprenticeship Schemes. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to attend.

46—Rowanfield Road Estate—Roads and Sewers—As instructed the Borough Surveyor now submitted detailed reports on the two lowest tenders received for the construction of roads and sewers on this estate. He had now had an opportunity of inspecting work carried out by Messrs. Willment Ltd., who had submitted the lowest tender, and considered it generally satisfactory. They had intimated, however, that they had not included a sum to provide for contingencies in respect of payments for subsistence allowance, travelling, etc., for imported labour. They wished to increase their tender by £6,750 to include a sufficient sum for this purpose. The Borough Surveyor also reported that Messrs. Willment, Ltd., had based their tender on a type of brick which was cheaper than that included in the tender of Messrs. Hadsphaltic Construction Company. Whilst these bricks were not high quality engineering bricks, it was considered that they would be good enough for the purpose if they could be obtained in sufficient quantities. In that event an allowance would also have to be made on the tender of Messrs. Hadsphaltic Construction Company, Ltd. After these adjustments had been made in both contracts, the final position was that the lowest tender

providing for concrete roads was that of The Hadsphaltic Construction Co. Ltd., amounting to £100,473 16s. 7d. The Borough Surveyor therefore recommended that this tender be accepted. RESOLVED (a), That the tender of The Hadsphaltic Construction Co. Ltd., for the construction of roads and sewers amounting to £100,473 16s. 7d. (being the lowest), be accepted subject to contract and bond being entered into.

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the acceptance of this tender, and consent to a loan of £100,474.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £100,474 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and periodical receipts for instalments.

47—Alma Road and Warden Hill Road Site—(a) Compulsory Purchase Order—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that the Minister intended to confirm the Order with three small modifications. RESOLVED, That as soon as copies of the confirmed Order are received, the Town Clerk do give the statutory Notices to treat and fourteen days' notice of entry so that the site may be handed over to the Contractors with as little delay as possible.

(b) The Borough Surveyor had prepared a layout for 206 bungalows which had been forwarded to the Ministry of Health and the Town Clerk now submitted letter from the Ministry that the layout was generally considered to be satisfactory with one or two minor adjustments. The Council would be informed if it was possible to allocate them a further three bungalows.

Plans were being prepared for the gas, electricity and water services and the finished plans should be in the Contractors' hands by the beginning of December.

(c) Outfall Sewer—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Ministry of Health had requested that the cross sectional area of the outfall sewer pipes should be enlarged. An amended design was accordingly being prepared.

(d) Wood Grange—The Town Clerk submitted District Valuer's valuation of this bungalow, and paddock, amounting to £3,500. The bungalow had been inspected by the Education Officer and would be suitable for conversion into an infant school. RESOLVED, That purchase price be approved and that the Common Seal be affixed to the conveyance.

7

48-Gas Appliances—Letter was submitted from Cheltenham and District Gas Company increasing the price of supplying and fixing wash boilers from £3 2s. 6d. to £3 10s. 0d. per house, RESOLVED, That increased price be paid.

49—The Knole Estate —All the bungalows on this site had been handed over and an inspection had revealed several defects. It had now been agreed with the Ministry of Supply that certain defects should be made good under maintenance at their expense, but many of the defects were not held to be the responsibility of any party concerned. RESOLVED, That if the defects are not remedied before the expiry of the maintenance period. the attention of the Ministry be drawn again thereto, and that, in the meantime, the tenants permitted to carry out improvements.

50—St. Mark's Community Centre—The Borough Surveyor submitted an estimate amounting to £195 10. 0. for work at the Centre, including removal of gun sites, shelter sites, car stand at rear and concrete floor of Nissen hut, levelling and relaying paving. The Town Clerk reported that the Council

had agreed to carry out this work when the site had been handed over by the War Department. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out this work accordingly.

51—Prospect Villa, Folly Lane—The Borough Surveyor submitted tenders from Messrs. Trigg Bros., being the lowest, for carrying out repairs and providing water supply to this house. The tender, including bath and gas geyser amounted to £238 15s. 0d. and excluding these, £197 13s. 6d. RESOLVED, That the tender of £238 15s. 0d. be accepted, and that the Town Clerk ascertain the extent of the tenant's liability under his tenancy agreement.

52—The Granleys—Read, letter from the tenant of this house asking for the outbuildings and drains to be inspected. An inspection had revealed that repairs were necessary to the roofs to the larder, store and coalhouse, and the Borough Surveyor suggested that the good slates be stripped from the coalhouse to repair the other roofs, the coalhouse being then covered with corrugated iron. The estimated cost of carrying out the work was £42. It was suspected that tree roots had entered the drain pipes but no inspection had yet been made. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out repairs to the roofs and inspect and repair the house drains.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **ELECTRICITY COMMITTEE.**

**11th November, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Smith and Waite ; Councillors Bendall, Bettridge, Carter, Irving, Mann, Midwinter, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker and Readings.

53—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

54—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Readings be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

55—I.M.E.A.—(Min. 2175)—The Town Clerk reported that the General Purposes Committee were of the opinion that this Association should be reconstituted and continue in any event to operate during the transitional period but were unable to offer any opinion on a long-term policy, this being dependant upon the action taken by the Association of Municipal Corporations. He submitted circular from the Association of Municipal Corporations stating that it had been decided to keep in being the special Sub-Committee formed to deal with the Electricity Act, 1947 which had kept a close watch on the interests of members as the Bill went through Parliament. Members were therefore asked to refer to this Sub-Committee any difficulties in connection with the transfer of property or other assets or the taking-over of liabilities, in order that assistance could be given. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that a proposal had been put forward for the I.M.E.A. to be reconstituted so that it would consist of members of consultative Councils set up under the Act, and members of district committees set up by the consultative Councils. Since 50% of the members of consultative Councils would be members of local authorities this would ensure adequate representation of existing local authority undertakings. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend the special meet-ing to discuss this project and support the proposal.

56—Certification of Meters—(Min. 1713)—Read, circular from the Electricity Commissioners that it was now obligatory for meters installed on the premises of all consumers to be certified. Any meters fixed after the 1st August, 1943, which were not yet certified were not now legally appropriate meters for registering the value of supply. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that all meters now in use were certified except those which were in use before the Electricity Supply (Meters) Act, 1936, which were deemed to have been certified, but must be changed before 1952.

57-British Standards Institution-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported a request from the General Council of the Institution asking for an increase in the subscription. In 1945 the annual subscription had been raised from two guineas to five guineas per annum, and he now recommended that it should be further increased to seven guineas per annum. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

58-20,000th Consumer-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the 20,000th consumer had now been connected, and reminded the Committee that they had agreed to make a small presentation in this case. It was suggested that this presentation should take the form of an electric fire and electric toaster, the cost of which would be approximately £4 18s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that the Mayor be asked to make the presentation.

8

59—Contractors' Discount—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that under the Showroom Traders' Scheme a total discount of £208 1s. 9d. was distributed for the year ended 31st March, 1947. Discount at the rate of 7 ½ % on the trade discount of all apparatus purchased by the Corporation and sold in the showroom was pay-able to electrical contractors who were members of the Cheltenham E.D.A. Circle. Additional sums were payable to contractors in respect of sales of apparatus sent into the showroom by them, the total value of these sales being £40 6s. 10d.

60—Electricity Showroom—(Min. 2324)—The Committee considered the Council's decision that the Electricity Showroom should be transferred to Southwood. The Borough Electrical Engineer reminded the Committee that when Southwood was purchased it was then agreed that the proper place for the showroom was in the centre of the town. He pointed out that the main purpose of the showroom was not to show electrical goods, but firstly it was the Department's enquiry office for arranging new connections, disconnections, or extensions ; secondly for giving advice on electrical matters to the public ; thirdly for arranging repairs to hired or consumers' apparatus ; lastly for technical enquiries in relation to accounts and consumption. The following figures gave some idea of the number and types of such enquiries dealt with in this showroom in the past twelve months :—

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Complaints re apparatus    | 2442       |
| Meter Readings             | 1374       |
| Complaints re meters       | 1325       |
| No supply                  | 402        |
| New supplies               | 283        |
| General enquiries          | 39         |
| Street Lighting complaints | 40         |
| Service complaints         | 41         |
| Back calls                 | <u>105</u> |
|                            | 6051       |

As more than half of the enquiries had been dealt with without further action being required and no record kept he estimated that not less than 12,000 people had found it necessary to visit the showroom during the past twelve months and he considered that particularly for members of the public who had no telephone, it would be a serious hardship to require them to go to Southwood.

The showroom also acted as an educational centre to educate the public as to the proper and most economical way to use apparatus and if these activities were to be carried out effectively, he considered it necessary for the showroom to be situated on a central site. In effect the showroom

was primarily a service centre, and in fact, many undertakings in other parts of the country called the showroom the Electricity Service Centre.

The Borough Treasurer stated that he felt sure that the Finance Committee would be quite willing for space to be given in the central cash collection office to be housed in the present showroom for one or two members of the Borough Electrical Engineer's staff to enable them to deal with enquiries and complaints. RESOLVED, (a) That the Borough Electrical Engineer give up possession of the Electricity Showroom not later than the end of November. (b) That the Finance Committee be recommended to agree to space in the central cash collection being made available for one or two members of the Electricity Department's staff for the purpose of dealing with enquiries. (c) That the Committee were still of the opinion that it was desirable that a service centre should be provided on a central site and that the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to make enquiries with a view to seeing if any suitable shop property could be obtained.

61—Maximum Demand Alarm—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Central Electricity Board recommended the installation of a special meter to give an immediate indication of the instantaneous demand on the system to prevent unnecessary shedding of load. The present meter facilities at Hester's Way Sub-station only indicate a demand averaged over half an hour and the Borough Electrical Engineer had therefore ordered a meter of a special type recently developed at a cost of £140, delivery of which had been promised for this month. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted and that the cost be met from surplus revenue.

62—Southwood—It was reported that the building licence had now been received for the remaining work at Southwood. already authorised by the Committee. Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell's estimate of £958 16s. 10d. for principal re-decoration to the main building had been exceeded by £125 11s. 6d. of which £53 10s. 0d. had been authorised for a partition to form a Records Office (Min. 1716). This left £72 1s. 6d. outstanding. The estimate of £358 15s. 0d. for alterations and re-decorations to the caretaker's flat had been exceeded by £15 4s. 7d. so that the total over expenditure on the two contracts was £87 6s. 1 d. £1,223 12s. 0d. had already been paid on account, and the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the final account of £234 15s. 11d. be paid. RESOLVED, (a) That the final account of £234 15s. lid, be paid ;

(b) That £53 10s. 0d. authorised by Min. 1716, be charged to revenue ;

(c) That £87 6s. 1d. over expenditure be charged to the suspense account pending settlement of the dilapidations claim.

63—Gasworks Reciprocal Supply Agreement—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Cheltenham and District Gas Company intended to install more electrical machinery, and proposed to use waste heat for generating electricity. Supplies of electricity would be required from the electricity undertaking at certain times of the day, while at other times surplus electricity would be available which the Gas Company would be prepared to sell to the undertaking. It was recommended that supplies should be sold to the Gas Company at the normal contract rate tariff and supplies purchased from them at a lower price than at present paid for the undertaking's bulk supply, with no fixed or maximum demand charge to be made. The Gas Company would be required to pay the Council for being prepared to give a standby supply by the normal maximum demand charge, less the maximum demand charge paid to the bulk suppliers, the magnitude of the stand-by supply to be previously agreed. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved, and that the Gas

Company be informed that the Committee were prepared to negotiate an agreement on the above mentioned basis.

9

64-Staff—(a) Trainee draughtsman,—Mr. R. A. Barker had been appointed to this position, at a salary in accordance with the General Division. The appointment was subject to the completion of indentures to be prepared by the Town Clerk and it was recommended that the Council should pay the Technical College fee for the trades' course which he was taking. RESOLVED, That these proposals be approved.

(b) Telephones—(i) The Rural Development Engineer, who was provided by the Department with a telephone, had changed his address. RESOLVED, That the telephone be transferred to this Engineer's new address.

(ii) It was desirable that the Borough Development Engineer should be provided with a telephone, and this would now be possible, as a result of a recent Post Office extension. RESOLVED, That the telephone be provided at this Officer's home address.

(c) Typewriter--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it had been necessary for him to loan to the office his own typewriter owing to the inability of the existing machines to meet the demands made upon them. RESOLVED, That a hire charge of 10s per week be paid in respect of this machine. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Borough Electrical Engineer approach the Borough Treasurer as to the possibility of borrowing a machine from his Department.

65—Switch Gear Erectors—In view of the large amount of switch gear to be erected in the near future, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that two members of his Department should be trained by Messrs. Reyrolle & Co., in this work. This would effect a considerable saving to the undertaking since the training would be free of charge, and the expense to the Department would only be travelling expenses and lodging allowance. The two trainees concerned were Messrs. R. Taylor and W. C. R. Hunt, and it was recommended that one should be trained in January, 1948, and the other later on in the year. RESOLVED, That these proposals be approved, and that 50s per week be allowed provisionally as lodging allowance, this sum to be reconsidered by the Committee if found to be inadequate.

66—Loan Sanction for Apparatus—The Electricity Commissioners in April, 1946, had authorised the undertaking to spend £10,000 surplus revenue for the purchase of consumers' electrical apparatus for use in existing premises under the hire purchase scheme or on simple hire. This amount had now been exhausted, and it was recommended that in view of the numerous applications received, application be made for consent to borrow £10,000 for consumers' apparatus during the next 12 months, made up as follows :—

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Cookers       | £5,000 |
| Water Heaters | £3,000 |
| Wash Boilers  | £1,000 |
| Kettles       | £1,000 |

RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to loan of £10,000 for this purpose. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £10,000, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.



67-Unspecified Mains and Services-(a) The Town Clerk reported with regard to the application recently made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to loan of £20,000 for unspecified mains and service works ; the Commissioners had now given their consent to the borrowing of £15,434 for this purpose, as they were not satisfied that in the prevailing conditions the Council required the full amount applied for which was estimated to cover expenditure up to 31st March, 1948. The Commissioners regarded it as unsatisfactory that the Council should have incurred expenditure on mains and services in excess of loans sanctioned for the purpose. In view of the restriction in the amount authorised to be spent on unspecified works, the Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that certain priority works already authorised by the Committee and scheduled to be met out of unspecified loans, should now be made the subject of application to the Electricity Commissioners for approval as specified works as follows :-

|                                     |  |              |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Temporary Bungalows, The Knole      | £687 0 0                                   | Min. 975/47  |
| Supply to New Estate, New Barn Lane | £237 12 0                                  | Min. 510/47  |
| Housing Estate, Shurdington         | £1,209 14 5                                | Min. 314/46  |
| Stroud Road, Birdlip                | £280 0 0                                   | Min. 1723/47 |
| Change-over, Evesham Road           | £1,186 2 2                                 | Min. 1396/46 |
| Priory Lane, Bishop's Cleeve        | £586 0 0                                   | Min. 858/46  |
| Lypiatt Road Changeover             | £435 0 0                                   | Min. 1718/47 |
| Woodmancote                         | £314 10 6                                  | Min. 1894/46 |
|                                     | (plus £147 9s. 9d. to be met from revenue) |              |

RESOLVED, (i) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a specified loan of £5,340 for these works.

(ii) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £5,340, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt. (b) Included in the above mentioned sanction of £15,434 was a sum of £4,000 for prospective expenditure on unspecified mains and services as from 1st April, 1947. Up to 30th September last, the sum of £3,681 had already been expended and in addition a sum of £921 had also been spent on the specified works referred to in (a) above. Further schemes at an estimated cost of £8,041 had also received the approval of the Council. If the Commissioners agreed to issue loan sanction for the above mentioned specified works there would remain an unspent balance of £319 as at 30th September last on that portion of the loan (namely £4,000) sanctioned for prospective expenditure. The estimated cost of future works already approved as being charge-able to the unspecified loan amounted to £2,701 and further schemes costing £341 were being considered. The Borough Electrical Engineer therefore recommended that application be made to the Commissioners for sanction to a further loan of £5,000 for unspecified mains and services. RESOLVED, (i) That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of. £5,000 for unspecified mains and services.

(ii) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said suns of £5,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

(iii) That the Borough Electrical Engineer be instructed not to incur any further capital expenditure wiles, loan sanction has been obtained except that work be not held up which would involve delay in provision of houses.

68—Re-laying of 11,000 volt Cables—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the work of replacing defective 11,000 volt cables and laying small pilot cables in the same trench had now been completed. While the Company who supplied the cables had offered to replace them free of charge and bear the cost of excavation and reinstatement subject to the Council paying a part of the cost of the existing cables in proportion to the years of use already obtained to the normal expected life, it had been decided to relay with a cable of larger cross section and to take advantage of the ground being opened to lay small pilot cables in the same trench to improve the protective system and provide channels of communication between sub-stations, the extra cost to be borne by the Council. The items which now fell to be paid by the Council amounted to £5,000. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £5,000 for carrying out this work. RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £5,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

69—Application for Supply—(a) The Borough Electrical Engineer reported an application for supply and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. (b) Supply to Dairy and Cardboard Factory— (Min. 857/46)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reminded the Committee that it had originally been agreed to give a supply to the above factory on condition that Messrs. Grellier contributed £30 to the cost of service cable and guaranteed an annual revenue of £350 per annum. Since it was now proposed to open another factory in the area the Borough Electrical Engineer proposed that the guaranteed annual revenue should be reduced to £100 per annum. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

70—Wimpey " No Fines " Houses—Four tenders were submitted for carrying out the wiring for " five points " scheme in the 106 Wimpey " No Fines houses to be erected on the Lynworth Farm Estate. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. John Hearson & Co., Ltd., amounting to £1,129 3s. 0d. being the lowest, be accepted subject to contract.

71—Interruptions of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported two interruptions of supply during the month.

72—Billing Machine—(Min. 2325)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had approached various prospective purchasers with a view to selling this machine. Although no definite arrangements had yet been made, it appeared that the machine would be satisfactorily disposed of.

73—District Councils—The representatives of the Council on the District Joint Industrial Council, District Joint Board, and District Joint Committee were due to retire at the end of the year, and further nominations were necessary for the following year. RESOLVED, That the Chairman be nominated to represent the Council on the District Joint Committee, and the Borough Electrical Engineer on the District Joint Industrial Council and District Joint Board.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**13th November, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Green and Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bishop, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter and Waite.

74—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Green be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

75—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Mann be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

76—Visitors—The following were appointed visitors for the ensuing year :—

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Agg Gardner Recreation Ground             | Councillors Addis and Midwinter.                        |
| Naunton Park Recreation Ground            | Alderman Green and Councillor Mann.                     |
| Montpellier Gardens                       | The Mayor and Councillor Mann.                          |
| Whaddon Road and Clyde Recreation Grounds | Aldermen Green and Smith.                               |
| Sandford Park ...                         | The Mayor and Alderman Green.                           |
| St. Mark's                                | Alderman Smith and Councillor Waite.                    |
| Pittville Gardens ...                     | Alderman Smith and Councillor Addis.                    |
| Hatherley Park ...                        | Alderman Smith and Councillor Bishop.                   |
| St. Peter's                               | Councillors Bishop and Midwinter.                       |
| Athletic Ground and Victory Sports Ground | Aldermen Green and Smith, Councillors Jewell and Waite. |

77—Inspection of Parks and Recreation Grounds—On 29th October an inspection was made of a number of parks and recreation grounds. Present—Aldermen Green (Chairman) and Smith, Councillors Addis and Compton. RESOLVED :—

(a) Agg Gardner Recreation Ground.

(i) To remove ivy from conveniences adjoining main entrance.

(ii) To repair giant strides and reinstate tar macadam surrounding playground equipment.

(iii) Gardens Superintendent to undertake reinstatement work to the rugby pitch.

(iv) To develop vacant land between houses in Marle Hill Road, purchased for a pedestrians' entrance, similar to the High Street entrance to Sandford Park with a small rest garden.

(The estimated cost of (ii) was £73 5s. 9d., provision for which was excluded from the estimates.)

11

(b) Marle Hill Annexe--That the Gardens Superintendent's proposals for the development of the mill stream into a rock garden be approved, that a blue bell dell be planted on the surrounding grass area and that the large decayed tree be felled.

(c) Pittville Gardens—That the Gardens Superintendent's proposals for the development of the rockery near Evesham Road bridge be approved, including the felling of three lime trees.

(d) Clyde Crescent—To prevent further damage to the Pavilion roof, that the wings to the conveniences on either side be increased in height and moulded cement placed on top.

(e) Naunton Park.

(i) To reinstate footpath at the Park entrance.

(ii) To tidy and repair shelter in the ornamental portion.

(iii) To remove bench seats between the poplar avenue and the playing field to remedy complaints of danger to players on the rugby pitch, additional movable seats to be provided.

(f) Pilley Recreation Ground.

(i) To remove boundary hedge between the footpath and the ground.

(ii) That further efforts be made to purchase, or lease, the site for an open space, and in this event provision be included in the estimates for surface reinstatement.

(g) King George V Playing Field.

(i) RESOLVED, That the main entrance to this playing field, consideration of which was deferred pending the layout of the Rowanfield Housing Estate, be sited in Brooklyn Road, and that the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent submit suitable gate designs.

(ii) That the Town Clerk make further efforts to obtain approval from the occupier of 53 Brooklyn Road, to the removal of the untidy boundary hedge between his property and the proposed main entrance to enable a more suitable hedge and railings (5 or 6 feet in height) to be provided.

(h) Pittville Pump Room—Badminton—Application was submitted from Park Lawn Tennis Club to use the Pump Room for Badminton on one evening each week which the Chairman had authorised on similar terms and conditions to the Cotswold Badminton Club. The Chairman's action was confirmed. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

78—Athletic Ground—(a) Girl Guide Rally—RESOLVED, That the application of the Gloucestershire Girl Guides to use this Ground on either 19th or 26th June next be granted subject to the usual charge of £5 and compliance with the usual conditions.

(b) Fencing—The estimated cost of erecting corrugated galvanised sheet iron fencing at the rear of terracing overlooking the bus park was £118 7s. Od., including painting one coat. RESOLVED, That provision be made in next year's estimates.

79—West of England Ladies' Kennel Club-1948 Show—(Min. 1958 [a]/47)—Montpellier Gardens and Athletic Ground were unsuitable and Dean Close Playing Field had now been obtained.

80—Sandford Park—Fish—The Gardens Superintendent reported loss of fish during the nights of 15th to 17th October valued at £200. The loss was now attributed to an otter and promises of 3 dozen fish for replacement had been received.

81—Hatherley Park—Footbridge—The wooden balustrades were rotten and beyond repair. The estimated cost of replacement was £16, for which no provision was made in the estimates. RESOLVED, That this work be put in hand.

82—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—Custodian's House—The chimney stack to this house and corrugated iron roofing of the lean-to required repair at an estimated cost of £14 for which there was no provision in the estimates. RESOLVED, That in view of the stack's condition the Borough Surveyor proceed with repairs.

83—Marle Hill Annexe—Boat House—The Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of installing 5 lighting points and 2 power points, including cable laying, at £92 or £70 excluding trenching. The installation was required to enable repairs and other work to be undertaken in the boat house during the Winter. RESOLVED, That the Electricity Committee be asked to agree to the cost being spread over 5 years and in this event the work be authorised, the Gardens Superintendent undertaking trenching for the cables.

84—Pittville Gardens—Layout in front of Pump Room—(Min. 2155/47)—The Gardens Superintendent re-submitted proposals for this area and explained that from its termination to the lake the length was approximately 108 yards. If an open-air theatre was required, there appeared to be ample space. RESOLVED, That the layout be submitted for the observations of the Entertainments

Sub-Committee and that the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent prepare detailed estimates.

85—Town Hall—Floral Decorations—(Min. 2172/47)—The Entertainments Sub-Committee were informed of the proposals for increasing stocks of flowering plants for improved floral displays. A number of applications for floral displays for private dances and other functions were also being received, and the views of the Committee were asked, including the charges to be made. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent agree with the Entertainments Sub-Committee a suitable charge for such decorations, the Entertainments Sub-Committee adding the cost to be credited to this Committee to the usual hire charge.

86—Cheltenham and District Chrysanthemum Society—Show, 12th and 13th November—RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman in authorising the Gardens Superintendent to stage an exhibit at this Show, be con-firmed.

12

87—Football Season, 1947/48---(a) RESOLVED, That the application of the Brooklyn Wanderers Football Club for the occasional use of a pitch on Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions, including preparation charge. (b) The Federation of Youth Organisations asked for remission of the preparation charge for affiliated clubs, 43 in number. It appeared to the Committee that there were a number of Clubs in a position to pay the charge. RESOLVED, That each case be considered on its merits when applications are submitted.

88—Receipts—The receipts for the 1947 season were reported, namely :—

|                 | 1947      | 1946      |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Boating         | £692 5 0  | £451 18 6 |
| Putting         | £308 14 0 | £101 2 0  |
| Deck Chairs ... | £136 15 9 | £3 0 6    |

89—Use of Recreation Grounds by Schools—(Min. 2167/47)—The Education Committee approved the sum of £552 per annum for the proportionate use of recreation grounds by schools.

90—Water Supplies—The Gardens Superintendent urged supplies to King George V Playing Field, St. Peter's Recreation Ground, and the turf nursery or the laying of cricket squares would be delayed, also the completion of rest garden at St. Peter's. The Borough Surveyor stated that provision was included in the estimates for a supply to the turf nursery, and the cost of the other supplies could be defrayed from the loans to be obtained. Some difficulty however, might be experienced in obtaining tubing but he would endeavour to procure this. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised.

91—Irrigation Equipment—The Gardens Superintendent recommended the purchase of irrigation equipment, at a cost of approximately £85 with delivery four to five months hence, provision being made in the estimates for 1948/9. RESOLVED, That to enable the apparatus to be available for next season, the Finance Committee be asked to sanction the placing of an order.

92—Field Lodge—The amount included in the estimates for maintenance amounted to £40 but the Borough Surveyor had expended £61 8s. 8d. to date due to necessary renewal of window sashes. RESOLVED, That the over expenditure be approved.

93—Priors Farm and Lynworth Farm Estates—The Housing Committee suggested that the Gardens Superintendent should undertake cleaning, seeding and maintenance of two large pieces of land at

the junction of South and Central Avenues which were in bad condition. RESOLVED, That this be approved at the cost of the HOUSING COMMITTEE.

94—Nurseries—Grass Cutting- The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee asked this Committee to make adequate and satisfactory arrangements for regular grass cutting next season. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be instructed accordingly, the cost to be charged to the MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

95—Commons Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society—RESOLVED, That an annual subscription of £5 5s. 0d. be paid to this Society.

96—No. 56 St. Paul's Road—The Borough Surveyor submitted estimate amounting to £367 0s. 6d. for adaptations and decorations to make these premises habitable. They were originally acquired as a residence for a custodian who had now left the Council's employ and it would be for this Committee to decide as to the future allocation of the house to a member of the Parks Department in need of accommodation. Before reoccupation, however, essential work must be undertaken and included in the estimate was a sum of £66 12s. 0d. for converting a small wing bedroom into a bathroom with necessary fittings. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve this expenditure, the accommodation to be allocated to a Parks employee when work was completed. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report on the cost of boarding up the windows of the bakehouse and other minor repairs to enable this building to be let as a garage or store.

97—Staff—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers asked that five employees be paid the appropriate grade as from the commencement of their employment, namely, 1940, 1945, and 1946 (2). In the fifth case the request was for the employee to be placed in the grade he would have reached had he not served with the Forces. The Town Clerk stated that the latter employee during the war attained the age of 21 years and, inadvertently, for some time was not paid the adult basic rate, but this position was adjusted with retrospective payments. He was now paid Grade B rates as an Assistant Gardener. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting when the Committee will have before them the establishment for the Parks Department.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

13

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**14th November, 1947.** Present—The Mayor ; Aldermen Green, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Jewell, Mann, A. L. Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite.

98—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman T. Wilfred Waite be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

99—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

100—Co-option of Members—(a) Chamber of Commerce--The Chamber of Commerce had nominated Messrs. E. Baring and A. M. Palmer for co-option upon this Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council appoint Messrs. Baring and Palmer as co-opted Members.

(b) Hotels and Caterers' Association—The Association suggested the co-option of one of their members, as it was felt that a practical hotelier could justify his or her position on the Committee and strengthen the happy relationship between the two bodies. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be

not entertained as it was considered that the present membership and experience of this Committee is adequate.

101—Appointment of Sub-Committees—

**Entertainments Sub-Committee**—Aldermen Green and Waite, Councillors Bishop, Bush, Mann, A. L. Morris, Readings, Thompson and Waite.

**Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee**—Aldermen Green, Smith and Waite, Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Bush, Carter, Jewell, Mann, Readings and Waite. Dr. R. G. Anderson (co-opted member).

**Playhouse Sub-Committee**—Alderman Smith, Councillors Tucker Brown, Bush, Mann, Readings, Thompson, Waite and Ward, Messrs. F. Mashford, J. Lowley, D. Howell and Miss M. Miles.

**Music Festivals Advisory Committee**—With the concurrence of the members of the Entertainments Sub-Committee present, and to enable the Advisory Committee, as a matter of urgency to present a report, the following were re-appointed for the ensuing year—Councillors Bush, A. L. Morris, Readings and Thompson, Messrs. A. D. Cole, E. Woodward, G. C. Littlewood, C. Hollinshead, E. Baring and H. Chipp.

102—**Entertainments Sub-Committee**—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 29th October (report circulated). RESOLVED :—

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 11—Chrysanthemum and Produce Shows, 1948—On the understanding that the Society do not proceed with arrangements for their September Show and they pay £50 for the Town Hall for dates in November to off-set the loss the Council would sustain, the Entertainments Sub-Committee be recommended to let the Society have the use of the Hall.

(iii) Item 16--Montpellier Pavilion—That the adaptation of this building as a sports and social centre be approved in principle, the Sub-Committee to consider ways and means of carrying out work as and when opportunity occurred so that the building might be used particularly for the service of refreshments, next Summer.

(iv) Item 17—Catering Supervisor—That the position be reviewed six or twelve months.

103—**Music Festivals Advisory Committee**—The Advisory Committee met on 12th November and as matter of urgency, presented their report direct to this Committee (circulated herewith). RESOLVED—

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That the Advisory Committee consider and make recommendations to the Entertainments Sub-Committee upon the possibility of forming a Festival Society, incorporating the suggestion now put forward, for an appeal to the public, particularly local traders, for support.

104—**Conferences**--The report of a further meeting between representatives of the Council and representatives of the Hotels Association on 1st October was submitted (circulated herewith). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

105-Town Hall Dances—Read, letter from Councillor Irving suggesting the withdrawal of the restriction on admission after 10 p.m. and the Entertainments Manager reported thereon. RESOLVED, That no action be taken

106—Information Bureau—Read, letter from the Chamber of Commerce with regard to the proposal of the Hotels and Caterers' Association for the erection of a kiosk in a central position and the suggestion of the Council that, to meet present needs, the Bureau remain open on Saturday afternoons and that more adequate signing be provided. RESOLVED, That the letter be referred to the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

14

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

**12th November, 1947.** Present—Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Carter, Gardner, C. W. Morris and Mudway.

107—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Biggs be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

108—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

109—Standing Sub-Committee—A Standing Sub-Committee consisting of the following members was appointed for the ensuing year : —Alderman Winterbotham, Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Carter, C. Morris, Mudway and Strickland.

110—Housing Act, 1936 (i) 1, Northfield Passage—(Min. 2199)—The representative of the owner attended before the Committee and stated that owing to the present building difficulties, his client was unable to submit proposals for alterations to these premises, but was prepared to undertake that the premises would not be used for human habitation. RESOLVED, That the undertaking be accepted.

(ii) 15 Sherborne Street—Notice of intention to consider the making of a Demolition Order in respect of these premises, had been served. RESOLVED, That the Council being satisfied that the premises were occupied or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, a Demolition Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(iii) Part of premises, 25 Bath Street ; basements —Columbia House, Winchcombe Street ; 1 Pittville Crescent ; Keynsham Villa, High Street ; The Uplands, Malvern Road ; 117 St. George's Road ; 7 Albert Place ; 8 Tivoli Road ; Windsor House, Bayshill Road ; 388a Gloucester Road—Notices of intention to consider the making of Closing Orders in respect of these basements and part of premises have been served. The representatives of the owners of 1 Pittville Crescent and 7 Albert Place attended before the Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the above mentioned part and basements of these premises which were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were not fit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, Orders be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said part and basements of the said buildings for an purpose other than domestic purposes in respect of 1 Pittville Crescent and 7 Albert Place and storage purposes in respect of the remainder.

(iv) Unfit Houses—Relicensing of Premises—Licences for the re-occupation of the under-mentioned premises were renewed until the date set opposite the premises :—



|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 4 Edward Terrace ...  | 18th May, 1948  |
| 11 Edward Street .    | 21st June, 1948 |
| 12 Edward Street ..   | 21st June, 1948 |
| 12 Witcombe Place ... | 12th May, 1948  |
| 13 Witcombe Place     | 19th June, 1948 |

(v) Basement—Elmwood House, Montpellier Street—A Closing Order made on the 15th September, 1947, prohibited the use of this basement except for storage purposes. Application was submitted from Mr. G. G. Savage for permission to use the basement as a ladies hairdressing saloon.

RESOLVED, That subject to the carrying out of such works as may be required by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, permission be given for the use of the basement as a ladies hairdressing saloon, and that Min. 1935/47 be varied accordingly.

111—Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Statutory Notices—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon defects at the following properties :-43 Sun Street ; 285 and 287 Hatherley Road ; 29 Montpellier Terrace ; 45 Townsend Street ; 436 High Street. RESOLVED, That notices be served in pursuance of Sec. 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936 upon the owners of 43 Sun Street ; 29 Montpellier Terrace ; 287 Hatherley Road ; under Sec. 45 upon the owners of 45 Townsend Street ; 285 and 287 Hatherley Road and under Sec. 39 upon the owners of 436 High Street.

(b) Dust Bins—(i) RESOLVED, That notice be served under Sec. 75, of the Public Health, 1936, upon the owner of 19 Glenfall Street, to provide a regulation dust bin.

(ii) The owners of Nos. 88 and 142 Brunswick Street have not complied with the statutory notices to provide regulation dust bins for these premises. RESOLVED, That new dust bins be provided by the Council, and that the Town Clerk recover the cost from the owners.

(iii) 47 Moorend Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owner of these premises had failed to comply with a statutory notice served on the 2nd October, 1947 in respect of certain defects. RESOLVED That the Town Clerk institute legal proceedings to secure compliance.

(ii) Camping Sites—Hathurstfield Farm and the Bungalow, Gloucester Road ; Priors Farm Whaddon Estate-- RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. W. P. Davis, Hathurstfield Farm, and Mr. H. Davis, The Bungalow, Gloucester Road, for the renewal of their camping site licences be approved until the 31st October, 1948 but that the application of Mr. C. G. White in respect of Priors Farm be refused.

(iii) Smoke Abatement—(a) Victoria Cabinet Works—As a result of a complaint of smoke nuisance inspections of these works have been carried out. The owner had taken steps to eliminate any nuisance but the principal cause of complaint appeared to relate to the factory working 24 hours a day. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at the present but that the premises be kept under observation.

15

(b) Crooks Laundry—Further complaints were received of smoke nuisance. The owners were awaiting the installation of a grit arrestor, which it was considered would eliminate any nuisance.

(c) Damman Factory—Complaint was submitted from Mr. A. W. S. Cook of Tewkesbury Road of dust nuisance caused by the above factory. RESOLVED, That the Standing Sub-Committee be requested to inspect the factory.

112—Sewer--132, 134 and 136 Swindon Road—It had been necessary to cleanse the sewer at these premises for which the Council were responsible, and which had become blocked, at a cost of £10. 1s. 7d. The stoppage was apparently caused by children throwing articles into the sewer by means of a defective manhole.

113—Institute of Sewage Purification—Annual Conference—RESOLVED, That no representatives be appointed to attend this conference in London.

114—Diphtheria Immunisation—Trailer Film—The Ministry of Health has intimated that a new trailer film in support of the Immunisation Campaign was now available. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health take such action as he may deem advisable.

115—Water Analyses—The Medical Officer of Health reported upon samples of water taken from various sources in the Borough, all of which were satisfactory.

116—Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-1938--Samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms all of which were satisfactory.

117—Health Department—Furniture—Additional office accommodation had now been allocated to the Health Department and additional office furniture was required. RESOLVED, That the following be purchased : two desks; two typists chairs 1 filing cabinet, at an estimated total cost of £75.

118—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) Reports of the Public Analyst were submitted shewing that samples Nos. 948-972 (Milk, butter, coffee, vinegar, sausages and other commodities), were genuine.

(ii) Ice-cream Premises-18 Hope Street—Mr. Tomasso applied for an extension of the period which he was given to carry out certain works. It was understood from the Licensing Officer that the building licence for the construction of the new preparation room would be issued this week. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

119—Hayden Sewage Works—Sludge Beds—(Min. 1465/47)—(a) RESOLVED, That the tender of Mr. Reg Towell of £6,009 14s. 11d. (being the lowest) for the provision of 26 new sludge beds, be accepted, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that this figure together with the sum of £100 required for preparatory work, and the other installations and work mentioned in Min. 1465 now amounted to a total of £8,770. 14s. 11d. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Minister of Health for sanction to a loan of £8,770. 14s. 11d. to cover this cost and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £8,770. 14s. 11d. and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and form of receipt. ALSO RESOLVED, That Min. 1465 be varied accordingly.

120—Shurdington Trunk Sewer—(Min. 1950)—The Borough Surveyor reported upon his attendance at the Ministry of Health in connection with the construction of the Shurdington Trunk Sewer. A Scheme had also been submitted by the Cheltenham Rural District Council for dealing with the sewage in their area, but the Minister considered the Borough Scheme, which incorporated both areas, a better one. It was recommended by the Ministry that the sewer should provide six times dry weather flow and not three times as provided in the proposed scheme, but if the size of the sewer was increased by three inches in diameter from manhole No. 7 to the Hatherley Outfall this would be considered satisfactory. The proposed amendment would involve an extra cost of £598. 1s. 9d. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that application be made to the Minister of Health for sanction to a loan of £18,165. 4s. 2d. to cover the cost of the original proposal and the cost of the

additional work recommended by the Ministry of Health, and that application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage of £18,165 4s. 2d. and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage order and form of receipt. ALSO RESOLVED, That Min. 1950 be varied accordingly.

121—New Houses, Hewlett Road—(Min. 1274/47)—Mr. W. Bullingham had now completed the work of constructing separate drains to these houses and after allowance for the provision of labour, had paid the amount agreed.

122—Public Conveniences—Montpellier—The Borough Surveyor reported that only an average of four persons daily used the wash and brush-up facilities at the Conveniences and the cost of providing the hot water supply was far in excess of the revenue received. RESOLVED, That the provision of a hot water supply at these conveniences be discontinued.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

16

### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**13th November, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Mann, A. L. Morris and C. W. Morris; Mrs. Atherton; Majors Beale-Browne, Mitchell and Shakspeare ; Mr. Clegg.

14th November, 1947. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall and Mann.

123—Chairman—RESOLVED, That The Deputy Mayor be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

124—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bayliss be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

125—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Min. 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relation to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                | Description   | Recommendation under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|---------------------|---|---|---|
| 6064        | A. J. Keen          | Kitchenette and bathroom, 29 Selkirk Street         | Approved subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector | Approved until 31st December, 1960. Site in proposed redevelopment area.                          |
| 6125        | D. H. Ross          | Extension of cycle shed, Exempt 55 Brooklyn Gardens |   | Approved.   |
| 6262        | Rev, J. K. Johnston | Detached House, Beaufort Road                       | Approved  | Approved subject to amended elevations and to specification of external materials being submitted |

to and approved by the Committee.

|       |                                    |   |  |   |
|-------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 6277  | B. Gregory                         | Repair yard and lock-up garages,<br>Millbrook Street          | Approved   | Approved for a period of 10 years from date of consent. Site in proposed re-development area.   |
| 6277a | B. Gregory                         | Filling station,<br>Great Western Road                        | Approved subject to submission and approval of application for a petrol installation | Approved as in Plan No. 6277.   |
| 6280  | G. Huntriss                        | Garage, Leckhampton Lodge, Moorend Park Road                  | Exempt   | Approved subject to preservation of tree.   |
| 6281  | J. T. Simmons                      | Garage, 20 Mead Road  | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6282  | Mrs. P. Gillman                    | Garage,<br>Onchan, Hall Road                                  | Exempt   | Disapproved.  |
| 6283  | H. J. Haskins                      | Cycle and tool shed,<br>17 Brooklyn Gardens                   | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6284  | Stroud Brewery Co. Ltd.            | Internal alterations, Lansdown Inn, Gloucester Road           | Approved as in Plan No. 6064   | Approved.   |
| 6285  | Cheltenham Electricity Undertaking | Alterations,<br>Southwood.<br>Lypiatt Road                    | Approved as in Plan No. 6064   | Approved subject to new windows being of same type, design and materials as the existing windows, and to all new work harmonising with the existing building. |
| 6286  | C. J. Herbert                      | Garage, Rossendale,<br>Eldorado Road                          | Approved   | Approved.   |
| 6287  | K. Wadley                          | Conversion of<br>Haverstock, Eldorado Crescent into two flats | Approved as in Plan No. 6064   | Approved.   |
| 6288  | Cheltenham Ladies College          | Garage, Cambray House, Western Road                           | Exempt   | Disapproved.  |
| 6289  | S. W. Jenkins                      | Block of three flats,<br>Montpellier Villas                   | Disapproved  | Disapproved.  |
| 6290  | H. Eager                           | Garage, Gainsford,<br>303 Gloucester Road                     | Exempt   | Approved.   |
| 6291  | Cheltenham Old Peoples Housing     | Alterations, Fairhavens,<br>Pittville Circus Road             | Approved as in Plan No. 6064   | Approved as in Plan No. 6285.   |

|      |                                |   |                                 |                                  |
|------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|      | Society                        |   |                                 |                                  |
| 6292 | Sharpe & Fisher<br>(1924) Ltd. | Conversion of<br>28 Clarence Square<br>into three flats | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6064 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6285. |

17

| No. of Plan | Name                                       | Description                                       | Recommendation under Byelaws  | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--|---|---|---|
| 6293        | L. W. Barnard & Partners                   | Extensions,<br>12 Halland Road.                   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6064   | Approved subject to the<br>new work harmonising<br>with the existing building.                                      |
| 6294        | J. Gilbert                                 | Garage, 78 Priors Road                            | Exempt  | Approved.   |
| 6295        | Dowty Equipment Ltd.                       | Nissen hut,<br>Royal House,<br>Montpellier Street | Approved subject to<br>roof water being<br>drained to existing<br>rain water system | Approved for a period<br>three years from the<br>date of consent.   |
| 6296        | F. E. Rayner                               | Extensions,<br>63 Charlton Lane                   | Disapproved   | Disapproved.  |
| 6297        | W. Ryan                                    | Alterations, Morecote,<br>West Drive              | Approved  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6293.  |
| 6298        | Western Estates Ltd.                       | Garage,<br>9 Oxford Parade                        | Approved subject to<br>doors opening<br>inwards                                     | Approved.   |
| 6299        | Miss Norman                                | Additions,<br>26 Byron Road                       | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6064   | Approved.   |
| 6300        | Cheltenham<br>Agricultural<br>Traders Ltd. | Grain store,<br>Cleeveland Street                 | Approved  | Approved for the period<br>expiring 31st December,<br>1951, as the site is in a<br>proposed re-development<br>area. |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of Plan | Name       | Description          | Recommendation under Interim Development Order |
|-------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| T.P.2371    | R. Shipway | Proposed greenhouse, | Approved.                                      |

|          |                                      |   |  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
|          |                                      | The Leys, Bishops Cleeve  |  |
| T.P.2384 | E. J. Cayford                        | Proposed additions,<br>Granna Farm, Gotherington  | Approved.  |
| T.P.2385 | F. Evans                             | Proposed bungalow,<br>Merecombes Lane, Gotherington   | Approved.  |
| T.P.2386 | Cheltenham Rural<br>District Council | Revised layout of Council<br>Housing Estate, Bishops Cleeve   | Deferred.  |
| T.P.2387 | J. Bentley                           | Proposed Porch, Portreath,<br>Sandy Lane, Charlton Kings  | Approved.  |
| T.P.2388 | H. C. Jones                          | Greenhouse, Windahar, Little<br>Herberts Road, Charlton Kings   | Approved.  |
| T.P.2389 | Cheltenham Original<br>Brewery       | Ladies Conveniences,<br>Duke of York Inn,<br>London Road, Charlton Kings  | Approved.  |
| T.P.2390 | E. Lloyd Jones                       | Conversion of The Close,<br>London Road, Charlton Kings,<br>into three flats  | Approved.  |
| T.P.2391 | Mrs. V. Parker                       | Re-erection of existing but for<br>use as a poultry house and<br>fruit store. Darks Farm,<br>Noverton Lane, Prestbury | Approved.  |
| T.P.2392 | Bishops Cleeve<br>Parish Council     | Proposed bus shelter,<br>Bishops Cleeve   | Approved.  |
| T.P.2393 | Hon. Secretary,<br>S. Smith & Sons   | Rifle Range, Proposed rifle range,<br>The Grange, Bishops Cleeve  | Approved.  |
| T.P.2394 | A. J. T. Booy                        | Two prefabricated steel<br>greenhouses, Tuskar House,<br>Cheltenham Road, Bishops Cleeve                              | Approved.  |
| T.P.2395 | J. S. Chandler                       | Extensions to garage,<br>Gretton Garage, Gretton,<br>Nr. Winchcombe   | Approved for a period of 5<br>years from date of consent<br>the proposed extension is in<br>front of the building line.      |
| T.P.2396 | W. J. Elliott                        | Proposed packing shed and store,<br>Kidnappers Lane, Leckhampton  | Approved subject to the hut<br>being removed at the owners<br>expense if the land ceases to<br>be used for market gardening. |
| T.P.2397 | B. Glassman                          | New incubator house,  | Approved   |

|           |                       |  |   |
|-----------|-----------------------|--|---|
|           |                       | Appledore Poultry Farm, Greet  |   |
| T.P.2398  | Miss C. L. Ratcliffe, | Conversion of loose horse boxes into garage and stores,<br>The Pigeon House, Southam | Approved subject to the building not being used for business purposes of any description. |
| T. P.2399 | W. G. Leishman        | Proposed livestock shelter,<br>Noreen, Ashley Lane, Cleeve Hill                      | Approved.   |

18

| No. of Plan | Name                                     | Description   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order  |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| T.P.2400    | D. G. Moore                              | Proposed alterations and additions, Norwood Cottage, Church Road, Leckhampton     | Approved subject to new bay window being of the same type, design and materials as the existing bay and to all new work harmonising with the existing building. |
| T.P.2401    | Rev. K. Edmunds                          | Conversion of part of stable buildings into surgery, The Vicarage, Bishops Cleeve | Deferred.   |
| T.P.2402    | J. Surman                                | Proposed garage and office, Firbridge Villa, Swindon, Nr. Cheltenham              | Approved.   |
| T.P.2403    | H. Jones                                 | Proposed new bedroom and bathroom, Paradise Cafe, Crickley Hill                   | Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building.  |
| T.P.2404    | H. D. Ham                                | Proposed greenhouse and nissen hut, Dutch Farm, Shurdington                       | Approved subject to the nissen but being used for agricultural purposes only.   |
| T.P.2405    | R. Townsend                              | Proposed incubator and foster mother huts. Badgeworth Lane, Shurdington           | Disapproved.  |
| T.P.2406    | County Council Small Holdings Committee, | Proposed nissen hut, Walton Grange Farm, Coombe Hill, Nr. Cheltenham              | Approved subject to the building being painted a rural green, or other approved colour.   |
| T.P.2407    | Messrs. Ames Polish Co.                  | Proposed Nissen hut for storage, New Barn Lane, Prestbury                         | Approved for the period expiring 12th June, 1950.   |
| T.P.2408    | E. Barlow                                | Proposed raising of roof, Verbina, London Road, Charlton Kings                    | Approved.   |
| T.P.2409    | T. Vaughan                               | Alterations to cottage, Shurdington   | Approved.   |

126—Development Plan—(a) Glenfall Lodge, All Saints' Road—Application from Mr. R. de Reghere, to use three rooms at Glenfall Lodge as offices temporarily until other more suitable accommodation

was available. RESOLVED, That consent be given for a period of 2 Years from the date of consent, subject to no nuisance being caused to the adjoining owners and to no signs or advertisements being erected on the premises and subject to consent of the Housing Committee under Defence Regulations.

(b) Applegarth, Queen's Road—Application from Messrs. Watterson Moore & Co. on behalf of a client to use the property as a private hotel and later as a convalescent home. RESOLVED, That consent be given, subject to no nuisance being caused to residents of adjoining properties, subject to consent of the Housing Committee under Defence Regulations.

(c) Market Street—Application from Mr. Hugh A. McLean to erect a church on land fronting Market Street. RESOLVED, That approval be given in principle for the period expiring on the 28th February, 1955, as the site was in a proposed re-development area, final consent being deferred pending submission and approval of plans of the proposed building.

(d) Fairholme, Montpellier Drive—Application from Messrs. Steel, Lane & Yeend for the use of Fairholme, Montpellier Drive as a Club-house for the Old Patesians Club. Two-thirds of the owners of property in Montpellier Drive have indicated that they have no objection to the proposal, and the remainder, with one exception, have not raised any objection, provided there was no undue noise and disturbance. One owner objected on the grounds that his property would be adversely affected. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the change of user, subject to no nuisance being caused to other residents in the street by members of the Club whether on or off the premises.

127—Overhead L.V. Line, Bamfurlong—The Planning Officer submitted proposals from the Electricity Committee for a new overhead line to Rosedale Villa and Ellenville, Bamfurlong. RESOLVED, That the County Council and the Cheltenham Rural District Council be informed that this Committee does not consider that the proposal would detrimentally affect amenities and they therefore raise no objection.

128--Town and Country Planning Act, 1947—RESOLVED, That Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the Mayor, Councillors Mann, A. L. Morris and Mr. Clegg be appointed Sub-Committee to consider and negotiate, if necessary, and report upon the proposals to be made by the County Council under this Act.

129—Crown Factory—Stoke Orchard—Delegation—(Min. 2260)—The Minister of Supply had intimated that the Board of Trade was responsible for the allocation of Government factories and that this matter had been referred to them. Letter was submitted from the Board stating that labour available must govern the future of these factories, and at present there were very substantial numbers of unfilled vacancies in this area. The future of No. 1 Factory could not, at the moment, be decided and the Ministry of Supply had not yet released Uckington Factory for re-allocation. In the circumstances it was considered inappropriate to trouble the delegation with the journey to London. RESOLVED, That the Board of Trade be asked that this Council be consulted when the matter was considered.

130—Industrial Development—(Min. 2256)—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Councillor A. L. Morris, together with the appropriate officers, be asked to attend the discussions with representatives of Government Departments at future meetings.



131—Restriction of Ribbon Development Act 1935--The Town Clerk reported that as a result of delay by the Ministry of Transport, disapproval notices under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935, were not served within the statutory period of two months. Their attention had been drawn to the delay, and letter submitted regretting the delay, and stating that steps had been taken to ensure that all future cases would be dealt with as far as possible at least three weeks before the expiration of the statutory period.

132—Temporary Fruit and Vegetable Stores-Charlton Kings-----Mr. W. H. Leonard had appealed against the Council's decision requiring him to remove the temporary fruit and vegetable store on land at Charlton Kings.

133—Thirlestaine House—(Min. 1880)—The Minister of Town and Country Planning had dismissed the appeal of the Gloucestershire County Council against the decision of the Council relating to the proposed use of Thirlestaine House.

134—Factory Rear 1 and 2 Moorend Villas--Messrs. J. Allen & Co., who had been using these premises as a latex factory, had now moved from the premises.

135—Land—Grove Street—Application was submitted on behalf of Messrs. T. W. Harvey & Co. Ltd., for permission to use land in Grove Street for the storage of building materials. RESOLVED, That consent be granted until the 21st February, 1955, subject to plans of any buildings to be erected being first submitted to and approved by the Committee.

136—All Saints' Road—Advertisement Hoarding--A petition was submitted from property owners and residents in All Saints' Road against the erection of an advertisement hoarding on the wall of No. 4 All Saints' Road. The area was not included in the Advertisement Byelaws, and it appeared no action could be taken against the owners of the sign, until the coming into force of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer discuss the matter with the owners of the sign in an attempt to persuade them to remove it.

137—Surface Working of Minerals—(Min. 381/47)—Twelve applications were submitted from quarry owners for permission to extend mineral workings beyond the limit reached on 18th January, 1946, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946, and the Planning Officer submitted a report (circulated). RESOLVED, (i) Messrs. Packer & Sons—(a) That no further extensions be permitted to the pit south of a line drawn from a point 120 feet north of the North-East corner of the property known as Rogers Stores, to the South West corner of the area marked as allotments on the plan.

(b) That the Company be required to restore the area between Kingsditch Lane and eastern side of the proposed development road to its original levels.

(c) That the area between the proposed development road and the western boundary of the area marked allotments on the map, be made up to the level of the said allotments.

(d) That negotiations be commenced for the purchase by the Council for industrial purposes under Sec. 10 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944, of the area edged pink on the map.

(ii) Messrs. Webb Bros.—(a) That permission be granted to Messrs. Webb Bros. to continue their surface workings for 50 years from the 1st January, 1948, but that such workings be restricted to the areas coloured pink, brown, yellow and dark brown on the deposited plan and that they be worked

in that order except that the sandpit may be worked at any time in conjunction with either of the three areas.

(b) That no workings take place on the land required for the widening of Haywards Lane to 40 ft., or to within 15 ft. of its boundary.

(c) That the pits between Haywards Lane and Hales Road be filled in and levels restored when the pits were worked out, or on the expiration of the above period. if a further extension was refused.

(d) That the pit east of Haywards Lane be filled in and restored to the level of Haywards Lane when it became worked out or on the expiration of the above period if a further extension was refused.

(iii) Messrs. Elliott Bros.—(a) That consent be refused for the working of the Swindon Road area and that the application for the working of Bouncers Lane, Field No. 387 be granted.

(b) That having regard to the development of the Arle Road and Alstone Lane area for housing purposes, consideration of the application in respect of this land be deferred until the next meeting.

(iv) De La Bere Estate—That the application to continue to excavate gravel from the pit off Southam Road (1 ¾ acres) be granted subject to the pit being made up to its original level and restored for agricultural purposes.

(v) Mark Williams & Co.—That permission be granted for the working of the Kilkenny Quarries for a period of 30 years from the 1st January, 1948, subject to no quarrying taking place within 60 feet of the main road. and to the quarry being maintained in a clean and orderly condition. That permission be also granted for the applicants to continue working the pit at Sandy Lane, Charlton Kings, until the sand in the area shown on the plan submitted was worked out.

(vi) Winchcombe Brick and Tile Co. Ltd.—That the application to continue the working of the land surround-ing their works be granted for a period of 30 years from the 1st January, 1948.

(vii) Gloucester Tile and Sand Co. Ltd.—That consideration be deferred to enable further information to be obtained.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

20

#### **CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.**

**14th November, 1947.** Present—Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Carter, Mudway, Parker and Readings.

138—Chairman. RESOLVED, That Councillor Readings be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

139—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

140—Superintendent's Report—During the month of October there were 60 interments and 49 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position, nil ; 2nd position 3 ; 3rd position 1 ; 4th position, 11. New memorials erected 12 ; additional inscriptions 11.

141—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nik 11,603 to 11,627 inclusive. 142—Designs--RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 4,433 to 4,449 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

143—Motor Driven Mowing Machine—The present motor mowing machine could only be used where the ground was almost level, and in order to keep down the grass in rougher places, such as verges, and where the ground was undulating, the Superintendent recommended the purchase of a power driven rough-cutting machine. The grounds were scythed twice annually, and the work occupied five men at regular intervals from May to October, and while between the kerbs of graves such scything work would necessarily continue, a power driven machine could be used for the large areas, verges, etc., thus effecting a considerable economy in man power. The Superintendent submitted details of a suitable machine made by Messrs. Allen & Sons of Oxford at a cost of £75 1s. 7d., the delivery date being more than 12 months ahead. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Finance Committee the Superintendent be authorised to place an order with Messrs. Allen & Sons, and that financial provision be made in next year's estimates.

144—Sound Installation—Library of Recordings--The Superintendent submitted list of appropriate recordings available at an average price of 5s to 6s each, and recommended the purchase of two dozen. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and that the Superintendent be authorised to renew these when necessary, and to add to the number when suitable new recordings are made.

145—Re-purchase of Grave Space No. 2483, Section P.—(Min. 1979)--The purchaser of the exclusive right of burial in this grave, who wished to dispose of same, was not prepared to accept the Council's offer of £2, as he had paid £7 for the plot. RESOLVED, That the Council re-purchase the grave space at the price of £4 4s. 0d.

