



Historical Record of Oberon Shire Council

Volume 1: 1906 - 1956

1906

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 13th June, 1906

Chairman: T.C. Brennan

Councillors: H. Kelly, C.E. Richards,
J.C. Stevenson and Thos. Wilson

Shire Clerk: W. Minehan @ £2 per week

Temporary Council Meeting – Royal Hotel – 29th June, 1906

First election to be 24th November, 1906.

Suggested Returning Officer – A. Stevenson
@ 8 guineas

Suggested Substitute Returning Officers –
Morton and Norton @ 2 guineas

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 14th July, 1906

Suggested Substitute Returning Officers –
Jas. Doust and Jas. Batcheldor

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 28th July, 1906

Suggestions for Polling Booths – Oberon,
O’Connell, Edith, Glencoe, Black Springs,
Arkstone and possibly Duckmaloi and
Shooters Hill

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 8th August, 1906

Polling places decided: Oberon (3),
O’Connell (2), Edith, Jenolan, Shooters Hill,
Porters Retreat, Hillsbury, Norway,
Wisemans Creek, Duckmaloi, Hazelgrove,
Tarana, Jerrong, Essington and Swatchfield
(1 each) = 18

Temporary Office of Council to be Shire
Clerk’s residence

Sen. Const. Hawe and staff collected roll of
electors

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 18th August, 1906

Decided to print 75 electoral rolls

Probable cost of election – 71 pound, 2
shillings

1 guinea for hiring rooms at different polling
places

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 1st September, 1906

Lowest cost for printing electoral rolls was
from Dowse & Co - to be submitted to
Minister for approval

List of electors to Revision Court on 7th
September, 1906

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 15th September, 1906

School buildings required for polling –
Jenolan Caves, Edith, Shooters Hill, Porters
Retreat, Wisemans Creek, Mimosa Dell,
Norway, Duckmaloi, Tarana, Jerrong,
Essington, Swatchfield and Hazelgrove

A note in the Minutes describes the
“Department” as “dictatorial”

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 29th September, 1906

Election – Nomination Place to be at
temporary office of Council at Shire Clerk’s
residence

Additional polling place to be at Burruga

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 13th October, 1906

Roll of Electors to cost 2/- (2 shillings). 20
ballot boxes required

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 27th October, 1906

Roll of Electors – 54 rolls required, with 1 to each of the Councillors and 1 to the Shire Clerk

Temporary Council Meeting – Temporary Council Office (Shire Clerk’s Residence) - 9th November, 1906

Temporary Council to disband on 8th December, 1906.

41 pounds paid as first instalment to Returning Officer towards expenses of election of first Councillors.

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 23rd November, 1906

First meeting of Council to be 8th December, 1906 at the Court House at 2 p.m.

Temporary Council to meet again on 8th December at 10.30 a.m. to hand over all property belonging to the Shire Council.

1 pound rent paid to Shire Clerk for rent of temporary office.

Temporary Council Meeting – Court House – 8th December, 1906

The following monies are to be handed over to the new Council:

Receipts: 146 pound, 5 shillings and 9 pence.

Expenses: 146 pound, 7 shillings and 11 pence.

FIRST MEETING OF NEW OBERON SHIRE COUNCIL – COURT HOUSE – 8TH DECEMBER, 1906

President: T.C. Brennan.

Councillors: J. Hughes, H. Kelly, C.E. Richards, Edward Robinson, L. Todd.

Shire Clerk: W. Minehan – salary 3 pound per week.

Shire Engineer: Joint appointment with Blaxland and Kanimbla Shires, if terms suitable.

Council Meeting – Temporary Office – 22nd December, 1906

Shire Engineer – Mr. Hope – agreed to terms from Blaxland Shire – 400 pounds, including travelling expenses.

Maintenance Men – keep on temporary for 3 months but only to be paid if funds available and must keep account of labour expenses on any roads in adjoining shires. Unfinished contracts with Works Dept. to be kept to 31st December, 1906. Council accepts responsibility for any day labour contracts unfinished on 31st December, 1906.

Council Seal: Purchase with inscription “Oberon Shire Council” and having imprint of one of many scenes at Jenolan Caves.

Presidential Allowance: 25 pounds.

Finance Committee: Crs. Kelly, Todd and E. Robinson.

Works Committee: Crs. Kelly, Todd and E. Robinson.