146—Service Plots—The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Imperial War Graves Commission requesting approval to the erection of further headstones, and the suggested inscriptions. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

147—Garden of Remembrance—Extension—The Town Clerk reported letter from a lady who wished to remain anonymous, and who desired to make a contribution of £10 10s. 0d. towards the planting of a bed of roses in the extension now being developed, in memory of her husband. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted, and that the Town Clerk convey to the donor the Committee's appreciation and thanks.

148—Burial Fees—(a) The Town Clerk reported further on the decision of the Council to increase the various burial fees. He had obtained from the Ministry of Health copies of the model table of fees and payments prepared for the use of burial authorities who were proposing to revise their fees and charges. The Council's present scale of fees was considerably out of date, and he now submitted suggested revised table of fees based on the model prepared by the Ministry. The Council's present scale of fees was made over 26 years ago, since when costs of materials and labour had greatly increased. The scale now submitted showed an increase varying from 33 ½ % to 50%. As there was now no ecclesiastical officer at the Cemetery acting as sexton, the sexton's fee which was now payable in respect of the services of the Superintendent was, in the proposed scale, merged with the interment fee. With regard to the interment and purchased graves fees payable in respect of persons who were not inhabitants or ratepayers of the Borough, the present scale provided for 50% additional fees, but as the Ministry's model provided for double fees in such cases, the scale now submitted accordingly included provision for this. RESOLVED, That the scale of fees now submitted by the Town Clerk be approved, and the Com-mon Seal affixed thereto, and that application be made to the Minister of Health for approval thereof. (A copy of the proposed scale accompanies the Minutes).

(b) Ministers' fees—The Committee further considered the proposed increase of fees for services of clergymen and Ministers of Religion both for interments and cremations. The Town Clerk reported he had been in communication with the Home Office, who regarded it as desirable that the Ministers should have an opportunity of expressing their views before the table was submitted for approval. The Committee interviewed the Rector, who appeared on behalf of the Standing Committee of the Cheltenham Chapter, and also the Rev. Tevendale on behalf of the Free Church Council. The Rector considered the minimum fee should be £1 1s. 0d. and that in the case of interments or cremations of non-residents, an additional fee of 10s 6d should be fixed. The present fees were insufficient to cover the cost of a taxi which was frequently necessary. The Rev. Tevendale stated that the Free Church Ministers would prefer to see a uniform charge made, but as to the amount of the fee, they did not ask for any increase, and were prepared to leave this to the Council. The Town Clerk submitted particulars of Ministers' fees for interments in sixteen other towns and Ministers' fees on cremations at 28 other Crematoria. With regard to cremations, it appeared, with two exceptions, that the practice was not to make any difference in the charge for a non-resident, but to make a uniform charge. RESOLVED, That the Ministers' fees be revised as follows : —

|   |     |     |       |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| Cheltenham Cemetery   | £   | s.  | d.    |
| On an Interment of a body in an unpurchased grave   |     | 10  | 0     |
| On an Interment of a body in a purchased grave or vault ...   |     | 1   | 0 0   |
| Double the above fees will be charged in the case of the interment of a person who at the time of death was not a ratepayer or inhabitant of the Borough of Cheltenham. |     |     |       |
| Cheltenham Crematorium  |     |     |       |
| Fee for services of Clergyman or Minister of Religion, where required ...   | ... | ... | 1 0 0 |

RESOLVED ALSO, That the proposed scale of fees be approved, and the Common Seal affixed thereto, and that application be made to the Secretary of State for approval thereof.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

21

#### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**19th November, 1947.** Present--Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Ward ; Councillors Gardner, Irving, Mann, A. L. Morris and Parker.

149—Proposals--The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

150—Arrears--The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

151—New Houses—Lynworth Farm Estate—The Town Clerk reported that the objection lodged against the assessment of twenty-eight houses on this estate in the Cheltenham Rural District Rating area had been unsuccessful and he submitted formal notice from the Cheltenham Area Assessment Committee confirming the assessment. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken.

152—Valuation of Tied Farm Workers' Cottages—Read, circular 47/3 from the Central Valuation Committee revising and amplifying its interpretation of Section 72 of the Local Government Act, 1929, in the light of a recent court action. Local authorities were asked to review their assessments of tied farm cottages in accordance with this interpretation.

153—Local Government Bill, 1947—The Town Clerk reported on the provisions of the Local Government Bill, 1947.

154—Valuation Lists—The Town Clerk submitted circular from the County Valuation Committee referring to the circular from the Central Valuation Committee dated 21st June, 1947, reminding local authorities of their duty to keep valuation lists up to date as provided by Section 37(1) of the Rating and Valuation Act, 1925, and pointing out that efforts to obtain uniformity of valuation should not be relaxed. The County Valuation Committee were anxious that rating authorities should do everything possible to carry out their statutory duties as requested in the circular. Rating authorities were also asked to review the present assessments of farm houses with a view to remedying the lack of consistency and inadequacy in the existing assessments.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

#### **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.**

**13th November, 1947.** Present—The Mayor ; Aldermen Green and Smith ; Councillors Addis, Bishop, Jewell, Maize, Midwinter and Waite ; Messrs. Barlow and Roe.

155—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Addis be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

156—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Waite be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

157—Visitors—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed the visitors for the ensuing year;

Councillors Addis and Midwinter 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.

Aldermen Green and Smith, 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 Priors Road and Severn Road.

Councillors Jewell Mann and Waite for Asquith Road ; Sandford Mead ; Land Leckhampton Road (adjoining Bresson Aircraft Ltd.) ; Moorend Park Road ; Land adjoining Emmanuel Church ; Charlton Park Gate ; Green hills Road ; Gong Furlong, Charlton Lane.

Councillor Bishop, Messrs Roe and Whittall for Alma Road ; Hatherley Road ; Thornccliffe Estate ; Tennyson Road ; Wasley's Field ; Brooklyn Road Playing Field ; Land Brooklyn Road ; Hatherley Park ; Land junction Fairmount Road and Church Road ; Shelley Road ; Land rear News' Cottages ; Land rear Higgs' Cottages Orchard rear Tennyson Road ; and Barn Field.

158—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted statement of arrears to 11th November, and the Town Clerk reported upon the further steps taken to recover previous amounts outstanding. Two tenants could not be traced, one claimed termination two years ago, and another promised payment in the near future. RESOLVED, That the following sums be written off as irrecoverable-14 Greenhills Road, 11s ; 6 and 49 Moorend Park Road. £1 6s. 0d. and 10s respectively. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps to obtain payment of arrears included in the further list submitted.

159—Use of Land for Allotments—Read, letter from the Ministry of Agriculture drawing attention to the Government's plans to alleviate the nation's foreign exchange and trade difficulties and to the recent appeal to the farming community for a great increase between now and 1951 in food production. This would necessitate the maintenance of the highest possible acreage under cultivation of all kinds consistent with the urgent demands of approved development. The contribution of allotment holders and private gardeners to the nation's food supply would continue to be of the highest importance.

The Minister looked confidently to local authorities for continued co-operation in furthering the allotments movement, and his attitude in regard to acquisition and retention of land remained as indicated in previous circulars. Security of tenure was a great incentive to plot holders and it was hoped that full use would continue to be made of powers both for acquisition of further permanent land wherever demand existed and the replacement of temporary, by permanent allotments.

With regard to "war-time" land, the Minister repeated his previous request that local authorities should do every-thing possible to avoid disturbance during 1948, but if land was required, tenants should be given the longest notice practicable and the Minister warned beforehand, and every endeavour made to provide the best possible alternative site. The Minister reiterated again that allotment sites on parks and sports fields must remain for the present. RESOLVED, That the Minister's recommendations be noted.

160--Additional Land--The Sub-Committee appointed to consider the provision of additional sites reported upon their inspection on 29th October. They had endeavoured to find land which might be included in the planning scheme as permanent allotments but with little success, particularly as it was desirable for such areas to adjoin the built-up portion of the town for the convenience of allotment holders. There was no doubt that many tenants, at the conclusion of the present emergency, would be unwilling to take land on the outskirts and at some distance from their homes.

The Gardens Superintendent reported 270 applicants on the waiting list, and with potato rationing, he anticipated a greatly increased demand in the Spring. The sub-Committee, therefore, recommended :

(a) Brighton Gardens—As the owner has not fulfilled her promise to cultivate satisfactorily -the whole of this site, 4 acres (approximately 60 allotments) be acquired compulsorily. The Planning Officer stated that the site was scheduled for a nursery school but he was prepared to recommend an alternative position and for the area to be scheduled for permanent allotments.

(b) Land in Arle Road belonging to Jesus College, Oxford. A site of approximately 3.325 acres, now derelict, but covered with old and decayed fruit trees. The Planning Officer stated that the site was scheduled for industrial purposes and in view of the very considerable demand for sites for industrial expansion he could not recommend the Planning Committee to amend their scheduling. In view, however, of the present crisis, the Planning Committee might be willing to agree to the land being used for allotments for a period of say 5 years.

(c) Pittville Area—That the garden of Ellerslie, Albert Road, belonging to the County Council, upon which six to eight plots could be provided, be utilised for food production. RESOLVED,

(i) That an Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 1 of the Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, for the purpose of the Small Holdings and Allotments Acts, 1908 to 1926, for the compulsory purchase of that portion of Brighton Gardens, Arle Road, Cheltenham, lying between Arle Drive and the house known as Brighton Gardens, forming part of

Field No. 202 on the map of the Ordnance Survey and coloured pink on the map now submitted and identified by the signature of the Town Clerk and containing altogether an area of 3.953 acres or thereabouts. Also RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for confirmation of the said Order, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary advertisements and notices and do all things necessary for the confirmation of the Order.

(ii) That the attention of Jesus College, Oxford, be drawn to the condition of the Arle Road site and that they be urged to agree to a lease to the Council for 5 years for allotments purposes, failing which the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee be asked to make a Clearance Order followed by a lease to this Council in a manner similar to the Elmfield Estate allotments.

(iii) That the County Council be asked to agree to the garden of Ellerslie, Albert Road, being used for allotments.

(iv) That the Sub-Committee inspect and report to the next meeting upon land in Prior's Road which it is thought might be obtained for allotment purposes.

161—Agg-Gardner Recreation Ground Allotments—The Borough Surveyor reported complaint of the Butchers' Buying Committee of the condition of the fence, and the possibility of cattle straying on to the allotments. RESOLVED, That the necessary repairs be effected.

162—Marsh Lane Allotments—Read, Memorial from four tenants asking for the access roadway to be cleared of rubbish to enable loads of manure to be taken to the plots. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out necessary work.

163—Brooklyn Road Allotments Nos.21-45—(Min 1913 (a) 47)—The Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of a water supply to this site at £18 12s. 0d., which included service pipe to main, meter pit, cast iron cover, stand-pipe and self-closing bib cock. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised.

164—Elmfield Avenue Allotments—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor provide additional fencing including a gate.

165-- Lettings and Terminations—Since the last meeting 15 allotments had been let and the tenancies of 8 terminated.

166—Rebates in Rent—RESOLVED, That the following new tenants be granted three months' rent free period in view of the bad condition of their plots, namely, No. 1 (c) Creamery Piece, 41 Marle Hill, 10 (b) Orchard Way. Also that the tenant of No. 93(a) Hatherley Park be granted 5 months' rent free period.

H. ADDIS, Chairman

23

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**18th November, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (in the Chair) ; Alderman Green and Ward; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Gardner, Readings, Strickland and Thompson.

167—Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

168—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

169—Appointment of Sub-Committees :

(a) **Re-Organisation Sub-Committee**—Aldermen Lipson, Waite Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bush, Strickland and Thompson.

(b) **Market and Public Control Sub-Committee**—Aldermen Green, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Gardner and Strickland.

(c) **Staff Joint Advisory Committee** (Council Members)—The Mayor ; Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Readings, Strickland and Thompson.

(d) **Establishment Sub-Committee**—Comprises the same members as the Staff Joint Advisory Committee.

(e) **Standing Joint Committee—Finance Sub-Committee**—The Mayor ; Councillors Bettridge and Biggs.

(f) **Labour Sub-Committee**—Chairmen of the Street and Highway, Parks, Electricity, Town Improvement, Water and Finance Committees. Representative of J.I.C. for the time being, and Mr. Councillor Addis.

(g) **War Memorial Sub-Committee**—Councillors Readings, Strickland, Tucker Brown (The Mayor ex-officio).

170—War Pensions Committee—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Pensions stating that the period of office of existing members of this Committee had been extended to 31st December, 1950, and the scheme had been amended accordingly subject to a proviso that, on request before 31st December, 1947, of a local authority or body affected, the amendment would not apply and that a casual vacancy would be deemed to arise as from 1st January, 1948. Upon a casual vacancy arising by the death or otherwise of a member, the person appointed to the vacancy would hold office until 1950 as mentioned above. RESOLVED, That the Council concur in the extended period.

171—Demolition and Removal of Civil Defence Buildings and Installations—(a) Circular, dated 29th October, from the Home Office was submitted intimating that the continuance of the demolition and removal of air raid shelters, civil defence buildings and emergency water installations could not generally be regarded as of such importance or urgency to warrant expenditure in the present circumstances of money and labour entailed by proceeding on the present scale. In view of steel shortages, work resulting in recovery of steel should, however, be carried out expeditiously, and authorities were asked to concentrate on dismantling and collecting Anderson and Morrison Shelters, and the recovery of steel from strutted basement shelters. With this exception, approval could not be given to further proposals except where removal was necessary to prevent serious danger to the general public or there was immediate use locally for resulting hardcore on works of high priority. No new contracts for non-permissible types of work should be entered into and it may be necessary to review existing contracts. The Borough Surveyor reported that with the exception of one static water tank, the works in connection with these installations had been completed insofar as this Council were responsible for demolition.

(b) Final accounts of Messrs. Woodbury Quarries for the demolition of public and communal shelters and static water tanks were submitted, amounting to £267 0s. 1d. The accounts had been checked and it was recommended that the amount be paid. The total expenditure incurred for this work was £8,222 14s. 9d., which was reimbursable by the Government. RESOLVED, That the sum of £267 0s. 1d. be paid.



172—H.M.S. Whitehall—This ship, adopted by the Council under the Warships Weeks' adoption scheme was now out commission and the association with Cheltenham was now concluded. The Admiralty conveyed their appreciation of the kind interest shown in the ship and crew. The official adoption of H.M. ships' load now also been discontinued, but associations which arose informally between H.M. ships and those civic bodies and private organisations who wished to identify themselves with the welfare of the ship's company, would be welcomed.

173—Visit of German Local Government Personnel—Letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health in regard to its visit to this country of a number of Germans engaged in local government work. In connection with the arrangements for this area, the Council had been asked to give assistance and the Oberstadt Direktor (Town Clerk Dusseldorf, who had visited this area, had visited these offices and been acquainted with the work of the Town Clerk's Department and also given some insight into Committee procedure.

174—Halsbury's Statutes of England—Second Edition Letter was submitted from Messrs. Butterworth & Co. Ltd., calling attention to the publication of the second edition of Halsbury's Statutes of England comprising 27 volumes, individual volumes being published as and when completed. The last edition was published 16 years ago, since which time there had been considerable additions and amendments. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to purchase the new Statutes, as and when published, at a cost of £2 15s. 0d. per volume, less an allowance of 5s for each of the 22 volumes of the old edition.

175—Shops—Hours of Closing Act, 1928—Circular 224/47, Home Office, was submitted in regard to the closing of shops during Christmas 1947. In view of the continued need for economy in fuel and lighting the Secretary of State did not propose to exercise his powers under this Act, as amended by Defence Regulation 60 AB, to permit the longer opening of shops during the few days immediately prior to Christmas. It was however, open to local authorities to suspend the general closing hours, subject to certain limitations. RESOLVED, That the Council do not exercise their powers extending the hours of opening.

24

176—Field—Upper Pilford—On the sale of Southfield Farm, Charlton Kings, the Council retained possession of one field in order to safeguard the water supply. A yearly tenancy was granted to the owner of Southfield Farm at a rent of £12 10s. 0d. per annum. The farm had now been sold and the new owner desired to continue the tenancy. RESOLVED, That this be approved at a rent to be fixed, subject to the remaining existing conditions, and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary agreement.

177-57 Promenade--The Y.M.C.A. (Junior Women's Auxiliary) asked permission to remove one of two mirrors in the rooms which they had to vacate at these premises. The mirrors, which were fixtures, were not of use to the Council and were in position when the previous owner took over the premises, RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

178---Leckhampton Hill—RESOLVED, That the agreement with Mr. G. A. Price for the destruction of rabbits on Leckhampton Hill be renewed for the period expiring 29th July, 1948. subject to the present terms and conditions.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM. Chairman.

## HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**19th November, 1957.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Deputy Mayor Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Fisher, Gardner, C. W. Morris, Strickland and Ward.

179—Contracts—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association asking that the amount of retention monies on Council contracts should be reduced from 10% to 5% and that the period of maintenance should be reduced from six months to three months. The Borough Surveyor recommended that, in the case of conversions only, the period of maintenance should be reduced from six months to three months. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

180—Shed, 63 Whaddon Avenue (Min. 2121/47)—Read, letter from the tenant of the above house asking the Committee to reconsider their decision not to allow him to retain a shed which he had erected in the garden of the house. He pointed out that in the event of his not being allowed to use the shed for furniture repair, he wished to use it for the purpose of teaching his son a trade, there being special circumstances which made this necessary. RESOLVED, That the tenant be allowed to retain the shed for a provisional period of six months, and in the meantime that the shed be inspected by the Committee.

181-Requisitioning Policy (Min. 2108)—The Town Clerk had informed the Ministry of Health of the Council's regret at their change of policy with regard to requisitioning, and urged that the matter should be reconsidered, pointing out that requisitioning was the only means of ensuring that properties were obtained for those most needing them. He now submitted letter from the Ministry of Health stating that there had been no change in the Ministry's policy which was to ensure that unoccupied houses were speedily and effectively brought into use. Local authorities should give careful consideration on merits to proposals put forward by owners, and it was not considered that possession should be taken of houses temporarily vacant pending a change of tenancy where bonafide occupation was about to take place. With regard to representations made by local estate agents, the Council were able to take possession of unoccupied houses put up for auction provided that the conditions laid down were observed. RESOLVED, That the views of the Minister as now expressed be borne in mind in regard to future requisitioning.

182—Prior's Farm Estate—The Town Clerk reported receipt of a further payment of £12,000 from the Ministry of Works on account of work carried out by the Council on their behalf on this estate.

183—Temporary Bungalows, The Knole--The Town Clerk submitted correspondence with Messrs. Roy Fedden, Ltd., who had asked that three persons employed by them should be re-housed. He had informed Messrs. Roy Fedden, Ltd., that all the bungalows had now been allocated and they had expressed their surprise that this should have been done without reference being made to the lists of employees submitted by them as being in need of accommodation. The Town Clerk reported that some applicants lately employed by this firm had, in fact been allocated bungalows on this estate, but as it was understood that the firm did not intend to continue production it had been felt that the allocation could not take place as originally agreed with them, i.e., 30 to be allocated to employees of the firm., and 20 to applicants on the Council's list. The firm, had, however, been informed that if it was intended to continue production they should make representations to their sponsoring Ministry for an allocation of the 903 bungalows to be erected for industrial workers at Alma Road. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Roy Fedden Ltd., be informed that the Council cannot reconsider their allocation of the 50 bungalows at The Knole, and they be informed of the number of their former employees who have been allocated accommodation.

184—Pencliffe, Eldorado Road—Four tenders were received for the conversion of this house into flats. RESOLVED That the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. amounting to £1,416 8s. 8d., being the lowest, be accepted subject to contract., RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the acceptance of this tender.

185—Rowanfield Road Estate—RESOLVED, That consideration of a time table for taking possession of the land com-prised in this Compulsory Purchase Order be deferred pending consultation with Messrs. Hadsphaltic Construction Company Ltd.

186—Erection of Houses by Small Builders—Read, letter from the Ministry of Health raising no objection to the acceptance of the tender of £14,584 17s. 0d. submitted by Mr. E. L. Squire, for the erection of 12 houses on this estate. The attention of the Council was drawn to the need for economy in the use of timber. The Ministry also approved the houses for the payment of exchequer contributions under Sections 1 and 2 of the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1946. RESOLVED (a) That the tender of Mr. E. L. Squire amounting to £14,584 17s. 0d. for the erection of 12 houses on this estate be accepted subject to contract.

25

(b) That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to a loan of £14,585 for the cost of carrying out this work.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £14,585, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and periodical receipts.

187—Building Materials and Components Priority Distribution Scheme—Minor Emergency Repairs—Read, circus, 163/47 from the Ministry of Health that it had been decided to modify existing arrangements to enable priority materials to be acquired for emergency repairs of a minor character without priority certificates. Merchants would be allowed to supply goods up to a specified maximum without formality, provided an emergency was involved.

188—Whaddon Boys' Club--The Borough Surveyor reported that when application was made to the Ministry of Work: for a licence to carry out this work they stated that they were unable to issue a licence for work to be carried out by a local authority. Pending the issue of a licence, work had been put in hand, and the contractor had proceeded as far as possible without using controlled materials, but had now been compelled to withdraw his labour As result of further pressure by the Priority Officer of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Works had agreed to issue a licence which it was hoped would be received shortly.

189—Selkirk Gardens—The tenant of this house had asked that the fence should be moved from its present position in line with the back of the house to the front, as, owing to the fact that it was an end house, the unfenced portion at the side was a source of trouble due to people trespassing. The Borough Surveyor considered the complaint justified, and recommended that the fence should be moved as suggested. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out this work.

190—Building Materials (Min. 2291 /47)—The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to the shortage of lavatory pans "5" type, which was holding up work required to comply with statutory notices, the Ministry of Health had offered to make 50 pieces available to be stored and distributed by the Council. This number would be an allocation for three months, and replacement would be made at the end of each quarter to ensure that 50 pieces were in stock. The Borough Surveyor recommended that this offer should be accepted, but suggested that the pans should be sold through a local builders' merchant who would only retail them in cases where work was necessary to

comply with statutory notices. RESOLVED, That the offer of the Ministry be accepted and that they be asked to agree to the pans being sold through a local builders' merchant.

191—Apprenticeship Building Scheme—The Borough Surveyor submitted a report on a meeting which he had attended in London to review the apprenticeship training scheme, and to consider its future. The question of costs was discussed, and local authorities were asked if they would be prepared to pay part of the increased costs over the normal cost.

The Borough Surveyor was informed that the houses being erected under the scheme in Cheltenham had been inspected, and the design and workmanship was excellent, but attention was drawn to the fact that wanton damage had been caused to roof tiles, newly painted doors, and stonework. The Committee were reminded that previous incidents of a similar nature had been reported, and the Borough Surveyor urged that strong action should be taken to deal with offenders. RESOLVED, That the Council be not recommended to bear the increased cost of houses erected under the Apprenticeship Scheme. RESOLVED ALSO, That the attention of the Police be drawn to the damage caused to partly finished houses, and that the Mayor be asked to send a circular to the tenants on Whaddon and Lynworth estates asking for their co-operation in preventing this continued wanton damage on the estates.

192—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee at their meetings held on the 24th October, and 7th November, were submitted. The following matters inter alia were dealt with :—

(a) 9 applicants were interviewed, and 11 applications considered.

(b) 16 new permanent houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate were allocated.

(c) Internal decorations—It was recommended that an increase of 20% on the existing schedule be paid to contractors to apply to all ground floor work, of ceilings and walls, and that the allowance for hanging wallpaper provided by tenants should be increased from 1s 9d to 2s 6d per roll as from 1st November, 1947.

(d) Firs Court—It was recommended that a geyser should be installed for the use of the Council's tenants in the requisitioned portion of this house.

RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED ALSO, That the recommendation in regard to Firs Court, be rescinded in view of the recommendation of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee that the tenants should be re-housed, and the accommodation de-requisitioned.

193—Rent Collections—The Housing Manager reported that the system of collections had now been amended so that those at present on a fortnightly basis would be collected weekly.

194—Requisitioned Houses—(a) The Repairs Superintendent reported that requests had been received from several requisitioned houses that gas and electricity services should be separated where this had not been done. He considered that these services should be separated in 74 and 76 Queen's Road, and 77 Montpellier Terrace. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to obtain tenders for carrying out this work.

(b) Coal Bins--The Housing Manager reported requests from the tenants of three flats at Nos. 401a and 412a High Street, which were over shop premises, for the provision of coal bins. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to provide coal bins for the tenants of these three flats.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman

26

#### WATER COMMITTEE.

**11th November 1947.** Present—The Mayor ; Aldermen Green, Trye, Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, Midwinter, A. L. Morris and Strickland.

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

196--Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Strickland be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

197--Borough Engineer's Report—(a) The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of October was read :—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

| Spring          | For month ended<br>31st October, 1947 | Average for corresponding<br>period during last three years |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Hewletts Spring | 650,000                               | 95,000  |
| Dowdeswell      | 208,000                               | 366,000   |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity approximately 32,000,000 gallons.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown 4 weeks ended 27th October                      | 69,150,000  |
| “ “ for Tewkesbury “   | 16,209,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from<br>Churchdown from 1st April, 1947 | 387,875,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947                       | 104,268,000 |
| Average daily consumption  | 3,469,000   |

| Rainfall for October | During month | Average monthly rainfall |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sandford             | .26-ins.     | 2.72-ins.                |
| Hewletts             | .54-ins.     | 2.79-ins.                |
| Dowdeswell           | .42-ins.     | 2.86-ins.                |
| Tewkesbury           | .20-ins.     | 2.35-ins.                |

(b) Yield of Springs The Borough Engineer reported that the rainfall was the lowest for the month of October since records had been kept, namely 1867, and the springs had now reached a very low level. No water was being drawn from Dowdeswell, and with the exception of some 230,000 gallons per day all water was being obtained from Tewkesbury ; on Saturdays and Sundays, the exception was still further reduced to some 65,000 gallons per day to enable Sandford pumping station to recover its water level. By these means the supplies to the statutory area and also to Birdlip and the Pershore Rural District were maintained without restriction, which was very satisfactory bearing in mind the difficulties which certain large undertakings were experiencing.

198—Rural Water Supplies (a) Min. 2187/47 The Council's representatives reported upon the recent conference of County District Councils convened by the County Council on 17th October in relation to the basis of grants to be made to the former under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act,

1944. It was explained that the Minister of Health's intention was to assist areas where the need was greatest and the County's proposals were based accordingly. The proposals, in most instances, were welcomed by the Rural authorities but it appeared that Cheltenham would derive little or no benefit therefrom for many years, if then, although they would be called upon to pay, through the County rate, considerable sums towards the Annual amount required by the County Council for their other areas.

(b) Cheltenham Rural District-Post-War Programme—In March last (Min. 987/47) consideration was given to a proposal of the Rural District Council to lay a 6-in. main from the Borough Council's system near the Newlands to augment the Rural District Council's supply to Bishop's Cleeve, Southam, Woodmancote, Gotherington, etc. The Rural District Council were prepared to bear the whole cost, subject to any grants received from the Ministry of Health and County Council. The Committee had intimated that they were not unwilling to consider the proposal but deferred the question of charges pending the completion of the current year's accounts and they also took an opportunity of reminding the Rural District Council that when work on the main in New Barn Lane was under consideration they had stated in response to enquiry that no bulk supply would be required by them in this area and the Borough Engineer had proceeded accordingly. The quantity of water, therefore with which the Rural District could be supplied from this point could not now exceed 50 gallons per minute.

The Rural District Council expressed concern at the restriction and considered the expenditure involved for the new main could not be justified for such a limited supply. An alternative proposal had therefore been decided upon, namely, a 6in. main between Piffs Elm and Stoke Road, Bishop's Cleeve, via Hardwick and Stoke Orchard connecting with the Borough Council's trunk main at Piffs Elm and a further connection with their own 5in. main in Stoke Road.

Application was, therefore, made for a bulk supply, and the Borough Engineer raised no objection to the revised routing but recommended that terms should include a guaranteed minimum annual payment. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle, the terms negotiated to include a minimum annual payment and to preserve the right of the Borough Council to take over the new main at valuation at the expiration of a given period. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Rural District Council be informed that the charge per thousand gallons will be based upon the increased rates for which application for approval is shortly to be submitted to the gallons of Health.