Health Committee: Crs. J. Hughes, H. Kelly and C. Richards.

1907

Council Meeting – Temporary Office – 5th January, 1907

Joint Appointment of Shire Engineer:

Meeting between Oberon, Blaxland and Kanimbla Shires at Mt. Victoria. Each Council prepared to give 375 pounds per annum for services of Engineer. If 400 pounds asked for, Oberon and Blaxland would pay 12 pounds 10 shillings each as there was not as much work to be done in Kanimbla Shire. It was understood that each Council would make an offer separately and collectively. Give Kanimbla and Blaxland Shires power to engage Mr. Hope at a salary of 375 pounds per annum. Council to add 12 pounds, 10 shillings in case 400 pounds asked for.

Maintenance Men: Keep present time sheets and present conditions as when employed by Government. Keep their tools until such time as they were notified by Council to give them up.

Edith/Jenolan Caves/Hampton Road:

Suggested be taken over by the Government as National Work.

Bank Account: To be kept at Commercial Bank of Sydney (Bathurst Branch).

Fidelity Bond (Shire Clerk): 200 pounds.

Council Meeting (no venue given) – 19th January, 1907

Shire Engineer: Mr. Hope. Council willing to give 137 pounds, 10 shillings per annum as Council's portion of his salary of 400 pounds per annum.

Special Grants: Unexpended balance to be handed to Council.

Tools – Maintenance Men: Purchase their own necessary tools (pick and shovel) and forward bill to Council.

Pound Keepers: Council will not pay them any salary.

Springfield: Petition to have Springfield Estate included in town boundary.

Council Meeting – Temporary Office – 2nd February, 1907

Shire Clerk: Minister to be informed temporary employment of Shire Clerk satisfactory at 3 pounds per week.

Shire President: Cr. Brennan re-elected.

Meeting Place: Temperance Hall to be hired for Council Meetings at 4/- (4 shillings) per week for 3 months.

Delaney's Falls Bridge: Rabbits causing damage to bridge – wire netting to be bought to protect bridge – cost 6 pounds.

Maintenance Tools: Cost 8/7 (eight shillings and seven pence). Blacksmith – pointing of picks – 3/6 (three shillings and six pence).

Council Meeting – Council Chambers – 16th February, 1907

Shire Engineer: Herbert Williams appointed at 375 pounds per annum (Council to pay half) in agreement between Oberon and Blaxland Shires.

Culvert crossing at Arnold's Creek.

Hazelgrove School: Wm. Morrow to turn off water which flows into school grounds. Work not to exceed 2 pounds to be represented by his wages.

Solicitor: H.F. Thompson appointed as Council's solicitor.

Council Meeting – 1st March, 1907

John Kemp appointed in place of Jas. Delaney as maintenance man for Oberon and Blaxland Shires.

Council awarded 30 pounds for repair of Oberon-Tarana Road via Mutton Falls.

Maintenance men to list Council tools in their possession.

Inspectors of Slaughterhouses: Sen. Const. Hawes (Oberon), Const. Harper (Glencoe) and Const. Taplin (O'Connell) appointed.

P.P. Boards: Request that all P.P. Boards in State come under their own local Council's control.

½ day holiday on 8th March for Show for maintenance men.

Maintenance man, Jas. Morrow, to put on a horse and dray for 3 days to work on the Taralga Road.

Council Meeting – 16th March, 1907

Shire Clerk, W. Minehan, resigned.

8 applicants for position reduced to A.E. Buriben, M.J. Looby, H.F. Bloxham, G. Studdert and W.G. Whiteley).

M.J. Looby elected by ballot. Present Shire Clerk to stay until new Shire Clerk arrives.

Council Meeting – 30th March, 1907

Conference for Shire Presidents on 19th and 20th March.

Residence for Shire Engineer available at Tarana.

Bridges and Culverts: Accidents caused by rabbit damage – who is liable for prosecution, Council or adjoining landowners?

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1907

Black Springs Progress Association in operation in 1907.

Shire Boundaries – Gazette No. 161 of 16th May, 1906.

Valuations have been asked for. Unimproved Capital Value now required.

Campbell's Bridge: New sign to read "Unsafe for Loads Over 2 Tons".

An agreement is necessary between the Shire Clerk and Council.

Council Meeting – 27th April, 1907

Grant of 132 pounds for Oberon-Hampton Road ("Graham's Pinch" Deviation).