(c) Upton-on-Severn Rural District—This Rural District Council were considering provision of a piped supply for their southern area adjoining the parish of Forthampton, and enquired if the Borough Council would furnish the same and the terms therefor. The Borough Engineer had discussed the proposal with the Rural District Council's Consulting Engineer and recommended a supply of 100,000 gallons per day either direct from the 12-in main at or near the Mythe works or by an increase in the size of mains proposed to be laid for the supply of the parish of Forthampton, and he understood that the Rural District Council favoured the former. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting and that the Borough Engineer report on the various commitments of the Council for water supplies having regard to the total quantity which the Board are at present entitled to take from the Tewkesbury works.

27

(d) Rural Schemes—The Borough Engineer had recently discussed with a representative of the Ministry of Health the schemes submitted for approval, and understood that subject to the Ministry being satisfied that materials were available and could be utilised, authorisation would be given for a

supply of 1,285 tons of pipes and specials spread over the period January to December, 1948. This would enable schemes to proceed for Leckhampton, Down Hatherley and the parishes west of the River Severn and the Borough Surveyor anticipated that such supplies could be obtained. RESOLVED, That he make every effort to procure the materials, and that with regard to the Shurdington scheme the County Council be urged to reconsider their decision that a 3-in. main instead of a 4-in. main as originally suggested, is sufficient (Min. 342 (b) (iii)/470.

199—Mains Renewals—(a) Barrow—Boddington—The Borough Engineer reported upon the condition of this main and stated that since August 1942 it had been repaired on 9 occasions, 5 of which occurred during the past 11 months: The main was laid in 1933, the cost being apportioned between the Council and three owners, but the main vested in the Council who were responsible for all repairs. He recommended the relaying of a length of 690 yards at a cost of £825, and as the previous trouble was attributed to the action of sub-soil, special precautions would be taken for protection of pipes. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised. ALSO RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan of £825 and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and form of receipt.

(b) Queen's Road—The Borough Engineer also reported upon the repairs required to this main which occurred almost annually. The length involved was 830 yards excluding the crossing over both railways -near the L.M.S. Station, and he recommended a new 6-in main in place of the present 4-in. main, bearing in mind the need for supplying the L.M.S. Station and the eventual link with the trunk main for the Rowanfield Estate. The estimated cost was £2,075. RESOLVED, That the work be authorised, the cost charged to the mains renewal loan.

200—Capital Expenditure—Loan sanctions—(a) RESOLVED, That applications be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to loan amounting to £7,630 in respect of the undermentioned capital expenditure as now ascertained;

|                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Tewkesbury to Ashchurch 12in main   | £5,971        |
| Prior's Farm temporary housing site | <u>£1,659</u> |
|                                     | £7,630        |

RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £7,630 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order, and receipt.

(b) RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to loan of £14,544 for the under-mentioned works now in course of construction :—

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Lynworth Farm Housing Estate. Estimated cost of laying mains for supply of new houses              | £7,110        |
| Ewens Farm Housing Estate, Charlton Kings. Estimated cost of laying mains for supply of new houses | £1,104        |
| Prior's Park, Tewkesbury. Laying mains for supply of new houses                                    | <u>£6,300</u> |
|  | £14,544       |

RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £14,544, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order, and receipt.

(c) Prospective New Mains and Services—RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan of £10,000 for prospective expenditure on new mains and-services.

RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a Mortgage for the said sum of £10,000 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage Order, and receipt.

201—Priors Farm Temporary Housing Site—RESOLVED, That the retention money on the Staveley Coal and Iron Company's contract amounting to £7 11s. 3d. be released.

202—Priors Park Housing Site, Tewkesbury (Min 2188 (a)47—The Tewkesbury Borough Council now requested that the mains be transferred from the road in front of the houses to the gardens at the rear, thus avoiding long individual services or a duplicate master service main. The Borough Engineer raised to objection provided one main of, suitable diameter was laid along each road with payment of the usual annual charge. From these mains, services could be laid by the Tewkesbury Borough Council at their own expense to the rear of the houses subject, in the case of the eastern side of Queen's Road, (in which road the master service should be at least 2 inches,) to 3 inch service mains being provided. The cost would be borne by the Tewkesbury Council, and the main would become their property. RESOLVED, That the alternative proposal be adopted and that the estimates submitted to the last meeting be revised accordingly.

203--Alma Road Housing Site—The Borough Engineer submitted layout of mains and recommended, to meet both the der ands of the Estate and other large consumers in the area, that a 9-in. trunk main be laid along Alma Road to the railway bridge dividing there into two branches, one through the Estate to Hatherley Road near the Hatherley Laundry, and the other through the Estate to the Warden Hill Road extension with a future connection to Shurdington. The Estate mains would be 4-ins. with 3-ins loops at the rear of houses. The existing, but defective 3-in. main in Alma Road would be abandoned and the services transferred to the 9-in. main. The estimated cost would amount to £11,640 from which an approximate annual revenue of £373 on existing scale of charges would be derived from the 282 permanent prefabricated bungalows. RESOLVED, That mains be laid accordingly, that application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan of £11,640, to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £11,640 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Mortgage, Order and receipt.

204-Rowanfield Road Estate (Min. 988)/47 In March last mains were authorised at an estimated cost of £8,436. Tenders under consideration for road works and the Borough Engineer recommended that mains be laid and for this purpose he be authorised to purchase all the pipes required without waiting for loan sanction. RESOLVED, That in view of the necessity to expedite the work, the Borough Engineer be authorised to purchase the necessary pipes.

28

205—Dowdeswell----(a) Afforestation (Min. 2012)—The Forestry Commission had been consulted with regard to the Woodlands and an officer had recently made an inspection when the woods were found to contain a large quantity of "pole" wood. This could systematically be cut and sold and replaced with trees of quick growth such as Japanese larch and by this method old stools would be killed. A formal report was awaited and the Borough Engineer anticipated that it would contain a recommendation to consult a forestry specialist to advise on a programme of afforestation and such work might also include The Langett, woods adjacent to California Farm, also Red Wood and suitable areas of Woodlands Farm. RESOLVED, That the report be awaited.

(b) Fish (Min.. 2013 (c)/47 As authorised, the Borough Engineer had obtained 50 brown trout at a cost of £47 7s. 0d. and these had been placed in the reservoir. A further 2,000 fingerlings had been reserved for stocking the residuum after cleaning.



(c) "The Langett" (Min. 2191)/47 The Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee had inspected this field and reported that it was very rough and too steep for the use of machinery. The best solution would be to clear the field of bushes on the termination of the present tenancy in September, 1948, and to re-let the land on the condition that the new tenant would keep the land clear of briars. RESOLVED, That as the present tenant has now left the district, he be approached to surrender his lease forthwith to enable the land to be cleaned and re-let.

206—Increase in Water Charges—The Town Clerk, Borough Engineer and Borough Treasurer had, as instructed, considered an estimate of the annual statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1948, when the Borough Treasurer pointed out that to meet losses on the year's working, approximately £17,000 would be required from the reserve fund even if no capital money was provided from revenue with a further sum in 1948-49, which would entirely absorb the present reserve balance and probably leave a sum approaching £10,000 to be met from the General Rate. He was of opinion that it was imperative for the safe working of the undertaking, to increase revenue by not less than £25,000 per annum. The Town Clerk reported the Ministry of Health had informed him that owing to the uncertainty with regard to prices generally, and also the decision of the Government to amend the rating system, the effect of which it was impossible to forecast at present, the Minister was not prepared to fix permanent new maximum rates and charges by Order under Section 40 of the Water Act, 1945, but he was prepared to consider an application for temporary increase by way of an Order under the Defence Regulations. It was, therefore, decided to recommend that the charges both inside and outside the Borough be increased as follows and an opportunity had been taken for the purpose of convenience of achieving a greater measure of uniformity.

|                       | Present Charge                         | Proposed Charge           |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Borough of Cheltenham |  |                           |
| Domestic Consumers    | 5% on gross annual value               | 8% on gross annual value  |
| Licenced Premises     | 6% on gross annual value               | 10% on gross annual value |
| Lock-up shops         | 3 ½ %, 3%, 2 ½ % on gross annual value | 5% on gross annual value. |

Minimum charge for all supplies. Increased from 8s 8d to 15s per annum.

Parishes outside the Borough

|                    |                             |                           |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Domestic consumers | 5 ½ % on gross annual value | 8% on gross annual value  |
| Licenced Premises  | 6 ½ % on gross annual value | 10% on gross annual value |
| Lock-up shops      | 3 ½ % on gross annual value | 5% on gross annual value. |

Minimum charge for all supplies. Increased from 10s to 15s per annum.

Meter Supplies-(i) That the present charge of 4 ½ d. per thousand gallons to Council properties be increased to the net cost of production.

(ii) That the charges for supplies to other local authorities be increased by 33 1/3%, as follows :—

|                                   | Present charge<br>per 1,000 gallons | Proposed charge<br>per 1,000 gallons |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tewkesbury Corporation            | 9d.                                 | 1s                                   |
| Ashchurch Camp                    | 1s                                  | 1s 4d                                |
| Cheltenham R.D.C.                 | 1s 2 1/2d                           | 1s 8d                                |
| Railway and other large consumers | { 1s 3d                             |                                      |

|         |          |       |
|---------|----------|-------|
|         | {1s 4 ½d | 1s 8d |
| General | 1s 6d    | 2s    |

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved, and that application be made to the Ministry of Health for an Order under Defence Regulation 56 (I) (B) increasing the water charges accordingly as from 1st April, 1948.

207-Transport-Bedford Van-Last year necessary repairs were undertaken to keep this van on the road. The Borough Engineer recommended that as the body work had never been overhauled, this be undertaken at a cost of £28 1 5s. and that orders be placed for two new vans, one to replace the old van and the other for the expanding work of. the Department. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

208—Building Trade Operatives-As from 16th November, the rate of 2s 5 ½d per hour for plumbers would be increased to 2s 8 ½d and the Borough Engineer recommended that in addition to the employees covered by the J IC. Schedule the following employees not so included but whose remuneration had, in the past, been governed thereby, should receive appropriate increases, namely, Deputy Superintendent ; Chief Inspector ; Water Inspector ; and Meter Mechanic and Yard Foreman. RESOLVED, That the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended accordingly.

209-Staff-Waterworks Superintendent—The Superintendent, Mr. H. Bosworth, would attain the age of 65 on the 23rd December next and had intimated his desire to retire. His emoluments, included house at Sandford Water-works, and the Borough Engineer recommended that for a period of 12 months, Mr. Bosworth be allowed to remain in occupation, and also be paid a retaining fee of £1 0s. 0d. per week for consultative services and for manning the telephone outside working hours. Also that the Deputy Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Stanley, be appointed to fill the vacancy at the appropriate salary (A.P.T. II 060-005) plus cost-of-living bonus and, until the Committee are able to offer him occupation of the house at Sandford an additional sum in lieu thereof to be fixed by the Committee. RESOLVED, That the Establishment Committee be recommended accordingly. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Bosworth the Committee's appreciation of his long and faithful services, and their best wishes for many happy years of retirement.

29

210-Works Completed-The Borough Engineer reported that since the last meeting 992 inspections had been undertaken when the inspectors found 23 defective flush boxes, 82 leaking taps, 45 defective stop taps and 6 burst pipes; repairs had been undertaken to 144 draw taps ; 72 notices served on owners; 99 houses connected owing to change of tenancy ; 78 supplies disconnected and 31 meters fixed or changed.

Maintenance work had included the laying of 683 yards of new main and fixing of 5 sluice valves and four hydrants at Priors Park, Tewkesbury ; mains repaired at Mythe Road, Tewkesbury ; Hicks Field, Leckhampton ; The Barrow near Boddington ; Staverton ; Bamfurlong Road ; Arle Road ; and Hatherley Road ; sluice valves repaired in Hatherley Road and Ring's Road ; mains washed out in All Saints and Hales Roads, Battledown, Old Bath Road, Leckhampton Road, Lansdown Road, Gloucester Road, etc.

No 3 reservoir at Hewletts was now empty and cleaning was being carried out. General work had included inspection of stop taps, cleaning out of pits and sounding for leakages ; at Sandford Works general work of pumping meter cleaning, repairing and testing and also fixing new meter testing plant.

211-- Appeals The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

L. WARD, Chairman.

### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**17th November, 1947.** Present—Aldermen Green, Trye and Ward; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Fisher, Irving, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

212—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor F. Strickland be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year. ALSO RESOLVED, That appreciation be recorded of the services rendered by Alderman Trye during his Chairmanship for 19 years.

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

214—Appointment of Sub-Committees—Requisitions, Stores and Plant—Councillors Addis, Irving, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

**Traffic Sub-Committee**—Alderman Trye, Councillors Addis, Fisher, Green, Readings and Strickland.

**Salvage Sub-Committee**—Councillors Biggs, Fisher, Irving, Midwinter, Readings and Strickland.

**Pittville Street Sub-Committee**—Aldermen Trye and Ward, Councillors Fisher and Strickland.

215—Accident Prevention Council—RESOLVED, That Councillors Readings and Strickland be appointed the Council's representatives upon the Accident -Prevention Council for the ensuing year.

216—Street Lighting-(a) Grosvenor Terrace—Messrs. Norton & Whitton Ltd., asked for lighting near their premises (Oddfellows Hall) to prevent nuisances. The Electricity Committee recommended a wall bracket and lamp at an approximate cost of £12 18s. 0d. and to avoid increased consumption a 40 watt instead of the usual 60 watt lamp with the wattage of the other two lamps in the neighbourhood similarly reduced. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be adopted.

(b) Consumption of energy—The Ministries of Fuel and Power and Transport had pointed out that the consumption for street lighting had not been reduced to 50% of pre-war level, and the Electricity Committee recommended cessation of lighting at 11.45 p.m. instead of midnight with "half-night" circuits during this period ; also the switching on of early morning lighting at 6 a.m. until dawn from 10th November until February, and that all street lighting, with the exception of Police lights, be extinguished on 31st March. These economies, with the saving due to fluorescent lighting in the Promenade, would reduce consumption to approximately 52% of pre-war level. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be adopted.

(c) Prestbury Road/Roland Terrace (Min. 2238/47)—As the Committee could not recommend road reinstatement at present, application was made for a light to assist pedestrians in avoiding pools of water in the road The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted suggestion for a bracket lamp at a cost of £12 with annual running costs of £1 10s. 0d. but pointed out the proposals for improved lighting in Prestbury Road which he anticipated would provide sufficient lighting for Roland Terrace. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the new scheme is in operation.

217-3 and 6 Queen Street (Min. 1007/47) Application was made to the Ministry of Health for a loan of 4493 for the purchase of these properties for road improvement The Ministry of Transport had been consulted but could not indicate that the need for widening was clearly established. Further,

the street was relatively unimportant. Emission of a traffic angle and an improvement line had not yet been determined. The Council's application, therefore, could not be acceded to. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken.

218—Folly Lane Tip-Additional Land 1216/47--The District Valuer had now negotiated the acquisition of approximately 2.720 acres (part of fields Nos. 598 and 599) for the sum of £450. RESOLVED That application be made to the Ministry of Health for loan sanction for £2,529 for the purchase price, stamp duty and legal costs, )cost of culverting through this land, water supply and fencing, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the sum of £2,529 ; and that the Common Seal be affixed to Mortgage, order and form of receipt.

219-2 Spa Place—This property, requisitioned premises, had been purchased for street improvement, and the Ministry of Health indicated that in such instances, it was preferable for the premises to be released and a tenancy agreement arranged between the Council and the tenant. The Housing Committee had, therefore, decided to de-requisition and asked this Committee to delegate to them the power of management. RESOLVED, accordingly.

30

220—Vittoria Walk, Oriel Road Junction (Min. 1006/47)--The draft Deed of Dedication of land to be surrendered at this junction had now been submitted by the Postmaster General who wished to include a Clause preserving his right to attach certain fixtures to any building which may be erected on the Post Office site subject to no obstruction to traffic. In view of the protection given by the Building Bye-laws, the Town Clerk saw no objection thereto. RESOLVED, accordingly.

221-9 Albion Street—The tenant's solicitors asked consent to their client disposing of the good-will of these premises as due to ill health he found it impossible to continue working. The Committee were reminded that when the premises were purchased for the Pittville Street improvement scheme, compensation for disturbance was then paid, and if this application was acceded to, there was the possibility of further compensation being claimed when the site ultimately came to be dealt with. RESOLVED, That consent be refused, the premises to be re-let upon the surrender of the tenancy to an applicant on the waiting list.

222-8 Winchcomb Street—Accident Prevention Council Office (Min. 2248/47)—The Borough Surveyor was asked to undertake essential works to this property before its occupation by the Accident Prevention Council. He stated that it was very dilapidated and his estimate, including the provision of lavatory accommodation in the small room at the rear, amounted to 005 0s. 9d. RESOLVED, That the expenditure be authorised.

223—Pittville Street Properties—Revision of Tenancies (Min. 2069/47)—The tenancies of these properties had been terminated and the tenants informed that monthly tenancies could be entered into at the approved increased rents. (a) Nos. 22/24 Pittville Street—The Cheltenham District Traction Co. wished to renew their tenancy but asked for reconsideration of the rental. RESOLVED, That the decision be adhered to.

(b) Room at 3a, Albion Street—The tenants (Jehovah's Witnesses) also wished to continue but asked for re-consideration of the increase from 10s to £1 per week for the room occupied by them. RESOLVED, That the decision be adhered to.

(c) Certain tenants now with quarterly tenancies asked for their new agreements to be on a similar basis instead of monthly. RESOLVED, That the decision to let on monthly tenancies be adhered to.

(d) 2 and 4 Pittville Street, and 122 High Street—Consideration of the revision of this tenancy was deferred. RESOLVED, That the tenancy be terminated, the tenant to be given an option of entering into a new agreement on a monthly basis at a rental increased from £32 10s. 0d. inclusive to £37 10s. 0d. exclusive.

224—Traffic Regulations—The Ministry of Transport had decided to confirm the Borough of Cheltenham (Traffic Regulation) Order, 1947, relating to the main thoroughfares as soon as signs had been agreed and were ready for erection. The Borough Surveyor was now in communication with the Ministry thereon.

225—Rodney Road Car Park—(a) Amendment of Bye-laws (Min. 2074 (a)/47)—The Home Office had confirmed the amended Bye-laws which would come into operation on 1st January next.

(b) Health Department—Van—RESOLVED, That the application of the Public Health Committee for over-night accommodation for a van be granted subject to the usual rental of £5 per annum and to the arrangements being determined at any time if this becomes necessary.

226—Overhead Telegraphic Line—Moors Estate and Albert Road (lane leading to Hill Court)—RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in consenting to the erection of these lines subject to certain terms and conditions be confirmed.

227—Telephone Kiosk near Keynsham Street Post Office—The Post Office Telephones had received a request for a kiosk in the forecourt of Keynsham Street Post Office, and asked consent thereto. RESOLVED, That consent be given subject to the Post Office satisfying themselves that the forecourt is not private property.

228—Island Sites—Silver Linings Campaign, 15th to 22nd November—RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in permitting the use of these sites for advertisements connected with this campaign, be confirmed.

229—Royal Well Omnibus Station—RESOLVED, That a notice "No thoroughfare — Omnibuses only" be placed on the island adjacent to this park and also near the Imperial Motor Mart to remedy complaints of the Bristol Tram-ways Co, of private cars crossing the park to reach Royal Well Road causing danger to bus passengers.

230—Park Place, Andover Road Junction (Min. 2235/47)—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor experiment with the provision of an island at this junction to include the setting back of the footpaths where necessary, and that he report further thereon.

231—Direction Sign "Gloucester" on Island, Lansdown Castle—RESOLVED, That the suggested lowering of this sign be not entertained as the Committee do not consider that it obstructs traffic vision.

232—Gloucester' Road—Speed Limit Sign (Min. 2233/47)—It had been found that the Order made by the Ministry of Transport before the war permitted this sign to be placed a maximum of 400 ft. west of Tennyson Road junction, and the position of the sign had now been adjusted accordingly.

233—Projecting Signs (a) Whitesmith Arms—RESOLVED, That the application of Messrs. Buckleys (London) Ltd. on behalf of Messrs. Ind. Coope & Allsopp to erect a lantern sign at these premises be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions and to the wording being amended to "Whitesmith Arms."

(b) St. Margaret's Civic Restaurant—RESOLVED, That the application of the Civic Restaurant Committee for a sign at the junction of High Street and North Street be granted subject to the usual conditions, to the wording being reduced to "Civic Restaurant" and to the Chairman determining the exact position.

(c) Corner Cafe, 184 Bath Road—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. M. Wilde to erect a sign outside these premises be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions.

(d) Ritz Cinema—RESOLVED, That the application of Twentieth Century Cinemas Ltd. to erect a Wm advertising sign underneath their canopy be not granted.

31

234—Proposed Hoarding North Place—RESOLVED, That the application of Messrs. Mills & Rockley Ltd for access to the car park at the junction of Warwick Place and North Place for erecting and maintaining a new hoarding at 13 North Place be not granted.

235—Trees (a) Evesham Road—The Bristol Tramways & Carriage Co. Ltd. would shortly operate additional double decker buses on this road and drew attention to overhanging trees. The Borough Surveyor reported 15 leaning trees and others which required lopping. RESOLVED, That extensive lopping be undertaken but that before deciding to fell, the leaning trees be viewed.

(b) Pittville Lawn and Wellington Road—RESOLVED, That two diseased elm trees be removed and having regard to their size, Mr. William Butler, timber merchant, be asked to undertake the work.

(c) Moorend Park Road—The leaning tree outside No. 51 had been inspected when it was found that the grass verge had been cleaned up and reduced by about 1ft. RESOLVED, That the width of the grass verge be restored but that the tree be not removed.

(d) Promenade—RESOLVED, That the hollow tree outside Messrs. Stephen Sharpe's be felled. ALSO RESOLVED, That two young trees at either side of the War Memorial approaches be removed and replaced with chestnuts at wider spacing to leave the approaches clear.

(e) No. 258 Gloucester Road—The Borough Surveyor reported letter from the Owner's Solicitors alleging damage to the passage adjoining her premises due to tree roots. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor make further investigations, and that the matter be referred to the Town Clerk.

236—Priors Road Widening (Min. 2231/47)—The Ministry of Transport were unable, at present, to recommend this scheme for grant earning purposes. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue negotiations with the Government Department and abutting owners for the surrender of land required for this improvement so that work may be undertaken immediately the time is opportune. ALSO RESOLVED, That, as a temporary measure, the present footpath be surfaced with tar macadam and gravel.

237—Alstone Lane—Footpath Repairs—The Borough Surveyor reported memorial from residents complaining of the footpath on the east side. He held the view that vehicles entering and leaving the bakery on the opposite side were responsible for the damage and instead of replacing slabs at present he recommended cold asphalt as a temporary measure. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that observation be kept in an effort to trace offenders.

238—Orchard Way—Read, memorial from 23 occupiers complaining of lack of lighting and road cleansing and smells from drains. Lighting was already included in the Brooklyn Road scheme now before the Ministry of Transport but with regard to cleansing, the Borough Surveyor pointed out that

this was a private street and by Min. 2098/47, cleansing was not undertaken. He suggested, however, that the making up of the road and footpaths be taken up with the contractors and when the work was satisfactorily completed the road could be taken over and maintained by the Council. RESOLVED, That the memorialists be informed accordingly.

239—Swindon Road—Sharpe & Fisher's Yard—The Company had recently acquired property in Swindon Road for a yard and pointed out that their fence was not in line with nearby buildings. They proposed re-alignment to the present building line, throwing a strip two or three feet wide and approximately 20 yards long into a highway subject to the Council undertaking paving or tar macadam. The Borough Surveyor stated that the present road width was 36 ft. to be increased at a future date to 50 ft. and it was thought that the Company might then consider favourably the setting back of their fence again to the new line. RESOLVED, That offer now made be accepted.

240—Clarence Parade—Bus Stop—RESOLVED, That the application of the occupier of the Clarence Cafe for the removal of the bus stop be not acceded to for the reasons that the site is the most suitable and the stop is not out-side the premises and therefore queues should not obstruct the cafe entrance.

241—Nissen Huts—The Ministry of Works had invited tenders for the huts at Marle Hill and, with the approval of the Chairman, a tender of £139 for four huts was submitted and accepted. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

242—Lance's Site—The Borough Surveyor submitted estimate of the cost of converting three of the nissen huts into temporary shops amounting to £2,400 and which included dismantling and re-erection, provision of concrete floor, asphalt finish, shop fronts and internal partitions, lighting points, lavatory accommodation, drainage and water supply, but excluded heating, lighting fittings and internal shop fittings which would be left for the tenants to provide. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to the next meeting and that in the meantime the Borough Surveyor discuss with appropriate Government Departments the possibility of Obtaining necessary licences.

243—Car and Bus Park—Athletic Ground—This work was excluded from the estimates. The Park Committee had in mind application for loan sanction and the Borough Surveyor therefore submitted detailed scheme amounting to £3,500. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the time is more opportune.

244—Shaftesbury (formerly Agg's Cottage) Folly Lane—This house had no electricity or gas supply, and the tenant once more asked for the installation of electricity. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report to the next meeting as to cost.

245—Rowanfield and Alma Road Housing Estates—The Borough Surveyor submitted layout which provided for roads in reinforced concrete and drainage on the separate system. The tender of Messrs. Hadsphaltic Ltd. was being recommended for Rowanfield Road and Messrs. William T. Nicholls Ltd., of Gloucester, had been appointed by the Ministry of Works to develop the Estate and erect the houses. RESOLVED, That the layouts be approved.

246—Cleevelands Street--In the annual estimates a sum had been included for re-paving these footpaths but as the road was in a clearance area the Borough Surveyor sought confirmation. RESOLVED, That in view of the condition of the paths the work proceed.

247—Annual Estimates—(a) 1947/48 Price Increases—The following price increases had been notified :—

Tarmac Ltd. Concrete paving slabs from 6s 4d to 6s 7d per super yard.

“ Concrete channelling from 4s 3d to 4s 5d per lineal yard.

John Needham & Sons Ltd. Meter boxes—increases varying from 1s 6d to 1s 9d per cwt. according to size. Also Hydrant boxes by 1s 6d per cwt.

Geo. Bence & Sons Ltd. Cotton sacks for cement charged at 3s 4d each and credited at 3s on return resulting in an extra cost of 6s 8d per ton.

Berry Wiggins & Co, Ltd. "Coldcoat" bitumen emulsion increase to 1s 0  $\frac{3}{4}$  d. at Station and 1s 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  d. on site, and 1s 1  $\frac{1}{8}$  d. at station to 1s 1  $\frac{5}{8}$ d. on site.

(b) Annual Stores Tenders, 1948/49—Tenders had been invited for each of the two years following the termination of the war, but owing to present supply difficulties and bearing in mind the fact that a large number of items were controlled, the Borough Surveyor suggested that current tenders be extended to 31st March, 1949, and, at the same time, he be given authority to purchase in a cheaper market as opportunity offers, With regard, however, to local tenders, it had been the practice, where prices were identical, for the tenders to be re-distributed annually and the Borough Surveyor recommended that this practice be followed for the coming year. RESOLVED, accordingly.

248---Works Completed—The Borough Surveyor reported upon works completed during the month.

249--Refuse Disposal—(a) 1250 tons had been disposed of at the tip in October as compared with 1,155  $\frac{1}{2}$  tons for the preceding month.

(b) Tipping—The Planning Committee were considering the control of tips both public and private and had referred the matter to this Committee for consideration. The Borough Surveyor considered that one tip would be costly and it would be difficult to maintain the tip in good order. Tipping might, however, be authorised under approved conditions to reclaim land, and he had certain sites in mind which the Council might acquire. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor pursue enquiries and report further thereon.

(c) Trade Refuse—A small amount of trade refuse was tipped at Folly Lane and the Borough Surveyor recommended a charge of 6d. per horse cart load and 1s per motor lorry load. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(d) Montpellier Villas Refuse Disposal—The Planning Committee also referred for this Committee's consideration the suggested method of refuse disposal from a proposed block of flats, namely, a chute from each flat without proper termination. RESOLVED, That in future no chutes be permitted unless first approved by this Committee ALSO RESOLVED, That the chute at Montpellier Villas be approved subject to the same being properly roofed and provided with a door to cover the opening, and to bins being properly filled for collection.

(e) Salvage Sorting and Baling---The Borough Surveyor recommended that the salvage sorting and baling equipment be removed from the Destructor to the Folly Lane tip and a station established which would save man power and transport, and he anticipated that under such conditions, a profit could be shown on this service. RESOLVED, That an estimate be submitted to the next meeting including the acquisition of one or two nissen huts for paper sorting and also fencing for the station to prevent unauthorised access.



(f) Aeroplane Engine—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor approach the A.T.C. with regard to an aeroplane engine received for salvage disposal, and if they have no use therefor, the engine be sold.