Yerranderie Road: Letter from Wollondilly Shire suggesting amalgamation on costs for making road from Yerranderie to Colong or ask Government for 500 pounds. Council has no money but will help Wollondilly in asking Government for funds.

Position of Valuer: 5 applications. James Doust appointed at 100 pounds.

Council to write to Commercial Bank (Bathurst) and suggest an Oberon Branch.

Council Meeting – 11th May, 1907

Average monthly expenditure = 143 pounds, 7 shillings and 1 pence.

Statement from Pass Book = 640 pounds, 7 shillings and 5 pence less 122 pounds, 6 shillings and 11 pence. Outstanding cheques = 518 pounds and 6 pence.

4 men, horse and dray – cost not to exceed 7 pounds – to work on Swatchfield-Burruga Road, Goulburn-Burruga Road, Goulburn Road at Paling Yards, Porters Retreat and Shooters Hill Road and Rockley Road from Swatchfield.

Get cost of safe and plans and estimates of cost for office fittings.

Lease of Council Chambers (from Miss Harvey) for 12 months with option of purchase at end of 12 months.

Council Meeting – 25th May, 1907

Expenditure for Ridings:

- A – 161 pounds, 10 shillings and 2 pence.
- B – 170 pounds, 10 shillings and 1 pence.
- C – 253 pounds, 2 shillings and 7 pence.

Road from O'Connell-Beaconsfield Road to Phoenix Mine to be surveyed and gazetted – mine owners to pay for survey.

Safe purchased for 28 pounds, 10 shillings.

Meetings to be held monthly from June to August.

Agreement with Miss Harvey for rent of hall for 9 months and option for purchase at expiration.

Council Meeting – 21st June, 1907

Auditor: F.J. Tonkin, Bathurst at 5 guineas per audit.

Shire Engineer: Blaxland Council suspended Mr. Williams. Oberon Council happy to continue at 15 pounds, 12 shillings and 6 pence per month.

Road Grants Available: 90 pounds – Tarana to Jenolan Caves from Edith to Caves. 90 pounds – Jenolan to Mt. Victoria from Caves to Shire boundary. Council to supplement by 65 pounds and 60 pounds respectively.

Functions taken over by Council:

Regulation and Licensing of Public Vehicles and Drivers.

Regulation and Licensing of Hawkers.

Administration and control of Diseased Animals and Meats Act.

Administration of powers and duties of Secretary of Lands of Public Gates Act, 1901.

A Cattle Slaughtering Licence cost 1 pound.

Tarana Progress Association: Government Gazette 351 – 12408 of 8th July, 1905 re control of public cemeteries and asking them to appoint Trustees otherwise Council will take over cemetery and charge burial fees.

Council Meeting – 19th and 20th July, 1907

Shire Engineer: H.T. Williams asked to resign – he did.

Public Health Inspector: Sen. Const. Hawe asked to report on condition of slaughter houses.

Valuer: Mr. Has. Doust confirmed as valuer.

Shire Clerk empowered to carry out duties and powers under all Ordinances and Regulations.

Maintenance Man paid 10/- for shifting his camp.

Builder's Licences granted to E.T. Whalan & A.E. Wilcox (Oberon), A. Fitzpatrick (Hazelgrove), C.J. Whalan (Jenolan), F.J. Dennis (Shooters Hill), Jas. Sewell (Sewell's Creek) and A.N. Hillan (O'Connell).

Maintenance Man Doyle to act, pro tem, as working Overseer @ 50/- per week. Applications to be called for position @ £130.0.0 per year. Applicants to be thoroughly practical men and able to lay down roads.

Write to Minister of Works requesting money for deviation of Beaconsfield-O'Connell Road at Alec Swamp.

Write to Minister requesting grant for expenditure on Paling Yards Hill on Goulburn Road.

Council Meeting – 16th & 17th August, 1907

Secure necessary maps from Lands Dept., Lithgow, for the Valuer @ 1/- each.

Request from 8 Hour Committee, Bathurst, that Council grant its employees a holiday on 8 Hour Day. Denied.

Mr. J. Doust offered Council an allotment of land (with premises) in Oberon Street for £175.0.0. Offer declined.

Application to Minister for Mines & Agriculture for permission to temporarily close O'Connell Pound.

Application to Minister for Mines & Agriculture for Council to have care, control and maintenance of the Oberon Common.

Consulting Engineer: President to visit Sydney and interview Minister for Works to allow Council to employ a working Overseer of Works and Consulting Engineer instead of a permanent Engineer.

Appointment of Overseer: Arthur Doyle – pending Minister's approval and Mr. Doyle to be allowed to spend up to £5.0.0 on urgent works without consulting Council.

Maintenance Men in Shire asked to resign by 31st August, 1907.

Council Meeting – 31st August, 1907

Bogan Shire wrote re duty on wire netting and asking for Council co-operation in having duty removed. Council declined.

J. Charlton forwarded specimens of stone for culvert and advised he would not sign contract unless pipes were procured by Council and carted to the work. Council would procure pipes and have them landed at Tarana Station and contractor to take delivery there and bear all further responsibility.

Furniture and fittings for Shire Office to be insured.

James Morrow overcharged for use of horse and dray. It was decided to pay him £14.1.0 and then dismiss him.

All maintenance men sent in resignations. 2 accepted and vacancies filled for these 2. Rest kept on.

Council – Additional Functions: Under Section 109, Sub-sections 13 & 23, covering the following:-

S. 13 – Establishment and maintenance of parks and recreation grounds.

S.23 – Regulation and control of theatres, dancing saloons, buildings used for public

assemblies and places of public amusement or resort.

All powers of the Shire Engineer to be vested in the Overseer of Works for the time being.

Council to support Goodradybe Shire Council in their endeavour to secure control of the sale and leasing of unused public roads.

Council Meeting – 14th September, 1907

Oberon Common: Dept. of Mines & Agriculture refused Council's application for care, control and management of the Oberon Common.

As from 14th October, 1907 all applications for licensing of public vehicles and drivers thereof and for the hawking of goods, etc., to be made to Council. Fee for Driver's Licence = 2/6.

No advertising matter is allowed to be placed on bridges or culverts.

Council Meeting – 27th & 28th September, 1907

All buyers of hides and sheep skins to be compelled to take out a Dealer's Licence and be made to keep an entry of the brands and marks on each skin and hide bought.

Cattle Slaughtering Licence: Fix fee at max. of £2.0.0 and min. of 5/-.

Council Meeting – 11th and 12th October, 1907

Consulting Engineer – after a visit to Chief Engineer of Local Government in Sydney, the Shire can employ a consulting engineer @ £20.0.0 for office work – minimum number of days = 20 @ £2.0.0 per day to cover expenses.

Bank: City Bank of Sydney promised to establish a branch at Oberon after petition now being signed met with favourable support.

Mail: Dept. of Post Master General interviewed with reference to establishing a quicker mail service in the district.

Police Station: Inspector General of Police looking into matter of establishing a Police Station at Tarana instead of Rydal.

Shire Boundary: At 7 mile peg on the Jenolan Caves-Mt. Victoria Road and not at the 11 ½ mile peg as thought.

Const. John O'Farrell appointed Inspector of Slaughterhouses at O'Connell in lieu of Const. Taplin.

Mr. A. Doyle appointed as permanent Overseer of Works.

Consulting Engineer: Council to write to Mr. Edghill, Engineer, Abercrombie Shire and offer him the position of Consulting Engineer for £20.0.0 for office work and minimum of 20 days employment in the Shire @ £2.00 per day, all expenses included.

Write to Advisory Board re. liability of Council and their employees in case of accident.

Special Meeting – 18th October, 1907

Fixing Rate:

Estimated expenditure out of the fund to which proceeds of the rate are to be carried - £3,465.0.0.

Amount of revenue likely to be available for such expenditure - £2,544.0.0.

Amount required to be raised by rate of 1 ¼ pence in the £ - £921.0.0.

Total value of the land on which the rate is to be levied - £176,856.0.0.

Rate fixed at 1 ¼ pence in the pound on the unimproved capital value of all ratable land in the Shire.

Clerical Assistance for Shire Clerk for 2 weeks @ £2.0.0 per week.

Council Meeting – 25th & 26th October, 1907

Fidelity Guarantee Bond: Dept. of Works suggested that bonds be given to Council for its servants and to be lodged either with Council's solicitor or with the bank.

Small trunk to be purchased and bonds and other important papers to be lodged at bank.

Dog Tax: Lake Macquarie Shire Council wrote asking for Council's co-operation to have Dog Tax paid to Councils. Agreed and write to Local Member on the subject.