250—Salvage Meeting, 20th November-----The Borough Surveyor reported upon arrangements made by the Board of Trade for a salvage meeting at Cheltenham to which representatives of local authorities in the county had been invited.

251—Mechanical Plant---(a) Deliveries—The Borough Surveyor reported deliveries of the tar spraying machine, autosythe and 2/3 ton Bedford lorry.

(b) Karrier vehicles—Four of the six vehicles had been delivered and a fifth advised. RESOLVED, That three old S. & D. vehicles be overhauled and offered for sale.

(c) Footpath Roller (Min. 2251/47)—The Borough Surveyor had inspected footpath rollers offered by the Ministry of Supply and recommended that an offer of £350 be made for an Aveling Barford 2 ½ ton diesel roller, 1941 manufacture. Necessary repairs and adjustments could be undertaken by his Department. The rear rollers were, however too wide for grass rolling and would have to be replaced by smaller rollers at an approximate cost of £50. RESOLVED, That as footpath rollers are not now available to the home market, the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

252—Horse Transport (Min. 1592/47)— The Borough Surveyor was now in a position to dispose of horse transport and other redundant equipment. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Castle be instructed accordingly.

253—Petrol Economy—The Ministry of Fuel and Power had requested a reduction of 10% in consumption and efforts would be made to comply therewith as far as possible without seriously impairing the efficiency of the Department.

254—Traffic Census—The Borough Surveyor submitted particulars of a recent traffic census taken at various points in High Street near the Promenade roundabout.

255-8 Beaufort Buildings—Cellar—This cellar had collapsed and the owner had agreed to the Borough Surveyor's scheme for a smaller cellar area the remainder to be filled in and surrendered. The cost was estimated at £90, the owner agreeing to contributing half, but the actual amount was below this sum although lighting and watching, increased the total to £14 6s. 6d. RESOLVED, That the owner's offer of £10 be accepted, the Council accepting responsibility for the balance.

256—Borough Surveyor's Department—Wages Office (Min. 2253/47)—The Finance Committee had decided ha having regard to the various changes taking place, in their view, consideration of the suggested alterations in the present method of computation and payment of workmen's wages, should be deferred for one year. RESOLVED, That this be agreed.

F. STRICKLAND, Chairman.

33

#### **CIVIC RESTAURANT COMMITTEE.**

**17th November, 1947.** Present—Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Mudway and Thompson

257—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

### **RATING COMMITTEE.**

**17th November, 1947.** Present--Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Gardner, Irving, Mann and Parker

258—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**17th November, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward ; Councillors Biggs, Bettridge, Mann and Thompson.

259—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Thompson be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year

F. D. LITTLEWOOD. Town Clerk.

### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**17th November, 1947.** Present—Councillor Carter (in the chair), Councillors Bettridge, Biggs. Bayliss, Brown, Gardner, Mudway and Parker.

260—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Gardner be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

F. L. CARTER, Chairman.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**21st November, 1947.** Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) ; Aldermen Waite and Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Mann and Morris.

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

262—General Rate—Report of the Borough Treasurer was submitted on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £82,430 ; amount outstanding £170,491.

263—Water Rate and Charges—Report of the Borough Treasurer on the collection of the second was submitted. Amount collected £8,019 ; amount Outstanding £30,745.

264—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charge amounting to £18,779 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £236 for re-chargeable works carried out and £265 for electricity supplied.

34

265—Sanctions to Loan—Loan sanctions had been received as follows :—

| Date               | Proposal  | Amount | Term      |
|--------------------|---|--------|-----------|
| 22nd October, 1947 | Mains and services (Expenditure incurred during year ended 31st March, 1947, and provision for future expenditure from 1st April, 1947) | £8,988 | 25 years. |

|                     |  |        |           |
|---------------------|--|--------|-----------|
|                     | Mains and services (Expenditure incurred during year ended 31st March, 1946) | £2,446 | 24 years. |
|                     | Plant, sub-station equipment   | £4,000 | 20 years. |
| 31st October, 1947  | Purchase of land, site at Whaddon, Community Centre                          | £1,058 | 80 years. |
| 3rd November, 1947  | Purchase of land, Prestbury Road, for temporary housing site ...             | £375   | 80 years. |
| 11th November, 1947 | Purchase of The Knole—Buildings  | £5,816 | 60 years. |
|                     | Land...  | £2,508 | 80 years. |
| 13th November, 1947 | Wellington Passage Sewer   | £1,900 | 30 years. |

266—Insurance—Quotation was submitted from Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited in respect of claims for damages against the Corporation and the Town Clerk for libel arising out of notices of meetings, agendas or minutes, or reports of meetings, and/or correspondence or publications in the course of Corporation business. Indemnity was limited to £1,000 for which a premium of L10 per annum would be payable, less 10 per cent commission, the Corporation bearing 10 per cent of all amounts payable by the Company under the policy. RESOLVED, That insurance be effected in accordance with the above.

267—Notice of Audit—Notice was submitted of the commencement of the audit of accounts by the District Auditor for the year ended 31st March, 1947, on 22nd December, 1947.

268—Electricity Showroom—The Committee considered Min. 60 (Electricity Committee) in regard to accommodation. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendations of the Electricity Committee, subject to the proposal in recommendation (b) being strictly limited to not exceeding 2 officers and that such arrangement be terminated as soon as other accommodation is available.

269—Outstanding Accounts—RESOLVED, That the sum of £78 9s. 3d., outstanding in respect of Doctors' fees for maternity cases during the period 1941-46, be written off as irrecoverable.

270—Programme of Capital Expenditure—The Borough Treasurer reported that the programme of capital expenditure submitted to the Ministry of Health did not allow of sufficient time, in the event of any of the works being carried out, to make proper provision in the Council's financial estimates for loan charges. It was not known what procedure would be followed in future years, but he recommended that Committees, when preparing their estimates, should also prepare a capital expenditure programme. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

271--Loans—Loans amounting to £8,000 had been repaid since the last meeting.

272—Superannuation—Contributions amounting to £57 10s. 8d. had been refunded to Mrs. Rogers, Town Hall, on termination of her appointment.

273—Control of Tickets—The Borough Treasurer reported the difficulty in control of tickets owing to shortage of used ticket boxes at the Town Hall and other establishments, and recommended that the Borough Surveyor be asked to supply twelve suitable boxes. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

274—Local Government Bill—The Borough Treasurer reported on this Bill, although it was not possible at the present time to indicate the definite financial effect of the proposals, and a further report would be submitted by him in due course.

275—Costing Section—Binders—RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Twinlock Ltd., being the lowest of three tenders received for the supply of binding equipment for costing records, at a sum of £91 13s. be accepted.

276—Revision of Water Charges—The Committee considered the proposed revision of water charges, set out in Min. 207 of the Water Committee, and had before them the reply of the Minister of Health on the Council's proposals to revise the charges, the contents of which are set out in the report of the WATER COMMITTEE. In the Treasurer's opinion, the Department appeared to be under a misapprehension as to the effect of the increased charges, and assumed that one of the objects of the increases was to build up reserves. Whilst the Minister was not prepared to make an Order under the Water Act 1945 for the permanent revision of the charges, consideration would be given to a temporary order under the Defence Regulations, and the Water Committee were recommending that an application should be made under the Regulations, and for the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Water Committee, together with the appropriate officers, to interview officials of the department and discuss the whole question with them. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the views of the WATER COMMITTEE.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.

35

### **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 December, 1947.** Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor H. T. Bush, J.P.).

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.).

Aldermen Green, Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Smith, Waite and Ward; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O. B.E., Bishop, Brown, Carter, Fisher, Gardner, Irving, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker, Readings, Strickland, Thompson, Waite and Ward.

Apology—Apology for absence was received from Alderman Capt. Trye.

277—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 10th November, 1947, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

278—United States Awards—The Mayor referred to the awards made by the United States Government to Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, the Rector of Cheltenham (Rev. Canon J. B. Goodliffe, M.A.), Rev. Father Coughlin, the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and the Entertainments Manager, in recognition of the material aid given by them to the allied cause during the last war. Alderman T. Wilfred Waite was awarded the Medal of Freedom with bronze palm, and the remaining gentlemen the Medal of Freedom. The Council congratulated the recipients on the honour bestowed upon them and Alderman Waite suitably replied on their behalf stating that they felt the Awards to them had been made as representing the very many persons in the town who had assisted the Americans.

279--Retiring Chairmen of Committees—Alderman Capt. Trye and Alderman E. L. Ward—Reference was made to the retirements of Aldermen Trye and Ward as Chairmen of the Street and Highway Committee and Planning Committee respectively, which appointments they had held for a great

many years. During the period, considerable development had taken place in Cheltenham necessitating foresight, energy and great responsibility. These duties had been performed efficiently, conscientiously and impartially, with considerable benefit to the town and ratepayers. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their sincere appreciation of the services rendered by Aldermen Trye and Ward, and, that in the absence of Alderman Trye, the Mayor communicate the Council's appreciation to him.

280 —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 & 19

Water    November 11

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. 208(Building Trade Operatives) be referred back for further consideration," was not seconded).

Electricity ...                                  November 11

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That resolution (a) to Min. 60 (Electricity Showroom) be amended by substituting the word " January" for "November" was not seconded).

Art Gallery and Museum                      November 12

Public Health                                      November 12

Public Library                                      November 12

Allotments                                        November 13

Parks and Recreation Grounds              November 13 & 25

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, " That the words ' and that estimates of the cost involved be prepared for consideration by the Council' be added to the resolution to Min. 77 (Inspection of Parks and Recreation Grounds)" was accepted by the Chairman with the approval of the Council).

37

Planning    November 13 & 14

Cemetery and Crematorium                      November 14

(An amendment moved by Councillor Midwinter, "That Min. 148 (Burial Fees) be amended to provide that the fee for services of clergymen or ministers at cremations be fixed at 21s instead of 20s-" was not seconded)

Town Improvement and Spa ...                      November 14

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Tucker Brown, seconded by Councillor Irving, "That Min. 9 of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee (Cheltenham Spa Open Competitive Musical Festival, 1948) referred to in Min. 102 of the Town Improvement and Spa Committee, be referred back for further consideration).

Street and Highway ...                                  November 17



thereabouts. Also, That application be made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for confirmation of the said Order, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary advertisements and notices and do all things necessary for the confirmation of the Order.

(c) Victoria Cricket Ground. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham Cricket Club be asked to permit the waste land on the east side to be used for allotments.

284 Barn Field-(Min. 1906/47)-The District Valuer considered a reasonable annual rental was £5. 5. 0., which the Governors of Dean Close School were willing to accept. RESOLVED, That this rental be paid.

285-Agg Gardner Recreation Ground Allotments---(a) Plots Nos. 13 & 14-The tenant of No 13, had inadvertently cultivated No. 14 for about 7 months, and now refused to transfer. The tenant of No. 14 during the summer, took little, if any interest in her plot and the Chairman had been asked to arrange an amicable settlement. The Sub-Committee inspected the site and found No. 14 in excellent condition but No 13 was uncultivated and it was unfair to enforce the transfer. The Gardens Superintendent suggested that the motor cultivator be used on No. 13 and half the plot let to the original tenant of No. 14, as he thought this was as much as she could manage, the remaining half to be let to a waiting applicant. RESOLVED, accordingly.

38

(b) No. 38—[Min. 2147(a)/47J—This tenancy was terminated owing to bad cultivation but on re-consideration the tenant was given a month to improve the condition. An inspection showed that only half the plot was cultivated. RESOLVED, That the tenancy be terminated but that half the plot be re-let to the tenant, the remainder to be let to a waiting applicant.

(c) RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, that the tenancies of allotments on this site which, were in poor cultivation, be terminated, be adopted but that half the plots be re-let to tenants if desired, the remainder to be let to waiting applicants.

286—Fencing—Charlton Park Gate, Carter's Field, and site adjoining 47 Brooklyn Road—Complaints had been received from tenants of damage from cattle, thefts of produce, etc., and they asked for repairs to fencing. This was the Council's liability but the Borough Surveyor reported that the amount in the estimates was already expended. RESOLVED, That he be instructed to carry out essential repairs.

287—Lettings and Terminations—Since the last meeting 20 allotments had been let and 3 tenancies terminated. 17 Plot holders had been warned of bad condition.

288--Rebates in Rent--RESOLVED, That the following new tenants be granted 3 months' rent free period in view of the bad condition of their plots, namely, Nos. 38 and 74 Shelley Road, 6 and 10 Brooklyn Road.

289—National Allotments & Gardens Society Ltd.—The Council were invited to appoint delegates to attend the Annual General Meeting at Brighton from 27th to 29th May, 1948, and to submit nominations for officers and Management Committee. RESOLVED, That no nominations be submitted but should the Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society decide to appoint a delegate, such delegate also be the Council's proxy.

H. ADDIS, Chairman.

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**8th December, 1947.** Present—Councillor Biggs (Chairman) ; Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Leigh James; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Carter, Morris, Mudway and Strickland.

290—Housing Act, 1936—(i) 4 Worcester Street— Letter was submitted from the solicitor to the owner stating that it was not proposed to oppose a demolition order in respect of this property. RESOLVED, That the Council, being satisfied that the premises were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation, and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, a demolition order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 11 of the Housing Act. 1936.

(ii) 1 Gainsborough, College Road—Basement—Notice of intention to consider the making of a closing order in respect of this basement had been served. RESOLVED That the Council being satisfied that the basement rooms of these premises, which were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation and were not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, an Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, prohibiting the use of the said basement except for storage purposes.

(iii) Basement—Cranley Lodge, Wellington Square—Application was submitted for permission to re-occupy the basement of these premises in respect of which a closing order was made on the 7th April, 1936. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred pending the carrying out of works necessary to render the basement fit for human habitation.

(iv) Unfit Houses--Re-licensing of Premises—RESOLVED, That the licence for the re-occupation of 52a St. George's Place be renewed until the 18th July, 1948.

291—Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936/46—(a) Samples of pasteurised milk had been taken from two firms all of which were satisfactory with one exception which the phosphate test was slightly unsatisfactory.

(b) RESOLVED, That the following licences be granted for the period ending 31st December, 1948, subject to the provisions of the Order :—

(i) Gloucestershire Dairy Co. Ltd. ; Bayshill Dairy Ltd for Pasteuriser's licences authorising the use of the special designation " Pasteurised " in relation to milk treated by them.

(ii) Gloucestershire Dairy Co. Ltd., Bayshill Dairy Ltd. ; and St. Anne's Dairy, for a dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation " Tuberculin Tested in relation to milk bottled and sold by them at their premises.

(iii) Bayshill Dairy Ltd., 249 Swindon Road—Licence was granted to this firm on the 31st October, was to bottle and retail " Tuberculin Tested milk until the 31st December, 1947, for which a fee of £2. 2. 0. as paid. RESOLVED, That the fee be proportionately reduced and a refund of £1. 15. 0. be made.

292—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted report of the Public Analyst upon samples Nos. 973 - 976 inclusive, (milk) all of which were satisfactory.

(ii) Public Analyst—Application was submitted from the Public Analyst, Mr. Rowland H. Ellis, for an increase in his remuneration. RESOLVED, That his retaining fee of £75 p.a. be increased to £105 p.a. to cover analysis and report on 100 samples per annum and that £1 1. 0. be paid for each additional sample.



(iii) 3 Bennington Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the condition of these premises, which were used for tripe dressing, was unsatisfactory. RESOLVED, That notice be served in pursuance of Sec. 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, upon the owner, requiring him to carry out necessary works.

39

293—Royal Sanitary Institute—RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector attend the Annual Congress of this Institute at Harrogate on 24th - 28th May, 1948.

294 Public Health Act, 1936—(i) Common Lodging Houses—RESOLVED, That applications from the keepers of the lodging houses known as Shamrock and Rowton House, Grove Street, for the renewal of their registration for the period ending 31st December, 1948, be granted. ALSO RESOLVED, That the application from the keeper of Cumberland Villa, Grove Street, be not approved in accordance with Min. 1700 (vii)/47.

(ii) Statutory Notices—(a) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon the defects at 45 and 46 Tewkesbury Road. RESOLVED, That notices be served in pursuance of Sec. 93 upon the owner of 45 Tewkesbury Road and Sec. 45 upon the owner of 46 Tewkesbury Road.

(b) 44 Bath Road—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the owner of these premises had failed to comply with statutory notices served on the 15th September, 1947, in respect of defects. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to take legal proceedings in the event of the owner still failing to comply with the notice.

(c) Dust Bins—(i) RESOLVED, That notices be served under Sec. 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the owners of the following properties to provide regulation dust bins :— 3 Croft Street, 12 Montpellier Villas (2), Tunstall Lodge, Painswick Road ; 4 Prospect Terrace, Fairview Street ; and 4 Beaufort Place.

(ii) The owner of 19 Glenfall Street had not complied with the notice to provide a regulation dust bin for these premises. RESOLVED, That a new dust bin be provided by the Council and that the Town Clerk recover the cost from the owner.

(iii) Offensive Trades—F. Stroud & Co., 63 Sun Street—RESOLVED, That the period specified in Min. 463/46 permitting the use of these premises by a rag and bone dealer be extended until the 31st December, 1948.

(iv) Smoke Abatement—Crooks Laundry—(Min. 111/47)—A grit arrestor had now been installed at these premises and arrangements had also been made to extend the chimney stack.

(d) Alexander Asphalt Co. Factory—Tewkesbury Road—The Standing Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of these premises. The Company had ceased to use slack-dust in manufacturing, which was the principle cause of complaint, and were taking all other steps possible to completely eliminate any nuisance, and the factory would be kept under observation. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

295—Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that 19 applications for the renewal of Slaughtermen's licences for the period ending 31st December, 1948 had been granted.

296—Hayden Sewage Works—(a) Manager and Chemist—(i) Mr. J. D. Peach, A.M.Inst.S.P. Assistant Manager to the East Middlesex Sewage Works, had been appointed Sewage Works Manager and Chemist and would commence duties on the 1st January, 1948.

(ii) House—A condition of the appointment of Mr. J. D. Peach was that he occupied the house at Hayden, formerly occupied by Mr. Morgan, until such time as the proposed new house was erected. Certain repairs and decorations were necessary for which there was no provision in the estimates. RESOLVED, That a rent of 10s per week be charged, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out such works at a cost not exceeding £60.

(b) Sludge Irrigation—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the difficulties experienced in depositing sludge on a 20 acre field at Whitehall Farm. He recommended that approximately 40 yards of cast iron pipe at a cost of approximately £32 should be laid to enable the sludge to be pumped direct. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(c) Proposed New Sludge Beds—Licences had been received to purchase timber for this work and it was recommended that this should be purchased, taken into store and charged to the Contractor when required. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(d) Cleaning of Carriers—P.O.W. Labour—The Chairman had authorised the employment of P.O.W. Labour at the works to carry out the cleaning of the effluent carrier and other work which was essential, and which could not be carried out owing to the shortage of labour. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

297—Barn Outfall—Applications were submitted from Mr. E. G. Hulbert of Swindon Farm, Mr. L. L. Cook of Swindon Gardens, Tewkesbury Road and Mr. J. Surman, on behalf of Messrs. Cooke Bros. in respect of proposed house at Elmstone Hardwicke, for permission to connect to the Barn Outfall Sewer, RESOLVED, That the applications be granted, subject to the applicants entering into the usual agreement to pay 2s in the pound on the rateable value of the premises.

298—Barn Farm—Bungalow—It was necessary to carry out works to this bungalow at an estimated cost of £26, in order to make the building wind and weather proof. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out this work.

299—Wellington Passage—Reconstruction of Sewer—(Min 1536(vi)/47)—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had insufficient labour available to carry out this work by direct labour. RESOLVED, That tenders be invited for this work.

300—Mitre Street—Defective Sewer—The Borough Surveyor estimated the cost of laying a new sewer to eliminate the rat nuisance in this street, scheduled for re-development, at £427. RESOLVED in the Circumstances the sewer be not reconstructed, but that the Chief Sanitary Inspector carry out intensive baiting.

301—Shops Act, 1934-334 High Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that these premises were not provided with suitable and sufficient means of ensuring reasonable temperature for the persons employed. RESOLVED, That notice be served under Sec. 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, upon the owners of the premises to provide a door in place of the roll-up shutters, and an additional radiator

302—Cheltenham Animals' Welfare Association—RESOLVED, That the subscription of £1. 1. 0. be renewed.

303—Infestation Van—The Street and Highways Committee had agreed to the parking of a van at the Road Car Park at a charge of £5 p.a. the arrangements being terminable at any time.

C. W. BIGGS, Chairman.

40

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**11th December, 1947.** Present--Councillors Bayliss (Chairman) ; Bendall, Mann, A. L. Morris and C. W. Morris ; Lady Victoria Forrester ; Mrs. Atherton ; Majors Beale-Browne and Shakspeare ; Messrs. Harris and Vinton.

12th December, 1947. Present---Councillors Bayliss (Chairman) ; Bendall and C. W. Morris.

304—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—In accordance with Min. 2164/46 the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans in relations to byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1946.

| No. of Plan | Name                       | Description  | Recommendation under Byelaws   | Recommendation under Interim Development Order                            |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| 6293        | L. W. Barnard and Partners | Extensions, 12 Halland Road  | Approved subject to the conditions of approval given on the 14th November, 1947                          | Approved, subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building. |
| 6301        | Mrs. R. E. Shipps          | Garage, 8 Cakebridge Road  | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6302        | N. G. Earl                 | Garage, 31 Overbrook Drive   | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6303        | Mrs. E. B. Jobling         | Cycle shed, Glenowen, Lansdown Road  | Approved.  | Approved.   |
| 6304        | S. G. Kirby                | Garage, 66 Suffolk Road  | Disapproved.   | Disapproved.  |
| 6305        | W. H. Bramley              | Greenhouse and fowlhouse, 17 Brooklyn Road                                     | Disapproved.   | Disapproved.  |
| 6306        | Miss A. L. Fountain        | Alterations, Pinehurst, Halland Road   | Approved, subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector | Approved.   |
| 6307        | Barclay's Bank Ltd.        | Conversion of rooms on 1st and 2nd floors to offices and flat, 394 High Street | Approved as in Plan 6306 and to the Borough Surveyor being satisfied with the method of refuse disposal  | Approved.   |

|      |  |  |   |  |
|------|--|--|---|--|
| 6308 | J. B. Robinson                             | Garage,<br>83 Hatherley Road   | Approved  | Approved.  |
| 6309 | John Dobell & Co.<br>Ltd.                  | Remodelling of<br>sanitary accommoda-<br>tion, 48 Fairview Road  | Approved  | Approved, subject to<br>observations of the<br><b>PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.</b>                                     |
| 6310 | John Dobell & Co.<br>Ltd.                  | Alterations to provide<br>sanitary accommoda-<br>tion, 24 Promenade  | Approved  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6309.   |
| 6311 | John Dobell & Co.<br>Ltd.                  | Alterations and<br>extensions to provide<br>sanitary accommoda-<br>tion, 70 and 71<br>High Street          | Approved  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6309.   |
| 6312 | Walker Crossweller<br>& Co.                | Erection of two huts,<br>Whaddon Works,<br>Clyde Crescent  | Approved  | Approved.  |
| 6313 | Mrs. E. H. Comely                          | Garage,<br>54 Prestbury Road   | Approved, subject to<br>doors opening inwards<br>and to roof water<br>being drained to<br>existing drainage<br>system | Approved.  |
| 6314 | D. Pearman                                 | Conversion of<br>Longville,<br>Pittville Circus Road<br>into three flats                                   | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6307   | Approved, subject to<br>new windows being of<br>the same type, design<br>and materials as the<br>existing windows. |
| 6316 | Flower & Sons                              | Additional sanitary<br>accommodation,<br>Brunswick Arms,<br>Brunswick Street                               | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6306   | Approved until 31st<br>December, 1955. Site in<br>a proposed re-develop-<br>ment area.                             |
| 6317 | Cheltenham &<br>Hereford<br>Breweries Ltd. | Extensions to form<br>scullery and sanitary<br>accommodation,<br>Gloucester House Inn,<br>Gloucester Place | Disapproved   | Approved.  |

41

| No.<br>of Plan | Name                    | Description                                 | Recommendation<br>under Byelaws | Recommendation<br>under Interim<br>Development<br>Order |
|----------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| 6318           | Trebel Products<br>Ltd. | Additions for spray<br>room, Exmouth Street | Disapproved                     | Disapproved.  |

|      |                         |   |   |   |
|------|-------------------------|---|---|---|
| 6319 | Stroud Brewery Co.      | Alterations,<br>King's Arms, Bath Road  | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6306   | Approved.   |
| 6320 | Trebel Products<br>Ltd. | Conversion of<br>Ferlys House,<br>Overton Park Road<br>into 6 flats                 | Approved as in<br>Plan No. 6307   | Approved, subject to<br>new windows being of<br>the same type, design<br>and materials as existing<br>windows and to all new<br>work harmonising with<br>the existing building. |
| 6321 | Montague Burton<br>Ltd. | Brick buttress to<br>replace timber raking<br>shores,<br>372-5 High Street          | Approved, subject to<br>the position of the<br>buttress being to<br>the satisfaction of the<br>Borough Surveyor | Approved.   |
| 6322 | Cotswold Hotels<br>Ltd. | Internal alterations to<br>rectify defective floor,<br>Plough Hotel,<br>High Street | Approved  | Exempt.   |

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353/44 relating to plans submitted for approval outside the Borough, the Committee have approved or otherwise dealt with the following plans.

| No. of<br>Plan | Name                                 | Description   | Recommendation under<br>Interim Development Order   |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| TP.2386        | Cheltenham Rural<br>District Council | Revised layout of Housing<br>Estate, Bishops Cleeve                   | Approved  |
| T.P.2410       | S. Smith & Sons<br>(England) Ltd.    | Proposed emergency generator<br>house, Bishops Cleeve                 | Approved for a period of<br>5 years from the date of<br>consent                                       |
| T.P.2411       | N. Willis                            | Proposed Garage,<br>9 Noverton Avenue                                 | Approved  |
| T.P.2412       | W. Cooper                            | Proposed tool and cycle shed,<br>16 Chargrove Grounds,<br>Shurdington | Disapproved   |
| T.P.2413       | C. H. Lewis                          | Proposed House,<br>Dog Lane, Crickley Hill                            | Approved subject to alteration<br>to the roof being to the<br>satisfaction of the Planning<br>Officer |

|          |                                      |  |  |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| T.P.2414 | F. Surman                            | Proposed bungalow,<br>Swindon  | Approved subject to the owner<br>laying a water main to the site<br>before building is commenced     |
| T.P.2415 | Major J. H. Dent<br>Brocklehurst     | Proposed new cowhouse,<br>Almsbury   | Approved   |
| T.P.2416 | W. G. Nunney                         | Proposed pig stys,<br>Cyprus Cottage,<br>North Road, The Reddings                            | Approved   |
| T.P.2417 | R. Townsend                          | Proposed incubator and foster<br>mother huts, Cotswold,<br>Badgeworth Lane, Shurdington      | Approved   |
| T.P.2418 | G. A. Barnett                        | Proposed Garage,<br>Marona, Bradley Road<br>Charlton Kings                                   | Approved   |
| T.P.2419 | Cheltenham Rural<br>District Council | Proposed Housing Layout,<br>Uckington  | Approved   |
| T.P.2420 | Col. Bingley                         | Proposed House, Home Farm,<br>Pegglesworth, Nr. Andoversford                                 | Approved subject to<br>materials and roofs being<br>finished in traditional<br>Cotswold grey colours |
| T.P.2421 | Northleach Rural<br>District Council | Proposed use of<br>hutments as temporary<br>housing accommodation,<br>Whittington Court Camp | Deferred.  |
| T.P.2422 | Col. Sladden                         | Proposed tool shed and store,<br>Shaw Green Lane, Prestbury                                  | Approved   |
| T.P.2423 | Mrs. Pearman                         | Proposed alterations,<br>Cambria, The Reddings   | Approved   |

42

305—Development Plans—(a) Short Wood. Crickley Hill—Application from Mr. W. G. Carter to erect an "Airoh" prefabricated bungalow at Short Wood. Crickley Hill. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as the proposed development was unsatisfactory and would seriously affect the amenities of the area.

(b) Malvern View Hotel, Cleeve Hill—Application from Messrs. Ford, Michelmore Rose and Wilkins, Solicitors, London, for permission to continue the use of Malvern View Hotel as a private hotel. RESOLVED, That consent be granted.

(c) 100 Promenade—Application from Messrs. Archiprint Services Ltd., to use premises at 100 Promenade for a branch office. RESOLVED, That consent be granted for the 1st and 2nd floors of 100

Promenade to be used as offices only, and that the rooms at the rear be used for printing and allied work ; also that no advertisements or signs be fixed or painted on the front of the building without the consent of the Committee.

(d) 20 Oxford Parade—Application from Messrs. Hayles Bros. to use premises behind 20 Oxford Parade for the purpose of precision machining. The work would be of a light character and would not cause annoyance to residents of properties nearby who had stated that they had no objection to the proposal. RESOLVED, That consent be granted until 31st December, 1950, subject to no nuisance being caused.

(e) St. Mark's Parish Hall—Application from Rev. G. R. Woodhams to erect a text sign board to form the side of a cycle shed at St. Mark's Parish Hall. RESOLVED, That consent be granted.

(f) Bishops Cleeve—Application on behalf of Mr. E. D. Rodwell to erect a bungalow and garage at Gotherington Lane, Bishops Cleeve, and to use the garage and a small piece of land surrounding it for the business of a builder and electrical contractor. RESOLVED, That the application be approved in principle, subject to no nuisance being caused, but that formal consent be deferred pending the submission and approval of detailed plans.

(g) Priors Road, Prestbury—Application on behalf of Messrs. S. & M. Tools Ltd. to use premises at the rear of Alpine Cottage, Priors Road for light industry. RESOLVED, That consent be granted until 31st December, 1950, subject to no nuisance being caused, and to the premises being approved for the purpose by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

(h) Golden Valley—Application from Mrs. A. M. Poulton to use a site adjoining Hayden Laurels, Gloucester Road, for building purposes. The site was in an area scheduled for agricultural purposes only and if developed would constitute a sporadic and unsatisfactory form of ribbon development and would detrimentally affect the amenities of the area and endanger traffic on the trunk road. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

(i) Old Bath Road—Application from the Peacock Manufacturing Co., to use premises at 6 Old Bath Road, for the manufacture of juvenile clothing. RESOLVED, That the application be approved until the 1st May. 1956, subject to no nuisance being caused to residents of the surrounding properties.

(j) St. Elmo, Cleeve Hill—Application on behalf of Miss M. E. Yeend to use St. Elmo, Cleeve Hill as a Private Hotel and Guest House, and to erect a sign board. RESOLVED, That consent be granted to the change of user and that the erection of the sign be referred to the County Planning Officer.

(k) Tally-ho Stables, Pittville Circus—Application on behalf of the Walton Construction Co., to use Tally-ho Stables at the rear of Pittville Circus Road as a builder's yard. The road was narrow and unsatisfactory for traffic and the area was scheduled for residential purposes. RESOLVED, That consent be refused.

306—Town and Country Planning Act, 1947—Gloucestershire County Council—Proposals—Report of the Sub-Committee, appointed by the County Council to consider and make recommendations on the exercise of functions under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, has now been received (copy circulated).

The County Council invited District Councils to appoint representatives to attend a meeting at the Shire Hall, on the 19th December, to discuss the recommendations set out in the report and explain the proposals. District Councils would be given an opportunity to state their views before the proposals and recommendations were submitted to the County Council for confirmation. They were

also prepared for the Sub-Committee appointed by this Council to meet their Sub-Committee subsequently for further discussions. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Town Clerk, and Borough Surveyor be appointed the Council's representatives.

307—Crown Factory, Stoke' Orchard—Letter was submitted from Mr. D. R. Pobjoy stating that he was considering the possibility of using No. 1 Factory at Stoke Orchard for development and pilot production of a small diesel engined farm tractor. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred for the time being.

308—Estimates—Annual Estimates for the year 1948/19 were submitted. These had been previously approved by the Chairman and forwarded to the County Council. RESOLVED, That they be approved.

309—All Saints Road—Hoarding (Min. 136)—Arrangements had been made for the removal of this hoarding.

310—Preservation of Trees—(a) Queens, Stutfield and Thrift—Letter was submitted from the Southam Parish Council asking that they be consulted when applications for felling trees in the Parish affected by the Order were received. The letter also asked that the rights of land-owners, within reasonable limits, to cut their own trees should be considered. The Town Clerk pointed out that the Interim Preservation Order did make provision for the felling of trees by land-owners. RESOLVED, That the contents of the letter be noted.

(b) Birdlip (Min. 1568)—The Planning Officer reported that as a result of a complaint of the felling of trees at Crickley Hill, which area had been included in the Interim Preservation Order made on the 22nd October, 1947, he had discussed the matter with the Area Officer of Timber Control. He had been jammed that the licence for felling trees on this plantation had been completed and the licence withdrawn.

43

311—International Federation of Housing and Town Planning—RESOLVED, That no delegates be appointed to the 19th Annual Congress to be held in Switzerland from 20th-26th June, 1948.

312—Control of Mineral Workings.—Circ. 36/47 Ministry of Town and Country Planning was submitted indicating that the Minister had extended the period of permitted development so as to permit the continued working of existing quarries until the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 came into force. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until the next meeting.

313—Royal Crescent Gardens.----The Georgian Group intimated that they considered the proposals for the provision of a bus station in these gardens open to the strongest objection, both on the grounds of amenity and planning and that the gardens, especially the trees, were an essential part of the setting of Royal Crescent. The Society had been in touch with the Ministry of Town and Country Planning on the matter and stated that they also regarded the proposals as open to objection on planning grounds. The Borough Surveyor had informed the Society that the area had been used as a bus station for a long period. and that provisions had been made in the scheme to safeguard the amenities of the Crescent. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved, and that the Town Clerk inform the Ministry of Town and Country Planning that the expression of an opinion upon the proposal, before it was submitted for approval, had caused considerable resentment.

314—War Damaged Properties-240-243, 250-253 High Street (Min. 2154)—The Borough Surveyor reported the circumstances which made it desirable for the Council to consider acquiring these



properties, which were concerned with future street widening and re-development of this area. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the appropriate Ministries, negotiate for the purchase of these properties, and report further with a view to any necessary orders being made.

E. K. BAYLISS, Chairman.

#### **TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.**

**12th December, 1947.** Present--The Mayor (Chairman), Aldermen Green and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bishop, Carter, Jewell, Mann, Morris, Readings and Thompson ; Messrs. E. Baring and A. Palmer.

**315—Health & Holiday Resort Sub-Committee**--This Sub-Committee met on 2nd December (report circulated). RESOLVED, (i) That with the deletion in Item 7, mentioned below, the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) Item 7----That all words after " discussions " in the third line to resolution 2 be deleted as it was the intention to appoint the Council's representatives to meet representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, when the time was opportune.

**316—Playhouse Sub-Committee**-This Sub-Committee met on 2nd December (report, with trading account, circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

**317—Entertainments Sub-Committee**-This Sub-Committee met on 5th December (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

**318—Joint Guide-1947 Publication**—The Mayor vacated the Chair which was taken by Councillor Mann. It was reported that the Joint Guide Committee had completed its work and 11,000 copies of the new publication had been delivered. The publishers' account was approved subject to a minor adjustment. It was explained, however, that the full order of 12,500 copies could not be completed owing to paper shortage. After defraying all expenditure, it was anticipated there would be a profit of approximately £900, to be divided between the Council and the Chamber of Commerce in the agreed proportion, namely one-fifth and four-fifths respectively. RESOLVED, That the report be approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

44

#### **STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.**

**15th December, 1947.** Present—Councillor Strickland (Chairman), the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Trye and Ward,. Councillors Addis, Biggs, Irving, Midwinter and Readings.

**319—Street Lighting**—(a) Reduced Consumption of Energy--The Committee received the report of the Electricity Committee contained in Min. 391 (b).

(b) Ripple Control System—RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Electricity Committee contained in Min. 391 (c) be approved and adopted.

**320—Labour Sub-Committee**-----The report of the Labour Sub-Committee at their meeting on the 2nd December was received

**321—Salvage Sub-Committee**—This Sub-Committee met on 10th December (report circulated). RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

322—Colouring of Pedestrian Crossings and Illumination of Beacons—Read, Circular 617, Ministry of Transport, intimating that, after consideration of the Departmental Committee's recommendations on traffic signs, it had been decided that beacons should eventually be illuminated by low power lamps and uniform pedestrian crossing markings should be provided. Regulations would be revised and crossings would only be legal when marked by approved studs and beacons. The Minister proposed to make the proper observance of crossings by all classes of road users a feature in his propaganda campaign, and he appealed for local authorities' support. In view of beacon illumination, authorities might wish to plan ahead. RESOLVED, That the contents be noted.

323—Pilley Bridge—(Min. 2230/47)—The Co-operative Party expressed satisfaction that the Council were proceeding with plans for reconstruction. They regretted this might not be possible at once and suggested a temporary Bailey bridge. The Borough Surveyor, in October, had forwarded the scheme to the Ministry of Transport but was informed that it could not be considered for grant at present. Detailed examination would, however, proceed to avoid delay when the position permitted work to commence. He had asked for reconsideration and, failing approval, for the allocation of a Bailey bridge, but with no effect.

As the application made in 1945 for a Bailey bridge was refused on account of military requirements, the Borough Surveyor commenced the permanent reconstruction scheme, but he now felt that if a Bailey bridge was obtained and was satisfactory, this scheme might be further delayed. RESOLVED, That the Bailey bridge proposed be not entertained, and that the Borough Member be asked to approach the Ministry stressing the urgent need for permanent reconstruction.

324—Road Maintenance—The British Road Federation drew attention to the Government's proposal to reduce labour for road maintenance by 20,000, and asked the Council to pass a resolution calling for reconsideration, otherwise deterioration in road surfaces would seriously affect safety and effective operation of road transport. Although road surfaces would suffer, the Borough Surveyor could not concur therewith as regards the Borough. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

325—Little Promenade—Paving—Attention was called to the condition of the footpath adjacent to Messrs. Nixon's premises. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out repairs.

326—Winchcomb Street—Attention was also called to the condition of this footpath on the south side near High Street junction. The Borough Surveyor stated that repairs had been undertaken on a number of occasions and he attributed damage to lorries mounting the footpath and cracking slabs. He would make an inspection and repair with tar macadam.

327—Litter Receptacles—(a) Junction of Whaddon and Prestbury Road—The provision of a large receptacle at this junction, a distribution point for local newspapers, was suggested. RESOLVED, That a receptacle be provided and cleared daily.

(b) RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor endeavour to purchase a supply of litter receptacles for distribution at suitable points in the Borough.

(c) RESOLVED, That, to remedy the untidy appearance at certain bus termini, the Cheltenham District Traction Company be urged to clear the ticket receptacles on their vehicles more frequently, and to display notices urging the public to deposit used tickets therein.

328—Trees—(a) RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out necessary lopping on bus routes throughout the Borough, and that, in due course, the View Committee inspect trees which he recommended for felling.

(b) St. George's Road—RESOLVED, That the plane tree, opposite the Ladies' College, partially damaged during the recent gale, be felled and replaced.

329—Overhead Telegraphic Lines—Brooklyn Road and Leckhampton Road—RESOLVED, That the Chairman's action in consenting to erection of a pole and stay between Nos. 111 and 113 Brooklyn Road and an overhead line at 188/190 Leckhampton Road, subject to certain terms and conditions, be confirmed.

330—Advertising Sign—RESOLVED, That the application of the Wellesley Court Hotel to erect an advertising board on the large lamp standard in North Place opposite St. Margaret's Road, be not granted.

45

331 Nos. 123 & 124 High Street—(Min. 2069/47)—The Town Clerk had negotiated for an increased rental with Messrs. Stead & Simpson Ltd. from £350 per annum to approximately £600 per annum exclusive. The Company protested at the increase, particularly as money was not spent on the building in view of pending demolition, but were prepared to agree to an increase to £475 per annum exclusive. RESOLVED, That the tenancy be offered to them at a rental of £500 per annum exclusive.

332—Nos. 2 & 4 Pittville Street & 122 High Street—[Min. 223(d)]—This tenant also protested at the suggested increase from £32. 10. 0. per month inclusive to £37. 10. 0. exclusive. The rates amounted to £394, 10. 0. per annum making a total rental of £844. 10. 0. and an alternative offer of £600 per annum inclusive was made. RESOLVED, That the Council adhere to their decision.

333-7 Winchcomb Street—The tenant was shortly leaving the country and asked for the assignment of his lease to Mr. C. G. Irving who wished to continue the business of an antique dealer. RESOLVED, That permission be given to the assignment.

334—Shaftesbury (Formerly Aggs Cottage), Folly Lane—The Borough Surveyor was asked to report upon the provision of electricity or gas to this cottage and submitted tenders amounting to £55. 14. 11. and £43, 9. 0, respectively, with an additional £20 for servicing. Since the tenders were received, there had been a further increase of 25%. The high cost was due to lack of services in the vicinity and the Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that it was shortly proposed to consider a scheme for paper baling plant at the tip and an electricity supply would be required with a consequent reduction in cost for extension to this cottage. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred until submission of the scheme mentioned, the preparation of which the Borough Surveyor was asked to expedite.

335—Car Parks—(a) With the withdrawal of basic petrol ration, receipts had declined, particularly at Rodney Road where there was little parking at night time. The Borough Surveyor recommended no supervision there in the evenings, and a reduction in the attendants from two to one. RESOLVED, accordingly.

(b) Shedding, Rodney Road—The Borough Surveyor pointed out the comparatively small use made of the large covered shed and suggested its re-erection at the central depot for accommodation of the new plant and vehicles. RESOLVED, That an estimate be submitted to the next meeting and that the Town Clerk report upon the tenancy by the N.F.S. of the smaller shed.

336--Refuse Disposal—(a) 1410 tons had been disposed of at the tip in November as compared with 1250 for the preceding month.

(b) Refuse Disposal at flats-----[Min. 249(d)]—The Planning Committee had requested observations on plans sub-mitted for conversion of premises into flats for the purpose of including satisfactory provision for deposit and collection of refuse. The Borough Surveyor recommended that when plans were approved for blocks of fats conversion or hotels, a condition be made that suitable storage be provided at ground level for dustbins, one for each dwelling unit, to be sited so that cleansing could be carried out and the bins made easily accessible for collection. It had previously been decided that chutes should not be permitted without this Committee's approval. RESOLVED, accordingly.

337—Highways Department—Plant (a) Footpath Roller—[Min. 251(c)]--The Ministry of Supply had accepted the Council's offer of £350 for the diesel roller and, as authorised, an order had been placed with the manufacturers for a sprinkler and also smaller rear rollers for interchanging with the large rollers now fitted at £25 and £88 respectively. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

(b) Road Gritting Machines—Two " Spinner " machines ordered in December, 1946, had now been delivered but since placing the order prices had increased from £45. 11. 0. to £47. 16. 0. each. RESOLVED, That the increase be accepted.

(c) Salvage Trailers—These trailers purchased in 1940 were in bad condition and the makers were unable to undertake repairs. The Borough Surveyor proposed that one of the Department's tradesmen should carry out repairs, and he anticipated that sufficient timber would be available from tree felling operations. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

338—Erectophot Machine—In 1941 this printing machine was purchased by the Electricity Department for £185 and installed at these offices, this Committee contributing 25% of the cost. It was now suggested that the machine be transferred to Southwood and that the Electricity Committee refund a proportion of this Committee's contribution. RESOLVED, That a sum of £46 be suggested.

339—Restriction of Ribbon Development Act. 1935—Application had been received for access on to a classified road. RESOLVED, as follows—

| Position                       | Nature of application  | Recommendation          |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Leckhampton Road<br>(Class II) | Proposed alteration for a garage for<br>Mr. A. H. Kearsy, 53 Leckhampton Road. | That approval be given. |

F. STRICKLAND, Chairman.

46

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.**

**8th December, 1947.** Present—Alderman Green (Chairman), Councillors Addis, Bishop, Jewell, Mann, Midwinter and Waite.

340—Athletic Ground and Victory Sports Ground—The terms and conditions of the tenancies of the Rugby Foot-ball Club and the Cheltenham Town Association Club were reviewed. Whilst there was no intention of disturbing either Club, it appeared desirable to make provision enabling the Council to obtain possession of the grounds for any special occasions should they so desire. The tenancies were annual, that of the Athletic Ground being terminable by three months' notice expiring on 1st May, and the Victory Sports Ground by six months' notice prior to 1st August. RESOLVED, That the tenancies be terminated and new agreements negotiated embodying the above proposal.

341—Victory Sports Ground—RESOLVED, That provision be made in next year's estimates, for additional terracing and other improvements, and that during the next few months any spoil clinker or other material available be deposited on the ground to provide additional terracing.

342—Athletic Ground—Motor Cycle Football—For safety reasons the Council agreed, last summer, to erect rope barrier<sup>3</sup> for motor cycle football matches, and the Borough Surveyor stated that as permanent barriers were only partially completed ropes and pickets were supplied, labour and transport amounting to £11 9s. 3d. RESOLVED, That half this sum be charged to the Cheltenham Motor Club.

343--Inspection of Parks and Recreation Grounds (Min. 77)--The Council asked for an estimate of the cost of carrying out the Committee's recommendations for improvements to the various parks and recreation grounds. Sufficient sums were included in the current year's estimates for minor routine works, and major schemes would be included in next year's estimates. RESOLVED, That the Council be informed accordingly.

344—Pittville Gardens—(a) Layout in front of Pump Room (Min. 2155/47)- -The Entertainments Sub-Committee approved, in principle, the suggested layout which they considered would form a valuable amenity.

(b) Cleaning of Lakes (Min. 1958/47)—Messrs. Bomford & Evershed's tender for cleaning the Marle Hill lake amounting to £1,480 was submitted. The Company stressed difficulty in cleaning the small pool and upper lake and offered to hire the necessary mechanical equipment at hourly rates, but the Borough Surveyor could not recommend this as trees would need to be felled to enable the apparatus to operate. The pool, adjoining the upper lake, had previously been cleaned by hand and the Borough Surveyor estimated the cost between £750 and £1,000.

A further difficulty arose in regard to the deposit of spoil and Messrs. Bomford & Evershed's quotation only included the deposit of material on the two fields adjoining Marle Hill House, both of which were intended for the new sports layout. If the spoil from Marle Hill lake had to be transferred to the tip their quotation would be increased by approximately £800. The Borough Surveyor estimated the total cost of cleaning both lakes and the pool at £4,000.

The Gardens Superintendent disfavoured the deposit of large quantities of spoil on the proposed sports area as this would probably affect development. The Committee expressed concern at the cost but felt, if boating was to continue, it was essential that Marle Hill lake be cleaned. Prior to this work being undertaken, the upper lake and pool should be dealt with to prevent silt and other deposits percolating to the lower lake, otherwise the work of cleaning out Marle Hill lake would be nullified. RESOLVED, That, in the first instance, the upper lake be drained and inspected by the Committee to ascertain the extent of the work required and, if necessary, the lower lake be dealt with similarly.

(c) Nursery—Boiler—The Gardens Superintendent reported that one section of the boiler, heating 13 of the 15 houses, was leaking, and required replacement. Lack of heat during the recent frosty weather resulted in loss of stock and to prevent further losses he had arranged for all night stoking. The fuel position, however, was becoming increasingly difficult and with severe weather further losses might occur, particularly as a new section could not be obtained for about three months. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Gardens Superintendent be approved and that he consider the possibility of heating by liquid fuel. ALSO RESOLVED, That the purchase of a new boiler section be authorised.

345—Wellington Square Garden—A resident complained of the condition of the area not used for allotments and suggested that if reasonably maintained and provided with a few seats this would be of considerable use to children and older residents. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent arrange accordingly.

346—Oxford and Priory Parades—Layout—Sections 1 and 2 were nearing completion and as the amount provided in the estimates was almost exhausted, it was proposed to defer completion of the other section until the next financial year. The Borough Surveyor was making a similar arrangement with regard to road works.

347—St. George's Square Bowling Green—The Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club submitted balance sheet and applied for the renewal of their tenancy for 1948. The Committee had in mind the improved condition of the ground and the expenditure incurred in 1946/7 (£202) and £220 for the current year. In view of the Club's finances it appeared that their membership fee, still at the pre-war rate of £1.1. 0., might be increased. RESOLVED, That the ground be let to the Club for the year commencing 1st March, 1948, at a rental increased from £50 to £100, subject to their entering into the usual tenancy agreement, the Club being informed that it was the Committee's intention to review the rental annually.

348—Tewkesbury Road Playing Field—RESOLVED, That the application of the Education Committee for the use of this playing field by pupils of the Central School be granted on similar terms to those arranged for the use by schools of other recreation grounds, and that the Gardens Superintendent discuss the charge to be made with the Education Officer and report thereon.

47

349—King George V Playing Field—Min. 77(g)—The owner of 53 Brooklyn Road had now agreed to the removal of the boundary hedge between his property and the proposed main entrance subject to provision of a 4 ft. beech hedge with chain and link fencing 4 ft. high on his side until the hedge was established. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

350—Sandford Park—(a) Fish (Min. 80)—Mrs. H. Cope of The Grange, Newham, had presented 20 large and a number of small goldfish and other offers had been received. RESOLVED, That the Council's thanks be conveyed to the donors. (b) Ornamental Gate—Provision was included in the estimates for an ornamental iron gate to enable the Bath Road portion to be closed, and the Gardens Superintendent recommended this be provided to prevent damage and thefts. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit an estimate.

351—Town Hall—Floral Decorations—(Min. 85)—The Entertainments Sub-Committee recommended a charge of £4. 4. 0. to £6. 6. 0. for floral decorations for private dances and functions, according to the amount required, and would add such charge to the hire charge and refund the amount to this Committee. RESOLVED, accordingly.

352—Field Lodge—The Estate management Sub-Committee had inspected the Gardens Superintendent's house and unanimously agreed that it was unsuitable for housing purposes. They were prepared, as a temporary alternative, and until other arrangements could be made, to offer a requisitioned flat and suggested that this Committee should indicate the possible temporary use to which Field Lodge might be put, such as a park cafe to relieve catering difficulties at Sandford Pool. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to enable the Gardens Superintendent to inspect the flat and also for the Entertainments Sub-Committee to consider the catering suggestions, it being

understood that this Committee would require to retain a portion of the premises, possibly at the rear, with garages, for storage purposes.

353—Staff—(Min. 97)—(a) The Committee further considered the application of the National Union of General & Municipal Workers that five employees be paid the appropriate grade as from the commencement of their employment, namely, 1940, 1945 and 1946 (2) and in the fifth case that the employee be placed in the grade he would have reached had he not served with the Forces. RESOLVED, (i) That, as it appeared from the information available, the first four employees were never engaged as gardeners, the Union be informed that their present grading, namely B, is considered appropriate.

(ii) That with regard to the fifth case, as the employee served his full apprenticeship with the Department and it could be contended that, but for his war service, he would now be a skilled gardener, the Labour Sub-Committee be recommended to place him in the appropriate grade, namely C, as from his return from the Forces, 12th August, 1946.

(b) Establishment of Parks Department—The Garden Superintendent submitted his recommendations for grading and classification of employees in his Department. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee comprising the following members, namely, the Chairman, Councillors Jewell, Midwinter and Waite, be appointed to examine the same and submit recommendations.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**9th December, 1947.** Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Fisher, A. L. Morris, C. W. Morris, Strickland and Ward.

354-56 Worcester Street—Read, letter from the tenant of this house asking if the Council would be prepared to sell. The house needed painting and other repairs which the tenant would like to have carried out. The Town Clerk reported that as this house was in a re-development area it was not desirable to sell it. RESOLVED, That the Council be not recommended to sell this house. ALSO, That the Housing Manager be instructed to report on the necessary repairs.

355—Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts—The Town Clerk submitted application from Mr. T. E. B. of 28 Marle Hill Road, for an advance under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, to purchase the house which he occupied. The purchase price was £1,135, and the purchaser desired an advance of £600. The Borough Surveyor submitted his report on the property which he valued at £787. RESOLVED, That an advance on mortgage of £600 be made at interest at the rate of 2 ¼ % repayable within a period of 15 years, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage.

356—Damage to Trees. Lynworth Farm—The Town Clerk submitted report of the Police Supt. on the prosecution of three boys for wilful damage to a growing tree on this estate. The cases against all three were dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act.

357—Change of User. Defence Regulation, 68CA.—(a) 15 Imperial Square—Read, application from the Cheltenham Rural District Council for permission to use the top floor of 15 Imperial Square as additional office accommodation owing to the fact that their present office accommodation was inadequate. Arrangements had been made to re-house the occupiers. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

(b) Glenfall Lodge, All Saints Road—The owner of this property made application to use three rooms on the ground floor as offices temporarily. The Planning Committee had agreed to the rooms being so used for two years subject to the consent of this Committee being obtained. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

(c) " Applegarth," Queens Road—Messrs. Watterson Moore & Co. made application on behalf of a client to use this property as a private hotel, and later as a convalescent home. The Planning Committee had agreed subject to the consent of this Committee. RESOLVED, That consent be given.

358—Fleurville, Ashford Road—(Min. 174/46)—The Town Clerk reported that the tenancy of the kitchen garden adjoining this house was due to be renewed at the end of the year. Complaints had been received about the nuisance caused by the keeping of cockerels, but the tenant had agreed not to allow a recurrence of this after Christmas. RESOLVED, That the tenancy be continued on the same terms as before, the tenant to give an undertaking not to keep cockerels.

359--Aluminium Permanent Bungalows—Read, letter dated 28th November from the Ministry of Health outlining the system to be followed in the allocation of these bungalows. The Ministry had decided to increase the Council's allocation from 203 to 207 and had also decided that these should be provided for key workers and Civil Servants. In due course the Ministry would notify the Council of the names of all sponsored firms and organisations, and the number of bungalows to be allocated to each. Firms would be requested to submit to the Council, particulars of nominees for re-housing who must be approved by the sponsoring Government Dept. from the point of view of production, and the national interest. It would not necessarily follow that nominated employees would be those whose present housing difficulties were greatest from the angle of social need or hardship. Lists might include recommendations as to priority, but the Council itself would decide the order of allocation. The arrangements by which the Council has undertaken to allocate bungalows or new houses to a number equivalent to the allocation of permanent bungalows is deemed to have been operative from 4th September, 1947. If, therefore, a new house was let to one of the nominees in advance of completion of the bungalows such letting would count toward the total, and the Council would be able to allocate the corresponding bungalow from the new permanent aluminium bungalows to an applicant on its list. If since 4th September new houses had been allocated to employees of sponsored firms who were not included in the submitted list of nominees, the Council might submit particulars and apply for such lettings to count toward the total. Circumstances might change between the date of nomination and allocation, and the Ministry should, therefore, be notified of the progress made, and would be glad to assist in overcoming any difficulty.

360—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted statement of arrears to 25th November amounting to £970, 18. 0.

361—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) "No Fines" Houses—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Wimpey had now informed him that they considered that the provision of meals on the site from the British Restaurant would not be entirely satisfactory as the men had been accustomed to working on sites where a canteen was operated. The aim at the moment was to ensure that the men were satisfied with working conditions in order to obtain the maximum output, and it was felt that the provision of a canteen would considerably assist in this direction. At present the men were forced to obtain meals in the town, and owing to the restrictions on the size of meals it was difficult for them to obtain sufficient food in a normal restaurant ; some of the men were having two meals at two different restaurants. If a canteen were operated on the site it would be possible to obtain the increased industrial ration for the men, and these difficulties would thereby be overcome. The position was further complicated at present owing to the minimum hours of daylight, and the fact



that when concreting operations were commenced on a pair of houses they must be continued until the shell was complete. Furthermore the men at present working at Lynworth Farm might well form the nucleus of a labour force for Rowanfield Road Estate, and it would be advantageous to ensure that the men would be satisfied to remain with the firm. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Wimpey be given permission to set up a can-teen on this site for the provision of hot meals for the men engaged on the work and that they be asked to co-operate with other firms working on the site so that their employees who also desired canteen meals could be accommodated.

(b) Traditional Houses—Ground Floors—The Borough Surveyor reported that many alternatives had been adopted for finishing ground floors in post-war houses in order to utilise materials which were readily available. The last alternative adopted had been asphalt and he was now experiencing difficulty in obtaining this material, and owing to the fact that specialist firms required at least 10-12 houses to be ready for them at one time before they would commence work he recommended that coloured concrete should be laid through-out the whole of the ground floors. If this finish were adopted it might be well to warn tenants that linoleum should not be laid until sufficient time had been allowed for the concrete to dry out thoroughly. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(c) Small Builders' Scheme—A letter had been received by the Mayor from Messrs. Webb Bros. pointing out that they had not been asked to quote for supplying bricks to the 12 houses to be erected by Mr. E. L. Squire. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Council had been required to reduce the price of these houses to a figure which the Ministry of Health would approve, and in order to do this the contract was priced on bricks to be supplied by the London Brick Company which were very much cheaper than the prices being paid by the Council for Messrs. Webbs' bricks for Scheme No. 2. In the case of common bricks there was a saving of 33s 9d per thousand, and in the case of facing bricks a saving of 51s 6d per thousand. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Webb Bros. be informed accordingly.