Overseer asked for raise because of increased cost of horse feed. Denied.

G.S. Beeby asked Council to nominate a person to act as Trustee to the Church of England Cemetery in place of James Batcheldor who has resigned. Secretary of Trustees asked to nominate a suitable person.

Maintenance men to serve term of 6 months as temporary before being employed permanently.

Council Meeting – 9th November, 1907

Friendly Appeal Court to be held on Friday, 21st December, 1907 at 10.00 a.m.

J. Hope of Lithgow to be appointed as Consulting Engineer.

Hawker's Licence: On and after 9th November, 1907, Council to assume control and management.

Counter for Office: To be 1" deep and front travel to be 3' x 2'.

Council Meeting – 23rd November, 1907

Deputy President: Cr. Hughes (under Council Seal).

Shire Boundary: President and Engineer to meet to define boundary of Shire on Jenolan Caves-Mt. Victoria Road.

Straying Cattle: Council does not have power to prevent cattle straying on public roads.

Endowment: Dept. of Works advised councils they would only (in future) be paid endowment on the actual amount of roads collected to 31st December, 1907.

Electoral Rolls: The lists of Electoral Rolls to following places for inspection – O’Connell, Edith, Glencoe, Black Springs, Arkstone, Duckmaloi, Shooters Hill and Wisemans Creek (for Ridings only) and Oberon to have full roll on view.

Council Meeting – 7th December, 1907:

Endowment: Waringah Shire asking for Council’s co-operation in having the amount of endowment paid on the amount of rates struck and not on the actual amount of rates collected by end of year.

Conference of Shire Presidents: Jindalee Shire Council asking for Council’s co-operation to arrange a Shire Presidents’ Conference in Sydney in April, 1908.

Electoral Rolls: Additional list of electors to be forwarded to Post Offices at Jenolan Caves, Porters Retreat and Tarana.

Returning Officer: Shire Clerk to write to Dept. asking if it was possible for him to act as Returning Officer without Council appointing anyone else and Shire Clerk to secure all information re voting by post.

Insurance: No action to be taken on insuring Council’s employees against accident.

Inspector under Cattle Slaughtering Act: Appoint Const. Rex for part of Shire which comes within the Rockley Police District.

Purchase of Council Chambers: Interview Miss Harvey. Authority to offer between £175.0.0 and £200.0.0, but if £200.00, cost of transfer to be borne by Miss Harvey.

Inspectors: Write to Inspector General of Police and ascertain if Police Officers would continue to be allowed to act as Inspectors of Cattle Slaughtering and as Sanitary Inspectors.

Friendly Appeal Court – 20th December, 1907

The following appealed against their valuations:

Lloyd Copper Co., Catherine A’Hearn, James Connolly, Thomas Wilson, Thomas B. Webb, Hannah Austin, Thomas Durack, Wm. Geo. Higgins, Alexander & James McHattan, Malachi Gilmour, A. Knauff, Baker McAnnie, Charles Hotham, Thos. J. Hotham, R.W. Webb and P. Cosgrove.

Council Meeting – 20th December, 1907

Rates collected to 20th December, 1907 = £730.0.0.

Shire Clerk reported he had succeeded in purchasing Council Chambers from Miss Harvey for £175.0.0.

Shire Boundary: Consulting Engineer intimated that Shire boundary can now be fixed at 8 mile peg on the Jenolan Caves-Mt. Victoria Road and Blaxland Shire Council to be advised.

Police to carry on as inspectors under the Slaughtering Act, but not as Sanitary Inspectors.

Elections: Shire Clerk to be allowed to act as Returning Officer.

Annual Lease Land: Write to Minister of Works for amendment to the Local Government Act exempting Annual Lease Land from taxation.

Elections: Shire Clerk appointed as Returning Officer for coming election. Voting by post not adopted. Election on 25th January, 1908. Nomination Day on 11th January, 1908.

1908

Council Meeting – 3rd January, 1908

Presidents' Conference: Hope to meet annually in March, as long as Shire Clerks included.

Muttons Falls Road: 2 men and horse and dray for 10 days to repair.

Election Salaries:

Returning Officer - £5.5.0.

Presiding Officer - £1.1.0.

Poll Clerk (if required) – 12/6.

Deputy Returning Officer - £2.2.0.