(d) Pennine Road—Stone Plaque—The Borough Surveyor submitted sketch for a stone plaque showing the date of erection of the houses on the Lynworth Farm Estate which he suggested might be fixed on a block of tons houses now being erected by Messrs. Billings and Son Ltd. at the closed end of Pennine Road. It was estimated that the cost of the plaque would be £8 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to arrange for the fixing of such a plaque.

49

362--Housing Programme (Min. 42)--All the contractors engaged in the erection of houses for the Council had been approached as to whether they were adopting target and bonus systems, and whether they had considered the possibility of forming joint production committees. Messrs. Wimpey had always bonused every possible operation, and they proposed to apply their customary scheme to their Cheltenham contract. They promised to consider the desirability of forming a joint production committee. Messrs. Wheeler & Mansell were operating a bonus system for certain operations, and were considering the inclusion of carpentry. Messrs. A. C. Billings had introduced the bonus system but did not consider a production committee would be useful on a small contract. Messrs. Collins & Godfrey had instituted a bonus system for bricklayers, and were of the opinion that contract and bonus systems should be standard throughout the country as far as possible. Mr. G. W. Enoch had bonused bricklayers and plasterers only.

363-14 Kipling Road—(a) Power Installation—The Borough Surveyor submitted estimates for the provision of power installation at this house consisting of five points and a tubular heater in the

bathroom cupboard. The quotation of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall amounted to £14 5s. 4d. for the low capacity installation and £18 6s. 7d. for the normal 15 amp. installation. The Borough Surveyor was of the opinion that the normal installation should be considered as being more beneficial to subsequent tenants. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to pay half the cost of the normal installation, subject to the tenant meeting the remaining costs.

(b) Shed—Application had been received from the tenant for provision of a brick-built shed in the garden for storage purposes. It was estimated that the cost of erection would be approximately £40. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable to provide this. 36 Prospect Villa, Folly Lane—The Town Clerk reported that the tenant of this house was unwilling to pay an increased rent if a water system, including bathroom, were installed. He had asked that the Council should carry out external repairs, and he himself would arrange for the interior decorations. The Borough Surveyor submitted an estimate from Messrs. Trigg Bros. for external repairs, and painting, amounting to £70. RESOLVED, That this tender be accepted and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

365—The Knole—(a) Fencing—The Borough Surveyor reported that residual works on this site were well in hand. Wire mesh fencing had been ordered. but delivery was not expected for several months, and in the meantime, boundary posts were being erected defining the limits of each plot.

(b) Griffiths Avenue—This road had never been made up and had no foundation, the surface being maintained by repeated laying of ashes. In view of the volume of traffic over the road during the preparation of site works on this estate, the Borough Surveyor recommended that two lengths of the road should be made up, the first section from Libertus Road to " Hillfield," and the second opposite the drive to " The Knole and " The Granleys " to " Hillfield. The estimated cost of carrying out this work amounted to £640 for the first section, and £140 for the second. The Town Clerk reported that this road had not been taken over and its making up was therefore the liability of the abutting owners, and if, in view of the use the Council had made of the road during the construction of The Knole Estate, they were of the opinion that they should carry out the work recommended by the Borough Surveyor, it was desirable to make clear to the owners that the Council were doing this without prejudice to their right to call upon the owners to make up the road. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out this work, the cost to be allocated as part of the cost of constructing and laying out the Knole Estate, and that the Town Clerk communicate with the abutting owners pointing out that the Council are doing this work without prejudice to their right to require them to make up the road.

366—Whaddon Community Centre—The Town Clerk submitted letters from Messrs. Mcllquham & Co., acting on behalf of the owner of Evesham Lodge, pointing out the serious detriment which the fire station buildings had caused to Evesham Lodge, and drawing attention to the covenants restricting building on a portion of the land. The Council were asked to maintain the amenities of the neighbourhood pending enforcement of the restrictive covenants for the protection of the neighbourhood as the matter of these covenants was being proceeded with. In the meantime, the Council were asked not to countenance anything which would aggravate the present unsatisfactory position. The Town Clerk reported that there were restrictive covenants affecting a portion of the land prohibiting the erection of buildings. The land had been requisitioned during the War and in consequence of this, the covenants were waived during the period of requisitioning. It was anticipated that upon completion of the purchase the land would be de-requisitioned, and the covenants would again become operative. The Council had decided to allow the Whaddon Community Association to use these huts temporarily until such time as it was possible to proceed

with the erection of a permanent Community Centre, provision for which was made on the Lynworth Farm Estate.

Mr. McIlquham and Mr. Edwards, Chairman of the Whaddon Community Association, together with the Rev. Hugh Goddard, were interviewed by the Committee in order that the position might be clarified. It was ascertained that the Community Association proposed to use the existing huts for social functions, which would not cause a nuisance to occupiers of the adjoining houses. There was no intention that such functions should be carried on until a late hour, and it was not proposed to hold dances in these buildings. The Association had already carried out a considerable amount of work including the installation of a canteen. Mr. McIlquham was informed of these proposals and, without prejudice was of the opinion that subject to no nuisance being caused, his client would not object to the temporary use of these huts by the Community Association -

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

50

#### WATER COMMITTEE.

**9th December, 1947.** Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Addis, Midwinter and Strickland.

367—Borough Engineer's Report—The report of the Borough Engineer for the month of November was read:—

#### DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS.

| Spring.    | For month ended<br>30th November, 1947. | Average for corresponding<br>period during last three years. |
|------------|---|--|
| Hewletts   | 60,000                                  | 102,000  |
| Dowdeswell | 240,000                                 | 762,000  |

#### CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated usable quantity approximately 36,052,000 gallons.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Quantity drawn from Churchdown-5 weeks ended 1st December                   | 90,070,000  |
| Quantity drawn for Tewkesbury— " " " "                                      | 20,595,000  |
| Total purchased from Joint Water Board from Churchdown from 1st April, 1947 | 477,945,000 |
| Total purchased for Tewkesbury Area from 1st April, 1947                    | 124,863,000 |
| Average daily consumption   | 3,355,000   |

| Rainfall for November. | During Month. | Average monthly rainfall. |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Sandford               | 1.44"         | 2.93"                     |
| Hewletts               | 1.32"         | 3.09"                     |
| Dowdeswell             | 1.50"         | 3.32"                     |
| Tewkesbury             | 1.42"         | 2.51"                     |

368—Rural Water Supplies—Upton-on-Severn R.D.C. (Min. 198 [c])—The Upton-on-Severn R.D.C. had asked for 100,000 gallons per 24 hours assuming this would be available at Mythe Bridge at a

pressure of 200 lbs. per square inch. Consideration was adjourned at the last meeting to enable the Borough Engineer to report on the Council's water commitments, including future rural supplies, bearing in mind the total quantity which the Council were entitled to take from the Tewkesbury works of the Joint Board. RESOLVED, That the application be granted on the basis of the revised rates now before the Ministry of Health for approval, subject to the District Council agreeing to pay an annual minimum charge of one-third of the cost of the agreed supply, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the agreement.

369—Mains Extensions—(a) Supply to Uckington—The Cheltenham R.D.C. asked for a main extension to new houses. The existing Council houses were supplied from a one-inch master service subject to a condition that if extensions were required a main be laid and the services transferred thereto, to which the R.D.C. had agreed. The Borough Engineer recommended the granting of the application upon terms similar to those for other R.D.C. housing estates, namely, the main to be laid to his specification and under his supervision ; the R.D.C. to pay the cost of the main and all connections, including the existing services, such cost to be reimbursed at the rate of £8 for each £1 of annual revenue, provided that the R.D.C. submitted to the Borough Council, before work commenced, a priced bill of quantities. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted, the cost to be defrayed from the mains extensions loan.

(b) Kidnappers Lane—Mr. J. H. Jenkins was endeavouring to erect a dwelling house on a smallholding in Leckhampton, and asked for a water supply. He was prepared to deposit the estimated cost of a 3" main for a distance of 200 yards amounting to £215, to be refunded in the usual manner. The Borough Engineer recommended a 4" main at an estimated cost of £240, the difference in cost to be borne by the Council and defrayed from mains extensions loan. The applicant would also be required to pay normal water charges. RESOLVED, accordingly.

(c) G.A.C. Factory, Swindon Lane—In 1941 a 6" main was laid for 280 yards along Swindon Lane from Tewkesbury Road, at the cost of the Ministry of Aircraft Production, on the understanding that the Council took over the main at the end of the war on agreed terms. The Ministry of Supply now desired an offer. RESOLVED, That an offer of £50 be made.

(d) Haddon Products Ltd., Newtown, Tewkesbury—In 1946 Messrs. Bernard Myers & Co. laid a 3" main from Ashchurch Road to supply a new factory. Messrs. Haddon Products Ltd., the present company, were prepared to hand over the main for £125 and the Borough Engineer recommended acceptance as it would assist in supplying other factories about to be developed in this area. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer's recommendation be adopted, the expenditure to be defrayed from mains extensions loan.

370—Water Abstraction Regulations, 1947—The Minister of Health had issued regulations under Section 6 of the Water Act, 1945, in respect of works for the abstraction of water from underground sources where the plant installed was capable of in output which, for Gloucestershire, was fixed at 20,000 gallons per day. The object was to obtain a fuller knowledge of the quantities taken to prevent detriment to present and the Minister might result in further abstractions.

Sandford well would be affected and also certain wells in the Borough in private ownership.

The Medical Officer of Health and Borough Engineer saw no difficulty in maintaining the Council's records as most of the details were already recorded.

371—Meters--RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer that old meters flow replaced new meters be broken up and the material sold, be approved.

372-41 Oldbury Road, Tewkesbury—Suggested Depot—The District Valuer, could not approve a sum in excess of £2,500 for this property which was not acceptable to the owners. RESOLVED, That as the premises were not entirely suitable for a depot, negotiations for their acquisition be not proceeded with.

373—Dowdeswell—Afforestation—The report of the officer of the Forestry Commission, who recently visited Dowdeswell, was submitted. The woods were divided into two categories :—

(1) Coppice with standards and pure coppice with Hazel mostly overgrown and of 20-25 years of age. The standards contain a few scattered oaks over 100 years old of rough form and unlikely to improve.

(2) Coppice pole areas mainly of ash with a good natural regeneration of ash on the ground. The general suggestion for category (1) was clearance in stages and replanting with conifers with a mixture of beech on high ground. Category (2) should be reduced to one or two poles per stool to encourage natural regeneration, and poles cut when young trees have developed. The two woods east of Lineover Wood. com-prising rough mature beech with Norway spruce, not likely to survive for long, should be felled, leaving a belt of beech on the outside to nurse a mixture of beech and Corsican pine. The contents of the coppice after cutting could be sold for pea and bean sticks, hedge stakes, etc. For replanting it was suggested that the Council should establish a nursery and that a forestry consultant be asked to submit a detailed replanting plan. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved in principle, and that the Borough Engineer ascertain and report to the next meeting the fees involved for a consultant's report.

374—Dowdeswell Court—Cottage—RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer he authorised to carry out extensive roof repairs at a cost of approximately £107.

375—British Waterworks Association—(a) Winter Meeting—RESOLVED, That the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman. and Borough Engineer, attend this meeting in London on 15th January.

(b) Water Bill—The Association had forwarded a copy of this Bill providing for necessary amendments to the Water Act, 1945. One proposal was to amend the definition of " communication pipe " for the purposes of Third Schedule to the 1945 Act to cover mains laid in gardens of houses or in fields adjacent to the high-way. This practice would be adopted extensively on rural water schemes and at present the wayleave covering the water main must include power to lay communication pipes for properties on the other side of the road. The proposed clause however defined the highway for the purpose of laying service pipes as being within 60 ft. of the centre of the highway.

Although Cheltenham Undertaking had not yet adopted the Third Schedule and would gain no immediate benefit, the Borough Engineer welcomed the same and suggested that the Council approach the British Waterworks Association to press for the distance referred to in the definition to be increased from 60 to 120 ft. RESOLVED, accordingly.

376—Works Completed—The Borough Engineer reported that since the last meeting 821 inspections had been under-taken when the Inspectors found 18 defective flush boxes, 49 leaking taps, 32 defective stop taps. and 3 burst pipes ; repairs had been undertaken to 104 draw taps ; 47 notices served on owners ; 96 houses connected owing to change of tenancy ; 76 supplies disconnected ; and 39 meters fixed or changed.

Maintenance work had included the laying of 713 yards of new main and the fixing of 6 hydrants and new sluice valves at Priors Park, Tewkesbury ; mains repaired at California Spring, Shaw Green Lane. Northfield Terrace, Eldorado Road, Road rear St. Mark's Church, Churchdown, The Barrow, and Mythe sluice valves repaired in St. Phillip's Street, Bath Road, Montpelier Terrace, Eldorado Road, Queen Street and Shaw Green Lane ; mains Washed out in All Saints, Pittville, Lansdown, Gloucester Road, Swindon Road and Lower High Street districts ; hydrant markers fixed at Lynworth Estate and The Knole.

All refuse had been cleared from No. 3 Reservoir, Hewletts, but owing to severe weather the floor and sides had not yet been repaired or washed down.

General work had included pumping, meter cleaning, repairing and testing at Sandford Works; also repair of services resulting from complaints.

377—Analyses—The Medical Officer of Health submitted satisfactory analyses of the supplies.

378—Appeals—The cases entered in the appeals book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD. Chairman.

52

#### **ELECTRICITY COMMITTEE.**

**9th December, 1947.** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Alderman Waite ; Councillors Bendall, Carter, Irving Midwinter, C. W. Morris, Mudway, Parker, Readings and Thompson.

379—Annual Accounts—The Borough Treasurer submitted statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1947. RESOLVED, That these be approved.

380--Unspecified Mains and Services--RESOLVED, That Min. 67(a) be amended to include a further sum of £403 for the cost of extensions to Stroud Road, Birdlip, this being the cost of the first of the two schemes to supply premises in this area.

381—Marle Hill Annexe—Boathouse—The Town Clerk reported that the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee required the installation of five lighting points and two power points to the boathouse at a cost of £70 excluding trenching which would be carried out by the Gardens Superintendent. They asked that the cost should be spread over five years. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

382—I.M.E.A.—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend the Annual Convention of the I.M.E.A. at Eastbourne from 7th - 11th June, 1948, inclusive.

383—National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors—In 1925 the Council issued a list of approved registered contractors and supplied the same to the various Departments of the Corporation for their guidance in placing future work. In November. 1946 (Min. 1587/46) it was reported that the I.M.E.A., had made representations to the Government to introduce legislation for the compulsory registration of electrical installation contractors, who did not consider it an appropriate time to do so. The Electrical Contractors Association, who had hitherto supported the voluntary register scheme had notified their intention to withdraw their support mainly on the grounds that the voluntary scheme tended to prejudice the introduction of a compulsory scheme. The I.M.E.A., had however urged its members to support the National Register until a compulsory scheme was introduced, and this policy was confirmed by the Council.

The Town Clerk now submitted letter dated 3rd December from Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall, who had withdrawn from membership of the National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors whilst remaining members of the Electrical Contractors Association asking that the Council should also support this Association. They pointed out that it was the recognised Association of the largest body of Electrical Contractors for dealing with all matters concerning electrical contracting. The Borough Electrical Engineer outlined the progress of events which led to the E.C.A. advising their members to withdraw from the National Register. He pointed out that work done by contractors on the National Register was inspected, and very careful consideration was given to applications from contractors for inclusion in the Register, this being a guarantee that all work was satisfactorily completed. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to support both the National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors and the Electrical Contractors Association, and that Min. 1587/46 be varied accordingly.

384—I.M.E.A.—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that a meeting of the South Western Centre had been held to consider the continuance of the Association, when it was proposed that the Association should continue in a new form. Two schemes were put forward suggesting that an Association should be formed consisting of representatives of the British Electricity Authority and the area Boards, together with representatives of the Advisory Councils, and the District Committees. It was pointed out that the majority of members of the Consultative Councils and District Committees would be Local Authority members, but it was assumed that they would represent the consumers in their areas rather than the local authorities of which they were members. An extraordinary meeting would be held in due course when the views of other areas on the suggested continuance of the Association had been received.

385-Electricity Act, 1947--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that Cheltenham had been included in the area of the Midlands Electricity Board set up under the Act. The Chairman of the new Area Boards had now been appointed, and Alderman W. S. Lewis, Vice-Chairman of the West Midlands Joint Authority had been appointed Chairman of the Midlands Electricity Board.

386—Post Office Telephones—The number of incoming telephone calls to " Southwood " during periods of load-shedding was now so great that at times it was impossible to make out-going calls including those to two sub-stations to which no private pilot telephone cables were yet laid. The Borough Electrical Engineer therefore recommended that an additional telephone line should be installed to be reserved exclusively for operation signals, the number of which would not be disclosed to the general public. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into the necessary agreement.

387—Showroom--Agreement with contractors—In view of the closing down of the Showroom it was recommended that the arrangement whereby contractors sent apparatus to the Showroom for sale should be determined. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and local contractors informed accordingly.

388—" Southwood 1339/47)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the provisional quotation of £663. 6. 0. submitted by Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall, Ltd., for repairs and extensions to the heating installation had been exceeded by £35. 19. 1. £252 had already been paid on account. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to pay the remainder of the account amounting to £447. 5. 1.

389—Applications for Supply-----The Borough Electrical Engineer reported five applications for supply, and the terms on which he had agreed to give a supply. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

390—Load Shedding—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that up to the latter part of November, the required load reduction had been made by lowering voltage, but it had been necessary on two occasions to shed load by cutting off consumers. In addition, the total load had exceeded the target figure on several occasions, although it had not been necessary to shed load, but it was understood that the Central Electricity Board would in future enforce more strictly the reduction of load to the target figure. The Borough Electrical Engineer had endeavoured to select areas with no industrial consumers when it was necessary to cut off supply and would endeavour to continue this policy in the future.

53

391—Street Lighting—(a) Thirlestaine Road—Read, that letter from the Ministry of Transport indicating that the Ministry had recommended the Minister of Health to issue consent to a loan of £866.

(b) Consumption of Energy—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Regional Controller of the Ministry of Fuel and Power had approved the proposals set out in Min. 216(b) whereby consumption would be reduced to approximately 52% of pre-war level.

(c) Ripple Control System—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the 2,000 volt mains for supplying street lamps were old and reaching the end of their economic life, repairs costs rising from approximately £140 in 1945 to £280 for 1947, and faults increasing from 14 in 1945, to 21 in 1946 and 23 in 1947. These costs would continue to rise and a minimum figure of £350 was anticipated. The present system of breaking down the 2,000 volts to 230 volts by, means of transformers for groups of lamps resulted in unlighted streets over an extensive area in consequence of a fault occurring, and wasted 18,000 units of electricity a year.

The existing cables could not be relaid owing to shortage of labour and material, but could be used for a considerable period if energised at 230 volts instead of 2,000 volts. This would entail an increase in cur which would be technically impossible on the present system of feeding from a central switching point at Manchester Street. The system could, however, be fed from the general medium voltage mains if the public lighting network were split up into small sections with individual switching at points of supply. Such switching could be operated either by manual switches, individual time switches, or a system of super-imposed remote control. The first two alternatives would be impracticable owing to lack of labour and the fact that time-switches would be upset by load shedding and faults. The Borough Electrical Engineer therefore recommended the installation of a system of remote control which had the advantage of being able to be used also for controlling water and space heating loads at times of peak load. If apparatus for this purpose were purchased, in view of its other uses, a proportion only of the capital cost of the installation would fall on the street lighting account. The cost of the " Ripple " control apparatus was £2,100, £700 of which would be borne by the street lighting account, and £1,400 apportioned to load control. The cost of provision of relays and contactors to be met from the street lighting account amounted to £455, making a total of £1,155. Sectionalising the 2,000 volt net-work and removing transformers would cost £660, and yearly running charges for street lighting would amount to £161 per annum.

The costs to be met to secure load control were estimated to be £5,300 made up of £1,400 for the provision of apparatus, £3,000 for provision of relays for load control at £5 per relay, and £900 for fitting 600 relays at £1. 10. 0. per relay. The running costs for load control would amount to £752 per annum.



If the supply to thermal storage water heaters were interrupted for periods of about 30 minutes at times of peak load, which could be done without causing inconvenience, the resultant saving would be about £1,440. This estimate was based on water heaters already connected, and the saving would be increased by the control of additional heaters.

The provisional quotation for the installation of the necessary apparatus had been obtained from the Automatic Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd., and it was recommended that this firm, together with two others, should be asked to submit firm tenders. If the work were authorised at once it would not be undertaken until the Spring of 1949 because of delivery delays, and by this time the maintenance cost of the 2,000 volt cables was estimated to be at least £450 each year. It was hoped that the changeover would be completed before the lighting season of 1949, and there would therefore be no charges for 2,000 volt cables maintenance that year so that an extra charge of £210 would remain to be covered in the street lighting estimate. In subsequent years the street lighting estimates could be reduced by £350.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Street and Highway Committee be recommended to approve of the installation of the " Ripple " control system for use in connection (inter alia) with street lighting.

(b) That this Committee make application to the Electricity Commissioners for consent to a loan of £6,455 for the cost of the work.

(c) That application be made to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for the said sum of £6,455 and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and receipt.

(d) That firm tenders be invited from three firms for the installation of the necessary apparatus.

392—Staff—(a) Assistant Engineer, Distribution Section—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that this employee who sustained serious injuries by falling from a distribution pole in August, returned to duty on 11th November.

(b) Typewriter—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Borough Treasurer would accept £21 fee. a surplus typewriter, repairs to which would cost £6. 10. 0. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to purchase this machine.

393—Supply to Factory, Uckington—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Gloster Aircraft Co. had closed their factory at Uckington, and only employed a policeman on watch duties. They did not, therefore, wish to continue taking a supply on a contract basis, and the Borough Electrical Engineer suggested that a transformer should be installed and a supply given on a combined tariff at a flat rate of 1 ½ d. per unit. SOLVED, That this be approved.

394—Electrical Development Association—RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer and Mr. Davis, Service and Development Engineer, he appointed the Council's representatives on the Council of the Electrical Development Association.

395-Interruptions to Supply-The Borough Electrical Engineer reported two interruptions in supply during the month.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

## CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

**12th December, 1947.** Present---Councillors Readings (Chairman), Addis, Bettridge, Brown, Carter, Jewell, Mudway and Parker.

396—Superintendent's Report—During the month of November there were 53 interments and 37 cremations. Grave spaces sold : 1st position nil ; 2nd position 2 ; 3rd position, nil ; 4th position 10. New memorials erected 13 ; additional inscriptions 8.

397—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 12,628 to 12,678 inclusive.

398—Designs—RESOLVED,, That designs Nos. 4,450 to 4 472 inclusive as set out in the Designs Book signed by the Chairman be approved.

399—Gift of Bulbs—A gift of 400 Triumph tulip bulbs had been received from Messrs. Yates & Sons. Some of the bulbs would be forced for Chapel decoration in the spring, the remainder being planted in beds and borders. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Messrs. Yates & Sons.

400—Interment Chapel—Reception of coffin—The Superintendent reported on the arrangements for receiving the coffin into the interment Chapel and Crematorium Chapel respectively. Whilst these arrangements were satisfactory in the case of the latter, where there was an oaken catafalque, the interment Chapel was only provided with trestles, the use of which necessitated careful manipulation. Photographs were submitted of a wheeled bier made by Messrs. Heap Brothers, Burnley, which would overcome the difficulties now experienced in the interment chapel. Messrs. Heap Brothers stated that provided an order could be placed immediately, they could supply a bier at a cost of £84, as they had the timber in stock, but if there was any delay in giving the order, the cost would be increased by 30% owing to the increase in price of timber. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, the Superintendent be authorised to place an order with Messrs. Heap Brothers, and that provision be made in next year's estimate for the cost.

401—Chapels—(a) (Min. 133/46)—Originally a quotation amounting to £236 was approved for the supply of electricity to the chapels, payment of the cost being spread over a period of five years. The Borough Surveyor reported it was subsequently found possible to provide labour for excavation work, which had resulted in the cost being reduced to £165.

(b) Lighting—The Borough Surveyor submitted proposals for proceeding with the installation of electric lighting in the Crematorium Chapel for which the sum of £80 was included in the current year's estimates. RESOLVED, That these proposals be approved.

402—Staff—Assistant Cemetery Supt.—The Superintendent reported Mr. Weaver, the Assistant Superintendent, had met with an accident while on his way home from work on the 9th December, when he was knocked down by a car. He had sustained somewhat serious injuries, and would probably be away for three months. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Weaver the Committee's sympathy with him, and their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

G. READINGS, Chairman.

## RATING COMMITTEE.

**17th December, 1947** Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman); Alderman Ward; Councillors Gardner, Irving and Mann.

403—Proposals—(a) The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted as now settled by the Committee.

404—Shops, Pittville Street—RESOLVED, That proposals be submitted for an increase in the assessments of the shops in Pittville Street belonging to the Council having regard to the recent increase in the rents, but that the Rating and Valuation Officer be instructed to defer submitting proposals until after the 1st April, next, so as to ensure that the increased assessments do not become effective until 1st April next year.

405—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears.

406—B.I.S.F. Houses, Lynworth Farm Estate—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported that the Assessment Committee had referred back to the Committee the proposals for the assessment of these houses within the Borough at £26 a year. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned until the March meeting of the Committee.

407—Fourth Railway Valuation Roll—London, Midland and Scottish Railway—The Town Clerk reported notice from the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company, that the draft of the 4th Valuation Roll was completed and notice had been published in the press in the prescribed manner. It was proposed to make representations in respect of one property which was let out, but which had not been shown as such.

A J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

55

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.**

**16th December, 1947.** Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Green and Ward; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Bettridge, Gardner, Readings, Strickland and Thompson.

408—Market and Public Control Sub Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Market and Public Control Sub Committee of their meeting held on 3rd December, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated).

409—Establishment Sub Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Establishment Sub Committee of their meeting held on the 4th December, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated). ALSO RESOLVED, that application be made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to the borrowing of the sum of £2,179. 10. 0., the estimated cost of alterations and works to the offices, and to the Public Works Loan Board for a mortgage for £2,179. 10. 0., and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage, order and form of receipt.

ALSO RESOLVED, That, in connection with Min. 4 (Car Allowances), this committee concur in the commendation of the Street and Highway Committee, that owing to the withdrawal of the basic petrol ration and consequent difficulties in the use of his own car in cases of emergency, the Borough Surveyor be paid an allowance based on half-user.

410—Labour Sub Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Labour Sub Committee of their meeting held on the 2nd December, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated).

411—Staff joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on 12th December, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated).

412—Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Airport Committee--RESOLVED, That the report of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Airport Committee of their meeting held on the 22nd November, 1947, be approved and adopted (report circulated). In connection with the future use of the airport, the Town Clerk reported that the District Valuer had now been authorised to advise the Corporations as to the price to be asked of the Ministry.

413—Council Standing Orders—RESOLVED, That a Sub Committee, consisting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, be appointed to consider and recommend amendments, if necessary, to the standing orders and duties of Committees.

414—Sandford Swimming Pool—Letter was submitted from St. John Ambulance Brigade, calling attention to the services rendered at the pool during the past season when 1,391 cases were treated, comprising cuts, sprains, and persons overcome by excessive heat, and a number of serious cases requiring first aid treatment and further hospital attention. On behalf of the Town Improvement Committee a letter of appreciation had been sent by the Town Clerk to the Brigade but the Committee thought a little more tangible recognition might be shewn. RESOLVED, That, the Council be recommended to make a subscription of £10. 10. 0 to the funds of the Brigade under the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889.

415—Hay Cottage Homes—The Mayor and Aldermen were the Trustees for these Homes, whose income from investments was now only £56. 15. 0. p.a. No substantial work had been undertaken at the Homes for a considerable time and it was urgently necessary to carry out certain repairs to the roofs, floors and walls and to install satisfactory fireplaces at an estimated cost of £425. Although some work would be deferred for the present there was insufficient funds available to meet this cost. In view of the financial position application was made for a contribution under the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make a grant of £200.

416—Cheltenham General and Eye Hospital—RESOLVED, That Councillor Gardner be appointed the Council's representative on the Board of Management for the current year in place of Mr. G. B. Compton.