J. Doust approved as Deputy Returning Officer (if required).

Council Meeting – 18th January, 1908

Bathurst Show: Bathurst A.H. & P. asked for permission to include Oberon district in the proclamation for a holiday for 2nd April, the second day of the Bathurst Show. Granted.

Land Titles Office Searches: Bexley Municipal Council asked for support from Council for Land Titles Office searches to be conducted without charges to all councils.

Shire Clerk: Minute to be recorded in books to Council's testifying to the faithful services rendered to the Council by the Shire Clerk, M.J. Looby.

Council Meeting – 31st January, 1908

Wm. Boyd claimed 22/- for 4 yards of metal left on the Oberon-Tarana Road by him and which had been used by the Later Maintenance Man, Wm. Morrow, in repairing the road. Council to write to Morrow about this matter and get full particulars.

Rabbit Act: Co-operation from Council by Jindalee Shire Council for taking over control of the Rabbit Act.

Windows: Shire Clerk to obtain costs of having windows barred and erection of 4 sparrow boards.

Council Meeting – 15th February, 1908

President: T.C. Brennan

Deputy President: C.E. Richards

Councillors: H. Kelly, E. Robinson, G.P.C. Todd, L. Todd

Finance, Health & Works Committee: Committee of the Whole with Councillor Kelly as Chairman of each.

Presidential Allowance: £25.0.0 per year.

Health Officer: Shire Clerk to act as Health Officer for the time being.

£133.0.0 Special Grant available for roadworks.

Window Bars and Sparrowproofing: Tenders £4.15.00 and £5.2.6 (including Yale lock on office door).

Council to secure land facing Council Chambers at a probable cost of £30.0.0.

Council Meeting – 29th February, 1908

Auditor: F.J. Tonkin re-appointed at £15.15.0 for 1908.

Road Material: Try to get council granted power of entry to enclosed as well as unenclosed land for the purpose of securing road material.

Sanitary Inspectors: Try to have police re-appointed as Sanitary Inspectors.

Carrington Avenue: Council asked to take over Carrington Avenue. Council to ascertain if Springfield Estate Syndicate still in existence and if so would they hand over to Council, in proper repair, the road in question.

Council Meeting – 14th March, 1908

Shire Presidents' & Shire Clerks'

Conference: To be held on 18th May, 1908 and asking for resolutions from various Councils by 13th April. All resolutions of Councillors to be lodged with the Shire Clerk by 21st March.

Bathurst Council: Informing Council that an O'Connell resident had been taken to Bathurst Hospital with typhoid fever. Council to write to Officer-in-Charge of O'Connell Police asking him to inspect the premises and report on necessary action to prevent spread of the disease.

Estimates of General Fund:

Amount of proposed expenditure
£3,442.16.6

Amount in hand for such
£321.0.0

Amount of Revenue available
£2,188.18.6

Amount required to be raised
£932.18.0

Total unimproved value on which rate imposed
£179,117.0.0.

Rate of 1 ¼ pence in £ on unimproved capital value.

Councillors to inspect and pass J. Sewell's sulky for hire on O'Connell to Wisemans Creek Road.

Council Meeting – 28th March, 1908

Typhoid Fever: Const. O'Farrell inspected premises at O'Connell and found them in satisfactory condition and that precautions had been taken to prevent spread of disease.

Resumed Property Department: Asking for proper name of school described as "The Meadows". Sen. Const. Hawe to be asked.

Bicycle Road Race: Approved as long as between 2.00 and 6.00 p.m.

Council to purchase road plough.

Springfield Estate Subdivision Syndicate was now vested in Trustees in the person of Thomas Durack and John Willis. Write to Mr. Durack asking him if the Trustees were willing to hand over to the Council (under

the Municipal Act) the roads in the Springfield Estate.

Shire Presidents' & Shire Clerks'

Conference: Following resolutions to be sent on to Convenor of Conference for consideration of Conference:

Minister to be requested to hand over to shire councils control of Pastures Protection Boards.

Government supervise the sale of seeds by seedsmen to minimize spread of noxious weeds.

Government be asked to put into force the Second Hand Dealers' Licences having to be held by persons buying hides and skins which was unanimously adopted by all Shires in the State.

L.G. Act be altered and that the rate of interest be as follows: Due 3 months or over 5%. Due 6 months or over 7 ½%. Due 12 months or over 10%.

P.P. Board be asked to appoint Cr. L. Todd to issue Travelling Stock Permits at Wisemans Creek.

Council Meeting – 11th April, 1908

Bolton Vale School – abandon rates.

Endowment: £960.10.9 paid into Council's accounts.

Springfield Subdivision: Trustees wound up but offering to supply list of purchasers.

Overdue Rates: Council asked to cooperate in altering Section 148 of the L.G. Act to make overdue rates a 10% fine.

Transfer of Land: Block of land in front of Council Chambers transferred from Amy Louisa Young to Council and Council Seal attached.

Dead Trees: Chop up dead trees in Oberon streets and if suitable, burn them in Council offices.

Council Meeting – 25th April, 1908

Badger Brush School: Council eliminate rate as it is unoccupied.

Painting of Fish River Bridge: Turon Shire asked if Council would be prepared to pay ½

cost of painting this bridge. As recently painted, Council will pay ½ when next required.

Insurance of Shire Bridges: Shire Clerk to ascertain cost of insuring shire bridges.

Government Tourist Board: Asking Council to make road from Caves Hill to Konangaroo Walls trafficable and promising grant. Council considers this should be National Work and it could not spend money on this road as it has not been surveyed and proclaimed.

Council Meeting – 9th May, 1908

Conference of Shire Councils called together at Wallerawang to discuss the problem of the more equitable manner of licensing vehicles and the drivers. Arrangement arrived at, as follows:

That Oberon Shire allow both Blaxland and Blue Mountains Shires the privilege of allowing vehicles and drivers licenced by them to run on the portion of the Jenolan-Mt. Victoria Road from the shire boundary to Caves, free of charge, provided:-

(a) That Blaxland Shire extend a similar concession to vehicles and drivers licensed by Oberon Shire on that portion of the Oberon-Tarana Road from the shire boundary to Tarana; and

(b) That Blue Mountains Shire allow Oberon Shire ¼ of the fees collected by them for Licensing of Motor Cars.

Mimosa Dell School: Abandon rates.

Insurance of Bridges in Shire: Turon Shire informed Council that cost of insurance for their bridges was 7/6 per £100.0.0, less 10% for wooden bridges and Australian Mutual Fire Insurance offered to insure council's bridges on similar terms. Consideration be held over until known if damage from fire and flood covered. Fire only covered. Insurance postponed indefinitely.

References: W.J. Donnolly requested a reference. No. As does not come within scope of Council.

Council Meeting – 27th May, 1908

Alignment of Following Streets:

Oberon Street from Wesleyan Church to North Street.

Ross Street, between Oberon and Queen Streets.

Raleigh Street, between Oberon and Queen Streets,

At a cost not to exceed £30.0.0. Engineer to bring his own chainer @ 7/- per day.

Grants Available: Jenolan Caves to Kanangra Walls - £100.0.0

Edith to Jenolan Caves: £90, provided Council spend £60.

Jenolan Caves to Shire boundary on Mt. Victoria Road: £100 provided Council spend £65 from General Fund. Accepted.

Travel Insurance: Minister to be requested to include Oberon in new Ordinances from Tallaganda & Talbragar Councils.

Riding of Bikes after Dark without Lamps: Advertise saying action will be taken if practice continues.

Wages: Overseer and horse and dray men to be increased by 1/- per day for 3 months from 27th May, 1908.

Council Meeting – 20th June, 1908

Owing to errors in assessments, the following rates were abandoned:

A Riding (2)

B Riding (3)

C Riding (19) = £7.7.9

Block of land transferred from Mrs. Young to Council.

Tree planting in main street and Carrington Avenue. Overseer to obtain price for 25 tree guards.

Butchers Licence: Granted to A.N. Hillan of O'Connell and J. Sewell of Essington – fee £2.0.0 per year.

Mr. Doyle appointed as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances (in conjunction with his work as Overseer) £5.0.0 per year.

Shire Clerk to ascertain the cost of 3 lamp pillars suitable for lighting Oberon Street.

Council Meeting – 17th July, 1908

Mr. Hope (Consulting Engineer) to be offered £10.0.0 to obtain levels of Queen Street from North Street to Dudley Street.

Suggestion of a connecting road from Wombeyan Caves to Jenolan Caves.

John Sands sent a clock as a present for use in the Council Chambers.

Health Inspector empowered to purchase 20/- work of disinfectants.

Council asked Wollondilly Shire to obtain a Government Grant for construction of the road from Mt. Werong to Yerranderie.