417—Fire Services Act, 1947—The Committee considered the draft establishment scheme submitted by the County Council, who would become the fire authority under this Act as from the appointed day, and interviewed Fire Force Commander Goad, the Fire Officer designate for the county. The establishment scheme dealt with the various stations, their personnel and appliances, but at a later stage a management scheme would be submitted. Under the establishment scheme the County had been divided into 23 administrative areas, of which the Cheltenham area was the largest, comprising the Borough, Charlton Kings and 21 surrounding parishes in the Cheltenham and Northleach Rural Districts. Provision also had to be made in the establishment to cover reinforcements to adjoining neighbourhoods and the personnel and equipment proposed was as follows:—

For the whole county.

Station establishment--3 whole time stations, 21 part time retained stations.

Personnel establishment—Whole time personnel:--4 company officers, 5 section leaders, 9 leading firemen, 58 firemen, 8 firewomen, and 6 additional temporary whole time firemen.

Part time retained personnel---4 company officers, 25 section leaders, 58 leading firemen 241 firemen. These figures do not include headquarters staff and district officers.

Appliances-17 major trailer pumps, 5 self propelled major pumps, 2 pump salvage tenders, 4 pump escapes, 1 turntable ladder, 15 water tenders, 1 hose laying lorry, two general purpose lorries, 1 foam tender, 1 canteen van.

For Cheltenham.

Personnel: whole time-2 section leaders, 6 leading firemen and 36 firemen in addition to 2 company officers.

Part time-2 section leaders, 4 leading firemen and 14 firemen. Also 2 firewomen for control and one for administration in addition to male establishment.

Equipment pump escape, 1 trailer pump, 1 turntable ladder, 1 pump salvage tender, 1 water tender (Lt) hose laying lorry, 1 general purpose lorry.

56

Cheltenham, with its concentrated building areas, factories, extensive shopping cities and residential properties of predominantly three or more storeys in height, was classed as a " C " risk station. In view of the additional risk attributable to the large number of Georgian properties (mostly in terraces), and many of which were old and had been converted into flats, adding considerably to the fire risk, the establishment proposed was 16 whole time male personnel and one pump in excess of the standard allocation proposed by the Home Office. The proposals could not be compared with the firefighting arrangements prior to the war, when retained members were on continuous call under the bell system, whereas at the present time firemen were only per-mitted to perform 60 hours duty each week, and allowances had to be made to cover the full 24 hours daily and to deal with leave, sickness, and other incidents. It was proposed that the Lansdown Road station should become the main control headquarters for the area, but it was desired temporarily to retain the " old central fire station " and the garage accommodation at the Rodney Road Car Park. The unsuitability of the "old central fire station" as a fire station was appreciated but the retained personnel were grouped round this building and if its use was not continued, the whole time personnel would have to be increased. At this stage no indication was given as to what payment, if any, would be made to the Council for the taking over of the property and equipment except insofar as it related to the outstanding loan charges. The Council as the fire brigade authority, prior to the war, made purchases of property and equipment out of loan and revenue, and in addition to the central station, the main items were :-

|   | Purchase price | Amount outstanding |
|---|----------------|--------------------|
| Extension—St. James' Fire Station         | £500           | —                  |
| Two cottages                              | £1,270         | £434               |
| 1 Leyland Fire Engine                     | £2,213         | £494               |
| Motor tender                              | £468           | £104               |
| Leyland Fire engine with ladder extension | £1,332         | —                  |
| 1 motor tender                            | £150           | —                  |
| Morris lorry                              | £247           | —                  |

Loan charges on the above amounted to £350 per annum, which were at present reimbursed to the Corporation by the N.F.S., whilst the Council annually contributed to the N.F.S. £1,474, based on a standard year. The Committee considered that all necessary steps should be taken to preserve the Council's interest in the " old central station and in the garage accommodation at Rodney Road, and that this should be released at the earliest possible date. RESOLVED (i), That as the Committee

considered the recommendations contained in the draft establishment scheme, providing for 1 additional pump and 16 personnel in excess of the allocation proposed by the Home Office, were essential having regard to the considerable " turnout " area comprised in the Cheltenham division, and the extremely high fire risk and the necessity of providing adequate cover, the Council be recommended to approve the proposals:

(ii) That whilst the necessity for temporarily retaining the " old central fire station " was appreciated the Committee were of opinion that it was unsatisfactory owing to its siting, accommodation and means of approach, for a fire station and the Council realising this had in fact, prior to the war, considered the transfer of this station to a more satisfactory position.

(iii) That consistent with the above, the Town Clerk be asked to press for the release of the " old central fire station " and the accommodation at the Rodney Road Car Park as soon as possible.

(iv) That, as the time within which the Council's representations could be sent expired on the 18th December, 1947, the Town Clerk be authorised to make representations on the above lines forthwith.

418—Old People's Welfare Committee—The Committee further considered letters from Alderman Lipson and Miss R. M. Wilkes on the setting up of a local Old People's Welfare Committee, consideration of which was adjourned at the meeting in October, to enable further information to be obtained. In view of the interest taken in this proposal by the Mayor, who was unable to be present, and its relation to housing and other matters, it was decided to defer consideration until the next meeting.

419—Cheltenham Committee for Education—Letter was submitted from the Cheltenham Teachers' Association, expressing deep regret at the Council's decision not to accept their nominee, Mr. A. G. Dye, and referring to his past services. They referred to the representation on the Education Committee and stated that the secondary modern schools had now no representative on the Committee, but that further representation had been given to the Grammar Schools. The request for the amendment of the constitution to admit teacher representatives originated from them and they were informed that the Council would have regard to their wishes when selecting representatives. Whilst not questioning the legality of the decision, they considered an injustice had been done, and requested that consideration be given to this matter and provision made for representation of secondary modern schools on the earliest possible occasion. The Committee were informed that it was incorrect to say that the secondary modern schools had no representation, and in fact, all sections were now represented on the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed that in the Council's view all sections were adequately represented and that they were of opinion that the views of the teaching profession were adequately represented by the appointment of Mr. Barker and Miss Miles. ALSO RESOLVED, That it be pointed out that it was not possible to take any action in the matter at the present time

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

57

#### HOUSING COMMITTEE.

**17th December, 1947**—Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Deputy Mayor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Bishop, Fisher, Gardner, C. W. Morris, Strickland and Ward.

420—Licensing—Read circular dated 8th December from the S.W. Regional Building Committee reviewing the present ceilings allocated for the issue of licences for repair and maintenance work. It was still necessary to limit expenditure of manpower and materials upon repair and maintenance work, and in future permitted expenditure be divided between local authorities on a basis of comparative need. Several factors had to be consequent assessing the comparative needs of different authorities, including volume and description of property requiring repair, general conditions of exposure to deterioration, and obsolescence of property with consequent need for higher expenditure. Revised ceilings would operate from 29th December, 1947 and the average weekly value of licences issued by this Council over a 26-week period up to 26th June, 1948, should not exceed £1,595 in respect of housing, and £478 in respect of other work, the corresponding ceilings for last year being £1,100 and £400 respectively. The revision of ceilings does not affect the procedure for "ex-ceilings." licences.

421—Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946—The Town Clerk reported the inclusion of the Rural District of Dursley in the area served by the Local Rent Tribunal as from 15th December, 1947.

422—Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts—The Town Clerk submitted application from Mr. E. W. G. of 293 Hatherley Road, for an advance under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts to purchase this house which he occupied. The house was a new one, and the maximum selling price permitted under licence was £1,130. The purchaser desired an advance of £600. The Borough Surveyor submitted his report on the property. RESOLVED, That an advance on mortgage of £600 be made at interest at the rate of 2 ¼ % repayable within a period of 15 years, and that the Common Seal be affixed to the mortgage.

423—Alma Road Estate (a) Compulsory Purchase Order—The Town Clerk reported that the Compulsory Purchase Order had now been confirmed by the Ministry of Health with three small modifications. Notices to treat had been served, and 14 days' notice of entry would be given as soon as possible except in respect of that portion of the land comprised in the Order, which it was not intended to develop at once.

(b) "Wood Grange"—Read, letter from the Education Officer that his Committee was satisfied that this bungalow appeared likely to be suitable for school purposes. The County Architect had been asked to submit proposals for its adaptation.

(c) Form of Contract—The Town Clerk reported receipt from the Ministry of Health of the form of contract which had been agreed by the Ministry with Messrs. A. W. Hawksley Ltd., for the supply and erection of aluminium permanent bungalows. As the bungalows were completed almost as soon as they were delivered to the site, and as the manufacturers had a considerable amount of capital tied up in the bungalows which had been delivered, the Ministry had agreed that the period for interim certificates for the bungalows should be weekly and certificates honoured within 10 days, the amount certified in respect of the bungalows to be 100%. The Ministry would arrange for the early payment to the Council of the capital grant to local authorities. In lieu of retention money to cover defects during the maintenance period Messrs. Hawksley had arranged for a bankers' indemnity to ensure against risk of default. The price payable to Messrs. Hawksley for the manufacture, transport and erection of the bungalows was £1,267 7s. 3d. each. The price of the foundations would be £185 19s. 10d. per site. These prices were based on prices ruling at 30th April, 1947, and were therefore subject to increase due to rises in cost of materials and wage rates since that date. The cost of the foundations was based on a normal level site, and was subject to variation where additional under-building was needed.

There had been a number of price increases since 30th April last, the major increases being due to rises in price of aluminium, timber and wages. The increase in the price of aluminium alone added about £52 to the cost of each house. It was not intended however, that local authorities should bear this particular increase and it had been allowed for in fixing the rates of the capital grant mentioned below. However, increases due to the rises in price of timber and wages would be passed on to local authorities, as these would affect equally traditional houses, and were not peculiar to aluminium bungalows. The capital grant under Section 17 of the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous) Act, 1946, varied according to the number of houses on the site, but have been calculated so that after allowing for increases in the price of aluminium the approximate price to local authorities for the houses on a level site would be £850. The actual rate of subsidy for the 207 bungalows would be £655 per bungalow.

As under the contract the Council were required to make prompt payment it was essential that the Council should submit their claim for a subsidy immediately the bungalows were completed and they should apply for any necessary loan sanction for the balance of the cost at the earliest possible date. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for consent to loan of £176,523 for the net cost of the bungalows, including site works and Resident Engineer's salary made up as follows :—

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (1) 207 bungalows at £1,267 7s. 3d. each less capital grant of<br>£655 per bungalow  | £126,759 0 9   |
| (2) Increase cost of Aluminium at £52 per home                                       | 10,764 0 0     |
| (3) Foundations at £185 19s. 10d. per site ...                                       | 38,500 4 6     |
| (4) Temporary resident Engineer, 80% of estimated salary<br>during progress of works | <u>500 0 0</u> |
|  | £176,523 5 3   |

(d) Resident Engineer—The Borough Surveyor recommended that a resident engineer should be engaged for the supervision of the construction of the trunk sewer and also the development of the site and erection of the bungalows. He suggested that the salary should be apportioned as to 80% to the housing loan, and 20% to the trunk sewer loan. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that applications be invited for the temporary appointment at a salary of approximately £10 per week, and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to make an appointment.

58

424—Old People's Welfare (Min. 1155/47)—Read, letter Iron the Gloucestershire Community Council that the Council had decided to incorporate old people's welfare in the functions which it undertook, and it had been decided to form a representative Committee for this purpose. As Mr. E. M. Yeend had been appointed the Council's representative to serve on the temporary Executive Committee, the Council were now asked to appoint another representative to serve on the reconstituted Gloucestershire Old People's Welfare Committee. RESOLVED, That Councillor Bettridge be appointed the Council's representative.

425—Temporary Community Centre, Whaddon—The Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. McIlquham & Co., con-firming that their client raised no objection to the N.F.S. Huts at Whaddon being used as a Community Centre, it being understood that these were only used as a temporary measure, and that the Community Centre would endeavour to avoid causing a nuisance to occupiers



of the adjoining houses. The Town Clerk had replied pointing out that the Community Association hoped to continue holding dances at Whaddon Schools, but in any case, the Association had certainly no intention of causing any such nuisance. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's reply be approved.

426—Temporary Bungalows—Letter was submitted from the Rev. S. J. Richards of St. Peter's, asking that sites of demolished houses in his parish should be utilised for the erection of temporary houses. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Government's temporary housing programme was completed, and that no further allocations could be obtained. RESOLVED, That the Rev. Richards be informed accordingly.

427--Report of Housing Manager---(a) The Housing Manager submitted her monthly report. The rents of all houses with a few exceptions, were now collected weekly.

(b) Staff—The Housing Manager submitted report on the reorganisation of the Department, RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred, but that meanwhile the Establishment Sub-Committee be recommended to approve of the addition to the Establishment of a shorthand-typist with a view to an appointment being made at the earliest possible date.

(c) Repairs—External painting had been completed to houses in Spenser Road and was in progress on houses in Kipling Road. A new floor had been laid at 118 Tennyson Road, and underpinning the wall of 2 Byron Road, where subsidence had occurred, had been completed. The range and hot water system at 124 Tennyson Road had been found to be defective, and a new range with a briquette surround, and a new boiler were required at an estimated cost of £30. RESOLVED, That this be approved. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to inspect and report on the several hot water systems of houses at St. Marks estate in respect of which complaints had been received.

428—Estate Management Sub-Committee—Read, reports of the Estate Management Sub-Committee of their meetings held on 26th November, 2nd and 9th December.

The following matters (inter alia) were dealt with :—

(a) 8 applicants were interviewed and 11 applications considered.

(b) 2 applications were received for the registration of accommodation under Defence Regulation 68 C.B. The Sub-Committee had decided to register the accommodation in one case.

(c) New applications. 77 new applications had been received since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee.

(d) Field Lodge—The Sub-Committee had inspected Field Lodge, and recommended that the Gardens Superintendent be allocated one of the flats at 109 Old Bath Road, with the use of the garage as a temporary measure until the Parks Committee were able to obtain suitable alternative accommodation, and that the Parks Committee be recommended to consider the proposals for the use of Field Lodge for other purposes. RESOLVED, That the reports be approved and adopted.

429—Requisitioning Sub-Committee—A report of the Requisitioning Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 19th November was submitted. Two properties had been requisitioned, and subsequently released upon representation. The Sub-Committee had agreed to de-requisition the portion of Firs Court, requisitioned during the War, in accordance with the arrangements made at the time of requisitioning, that the accommodation would be de-requisitioned three months after the cessation of hostilities. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

430—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Flats—The Borough Surveyor submitted sketch plan for 12 two bedroom and 6 three-bedroom flats on the site in Priors Road opposite the estate which was bounded on one side by a piece of ground to be leased to the Education Committee as a playing field. The flats were approached from internal stairways, the two bedroom flats accommodating 4 persons, and the 3 bedroom flats 5 persons. It was proposed to provide an outside store for prams and cycles, and that the area at the back should be either cleaned and seeded, or covered with asphalt for use as a communal drying place. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve in principle of the erection of flats on this site, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to discuss the proposals with the Regional Architect, Ministry of Health.

(b) Small Builders' Scheme—The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. Enoch and Mr Squire who were erecting houses under this scheme could not obtain delivery of asbestos rain water gutters and down pipes in less than 12 Months. In order that the houses which were nearing completion could be made ready for occupation without delay, the Borough Surveyor had agreed to the use of aluminium alloy for these goods in place of asbestos as it was obtainable from stock, the extra cost being estimated at £6 per house. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(c) Damage to Materials—It was reported that 40 paving slabs were wantonly broken on this estate, the approximate cost of the damage being £10. A water connection provided by Messrs. Wimpey had also been turned on by children, and a portion of the site had been flooded.

431—Hester's Way—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit proposals in due course for development and erection of houses on the portion of this site in respect of which a Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire 122 acres had been confirmed.

59

432—Brooklyn Road Houses The Borough Surveyor reported that the handing over of these houses had been delayed by lack of soil piping. He had, therefore, made enquiries with regard to alternative materials, and was informed that pre-fabricated sheet steel piping could be supplied almost immediately. The material was not normally used in plumbing, but it had been used for the B.I.S.F. houses, and was accepted by the Ministry of Health for traditional houses. It was more expensive than normal types of soil piping, but the Ministry of Health were of the opinion that this extra cost would be offset by the fact that the houses would be completed and occupied sooner. RESOLVED, That the Committee approve of the use of galvanized sheet steel soil piping in these houses.

433-4 Tivoli Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that the conversion of this house into two flats had now been completed, the final account showing an over-expenditure of £1 18s. 2d. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to pay the final account amounting to £371 17s. 8d.

434—Clayton, Douro Road—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to pay retention money amounting to £17 13s. 6d for the conversion of this house, the maintenance period having expired.

435—Non-Traditional Houses, Cornish Unit Construction—The Borough Surveyor reported on plans and specification for this new type of construction. The planning, in his opinion, was very fair, but the layout was restricted as far as aspect was concerned. It appeared that these houses required more timber than the normal type of construction, but it was understood that the Ministry of Health had agreed to this. It was, however, difficult to report fully on this type of construction without inspecting a specimen house. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to inspect a house of this type of construction, and report thereon.

436—Temporary Housing, Priors Farm—The Borough Surveyor reported that three tenders had been invited for altering fences and gates to enclose the back doors of the 173 bungalows on the estate. Only one tender was received, namely, that of Mr. Reg. Towell, amounting to £1 per bungalow. RESOLVED, That this be accepted, the cost to be charged to the rates.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

#### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

**18th December, 1947.** Present—Councillor Gardner (Chairman); Deputy Mayer ; Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Brown, Carter and Mudway. Mesdames Booy, Mellersh, Wood and Miss Tinson.

437 Appointment of Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Miss Carter be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

438-Sub-Committees—RESOLVED, That the following Sub-Committees be appointed for the ensuing year;

Nurseries Sub-Committee—Aldermen Leigh James and Green ; Councillors Bayliss, Carter, Gardner and Mudway Mesdames Mellersh, Wood. Hopkins and Booy ; Misses Tinson and Hurford, H.M.I.

Home Helps Sub-Committee—Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Brown and Gardner ; Mesdames Mellersh and Wood.

Fees Sub-Committee—Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs and Gardner, and Mrs. Mellersh.

439—National Health Service Act, 1946—The Committee considered the proposals formulated by the County Council and submitted to the Ministry of Health under the following sections of this Act, namely : Section 22 (Care of Mothers and Young Children), Section 23 (Midwifery), Section 24 (Health Visiting), Section 25 (Home Nursing), Section- 28 (Prevention of illness, care and after care), Section 29 (Domestic Help), and Section 51 (Mental Health). The Council were required to submit any recommendations or observations they had on the proposals to the Minister before the 31st December, 1947. The County Council had not yet entered into consultations or submitted proposals in regard to the delegation of powers under the Act, but it appeared from the proposals submitted under Section 22 that the County Council would undertake the administration of the services throughout the County. including the Borough of Cheltenham, and would decide the policy and control finance, and the proposals under Section 28 it was stated that Care Committees for the welfare of tuberculosis and other cases in would be established to cover the whole County on a divisional basis in accordance with an intended scheme for decentralised administration. The Sub-Committee which met representatives of the Local Health Authority at Gloucester on the 17th October to discuss the proposals, had made it clear that the Borough Council would expect the fullest delegation of powers and would not be satisfied with a scheme merely of decentralised administration.

With regard to the proposals, there were many instances of insufficient or inaccurate information contained therein of the services at present provided by the Borough, but with the few exceptions mentioned below, the pi appeared to be generally satisfactory especially having regard to the difficulties at the present time of adequate nursing staff and premises.

In nearly all cases the County Council had come to agreements with the existing voluntary organisations they would act as agents for the County Council in the provision of some of the services.

60

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children. The County Council had reached agreement with the Gloucestershire Federation of Child Welfare Centres whereby the Federation would act as agent for the County Council in the establishment and organisation of Child Welfare Centres, but no consultation had taken place with the Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association Who, although nominally a member of the Gloucestershire Federation, had hitherto been entirely responsible to the Council for the organisation of the five Cheltenham Infant Welfare Centres. The Committee therefore recommend that the County Council should be asked to make appropriate arrangements with the Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association, and in particular for the continuance by the Association of their paid part-time Secretary/Organiser and Assistant, together with the appropriate car allowance as at present paid.

Section 24—Health Visiting—The number of Health Visitors required for the Borough is given as 12, based on an estimated population of 60,000. As the Council estimate the population of the Borough to be in the region of 75,000, the Committee recommend that the number of Health Visitors should be increased accordingly in order that the considerable new duties which will in future be performed by Health Visitors can be adequately and efficiently carried out in the Borough.

Section 29—Domestic Help—The Committee regard the proposals for the Home Help Service as entirely in-adequate. The number of whole time Home Helps to be allocated for the Borough and for Charlton Kings was only 6. At present the Borough employed 14 whole-time helps and 4 part-time helps, and even this number was insufficient to satisfy the demands made for the service. The proposals of the County Council provided for the appointment of an Organiser, and if necessary, assistants. It appeared to the Committee that the Borough would require not less than 20 whole-time helpers and 10 part-time helpers, excluding Charlton Kings, which should have not less than 2 whole-time helpers and one part-time helper. The Committee also considered it was essential the Borough should have its own Organiser with appropriate transport and clerical assistance if the efficiency of the service was to be maintained.

Cost.—The County Council's estimate of expenditure for the nine months ended 31st March, 1949, was £160,140, so that in a full year the estimated expenditure would amount to £213,520.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to make recommendations to the Ministry of Health in accordance with the above recommendations.

440--Joint Circular, Ministry of Health 165/47, Ministry of Education 157---This circular was submitted in regard to salaries of non-domestic staff of Day, 24-hour and Residential Nurseries, Nursery Schools and Nursery Classes. The revision of these salaries had been undertaken in consultation with the Nurseries Salaries Committee, whose recommendations the Ministry of Health had accepted, and commended for adoption with effect from 1st October, 1947. No-one should have her salary reduced as a result of the introduction of the new scales. The new scales showed, in most cases, substantial increases over the previous scales, so that the salaries now payable compared favourably with those in other similar professions. Additional expenditure incurred by Welfare Authorities in adopting the recommendations for staff in the Day Nurseries, and for State Registered Nurses employed in residential nurseries would rank for special grant.

RESOLVED, That the revised scales be approved and adopted as from the 1st October, 1947, and that the Nurseries Sub-Committee be authorised to apply the new scales to the staff at the three Day Nurseries and Thirlestaine Court Residential nursery.

441—Day Nurseries—Read, reports of the meetings of the Nurseries Sub-Committee held on 23rd October and 20th November. The usual high attendance at the Nurseries had been maintained, and there was still a great demand on the Nurseries. It had become necessary to obtain replacements of china both for the use of the children and staff at all the Nurseries, and arrangements were being made for the Supervising Matron to inspect the china held in store on behalf of the Ministry of Food to see if there was anything suitable with a view to purchase.

Miss Thomas, Inspector of the Ministry of Health, had visited the Nurseries in connection with the new students' training, and subsequently notification was received that Miss Thomas had passed all the Nurseries as training nurseries for the 2-5 age group.

The suggestion had been made that the Nurseries might all close on Saturday afternoons, thus helping to ease the staffing problem and enquiries were being made as to how many mothers would be affected if this were done. A grant of £3 had been made to each of the four Nurseries towards the expenses of providing Christmas parties for the children.

RESOLVED, That the reports of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted. RESOLVED ALSO, That the grant to each of the Nurseries towards the expenses of providing Christmas parties be increased to £3.

442—Thirlestaine Court Nursery—Staff—RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Nurseries Sub-Committee, that Miss Phyllis Patrick, former Nurse, be paid an additional salary of £2 a month for the last six months of her service be approved and confirmed.

P. E. GARDNER, Chairman.

61

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**19th December, 1947**, Present—Councillor Thompson (Chairman) Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Bishop, Mann and Morris.

443 —General Rate—Report was submitted on the collection of the second instalment of this rate. Amount collected £139,582 ; amount outstanding £113,339,

444—Water Rate and Charges—Report was submitted on the collection of the water rate and charges for the half year ending 31st March, 1948. Amount collected £18,298 ; amount outstanding 112,447.

445--Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported that electricity charges amounting to £14,436 had been collected since the last meeting. Accounts outstanding were £225 for re-chargeable works carried out and £230 for electricity supplied.

446--Sanction to Loan—Sanction to loan, dated 8th December, 1947, for £3,654, for a term of 30 years had been received from the Ministry of Health in respect of the culverting of Wyman's Brook at Folly Lane tip and adjoining land.

447—Electricity Department—Billing Machine (Min. 2325/47)—The billing machine ordered by the Borough Electrical Engineer had now been sold to the Fife Electric Power Company Ltd., and no loss would be occasioned by the purchase and re-sale of the machine.

448—Annual Estimates—RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. Gillhams for printing the estimates for 1948/49 at the sum of 20s per page (approximately £130) be accepted.

449— Borough Treasurer's Department—Central Cash Collection—A report was submitted on the works to the central cash collection office (formerly electricity showroom), and it was recommended that the office, which embraced the whole of the cash collection system, be opened to the public from 9 a.m.-4.30 p.m. on each weekday, except Saturday, and on Saturday from 9 a.m.-12 noon. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

450 —Staff —The Rating Committee had considered an application of W. Griffiths, Bailiff, for an increase in his retaining fee of £25 per annum. This officer who was mainly engaged on rate collection received 10 per cent. commission on the amount collected, and during the last year his total remuneration was £190. There had been a reduction in the number of outstanding rate accounts, and in view of the work necessary in connection with the collection, it was recommended that the commission should be increased to 12 ½ per cent. and the matter reviewed in April, 1948. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation.

451—Loans—Reported, that two loans amounting to £1,300 had been repaid since the last meeting, and two loans amounting to £200 had been renewed for 15 years at 2 ½ per cent.

452—Corporation 1956 Stock—The following transfers of stock had been effected :—

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| F. P. Nathan and R. R. Crowsdon to Lloyd's bank Nominees Ltd. | £10,000 |
| Lloyd's bank Nominees Ltd. To Barclay's Bank Ltd.             | £10,000 |

453----Superannuation—(a) The following contributions had been refunded since the last meeting :-

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Miss E. E. Keary (Delancey Hospital)... | £93 19s. 5d. |
| Mrs M. Byron (Health Department)        | £31 15s. 0d. |
| Miss E. Colman (Day Nurseries)          | £22 5s. 9d.  |
| Miss B. J. Burford (Public Library)     | £65 12s. 8d. |

(b) Transfer values had been received from the following authorities :-

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Accrington Corporation—H. Dixon (Sewage Works Manager)   | £398 3s. 8d.  |
| Liverpool Corporation—Miss D Browning (Town Clerk's Department)  | £167 0s. 11d. |
| Stalybridge, Hyde, Mossley and Dukinfield Transport and Electricity Board—W. Taylor (Electricity Department) | £488 12s. 1d. |
| Port Talbot Corporation—Miss D. B. Clarke (Delancey Hospital)  | £248 3s. 7d.  |

(c) Transfer values had been paid to the following authorities:-

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Gloucestershire County Council—D. N. Perry (Rates Dept.) | £431 15s. 2d.  |
| Redditch U.D.C.—H. Dixon (Sewage Works)                  | £510 14s. 11d. |
| Spalding U.D C--Miss J. A. Pike (Electricity)            | £13 15s. 5d.   |

(d) 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, a superannuation allowance was payable to H. Bosworth, Waterworks Superintendent, who would retire on the 23rd December, 1947, amounting to £195 1s. 10d., based on 4 years non-contributory and 22 years 9 months contributory service. RESOLVED, That an allowance be paid accordingly.

(e) Delancey Hospital--(i) The Committee considered a resolution of the Delancey Hospital Trustees, who had an admission agreement with the Council in respect of their officers, intimating that the services of the matron, Miss G. Atkinson, who reached the age of 60 years on the 19th January, 1946, were extended for one year, and that it had been decided to extend her services for a further year, namely, until 19th January, 1948. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation.

(ii) The Town Clerk also reported on the establishment covered by the agreement with the Council under the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1922. On the passing of the 1937 Act, the Minister of Health had indicated a fresh agreement was not necessary. Since the agreement was entered into in 1931, additions had been made to the staff, who had been admitted to the superannuation scheme, although no formal resolution had been recorded in the minutes, of this Committee at the time these additions were made. In order to safeguard the interests of the officers and staff at the hospital, the Council were recommended to consent to the following list of established posts being substituted for that contained in the schedule to the above agreement :—Clerk, Treasurer, Medical Officer, Matron, Assistant Matron, Nine Nurses, Gardener, Gardener-Porter, Boilerman, Cook, Seamstress, Laundress and Two Laundry Maids. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve of the substitution.

THEO. L. THOMPSON, Chairman.