T.A. Webb, C.J. Whalan and A.E. Wilcox granted Slaughtering Licences.

Tarana Progress Association requested a camping ground at Tarana.

Minister for Lands to be asked to gazette the roads in the Springfield Estate as public roads.

Council Meeting - 14th August, 1908

The Auditor found everything to be in order and recommended the lodging of bonds, etc. with the bank and insuring Council premises and immediate issuing of rate notices. Office premises to be insured for £200.0.0.

President and Clerk to be delegates to the Conference in Sydney confirmed and expenses of £8 be sanctioned.

Maintenance men asked for a raise of 1/- per day. No.

Town Clerk, Bathurst, offered to sell lamp posts @ £5.10.0 each. Further prices to be obtained.

Shire Clerk's salary was increased by £13.10.0 yearly and he is also to perform the duties of the Sanitary Inspector.

An advertisement to be placed warning persons against damaging public roads, especially by drawing logs across them.

Horse and dray men to be paid 1/- per day more from 27th August to 30th September.

Government to be asked to make a timber reserve of that portion of unoccupied Crown Land at Lennons in the Parish of Blenheim north from Oberon-Tarana Road to river, east by river south from junction of Tarana Oberon and Meadows Road due east to river and Duckmaloi Road.

Horse and cart be put on at once to remove mud from worst parts of Oberon and Ross Streets.

Charges for opening roads – 2/6, for removing gravel – 5/- per yard and erection of bridge over water table – 2/6.

Following Rates abandoned due to errors in assessments:

A Riding	(4)		
B Riding	(5)		
C Riding	(11)	=	£7.3.7.

Council Meeting – 11th September, 1908

Request that Railway Lands be made ratable.

All gates on roads to be registered within 3 months and charges be £3.3.0 for first gate, and 10/- for second and every other gate (on adjoining property only). The owner to erect suitable gates and keep same in order and after Council repairs approached, to keep them in order to the satisfaction of the Shire Engineer. Council to reserve right to remove any gate at any time.

Public vehicles must be inspected and licence fee paid before 1st October. Drivers also to be licenced.

Bathurst P.P. Board asked Council to destroy all briars and blackberries on roads in the Shire. Council had not taken over the necessary powers – so could not do so.

Council Meeting – 26th September, 1908

Governor's consent obtained to purchase land and office buildings. General Fund can be applied to purchase and maintenance of office premises.

Burrangong Council asked for support in securing an amendment of the Width of Tyres Act.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1908

Accident: Rev. T. Doran claimed compensation of £50.0.0 for injuries sustained by him through the neglect of the Council's officer in leaving a road within the Shire in a dangerous state. Father Doran to be asked to state where the accident occurred.

Extend payment of 11/- per day to the men with horse and dray to 31st October.

Lighting of Oberon streets be left over indefinitely.

Council Meeting – 24th October, 1908

Rev. Fr. Doran advised that accident for which he required compensation took place occurred between Hazelgrove School and the residence of Thomas Fitzpatrick. Council have heard their officer's report and cannot accept responsibility.

Council asked to support a movement to reduce the rent on Annual Leases, the abolition of taxation thereon and compelling the Government to extirpate noxious animals.

New fence to be erected around the allotment recently purchased by the Council and the Council Chambers allotment, also that flooring be erected on the verandah of the office and that a letter box and notice board be procured, and that the W.C. be replaced by a new one.

Shire Clerk to procure a price per £100.0.0 for which the Council could insure against accident on the roads within the Shire.

Council Meeting – 7th November, 1908

The Australian Alliance Co. offered to insure the Council against claims by the public for injuries received on roads, etc., by the negligence of Council's servants. A policy of £250 be taken out with a minimum of wages paid = £1,000. Rate £2 for policy and 2/- for wages.

Council Meeting – 31st November, 1908

The Department of Public Works forwarded ordinances governing the regulating of the speed of fire brigade engineers, etc.

J. Miller was local M.L.A.

Mr. J. Hope resigned as Consulting Engineer. Council to write to Messrs. Bloomfield and Dunlop asking them on what terms they would accept the position.

Council Meeting – 5th December, 1908

Because revenue of the Council exceeded £3,000 in 1907, it was now necessary to appoint a permanent Engineer.

Shire President and Shire Clerk to be delegates to the Shires Conference and resolutions be considered at the next meeting.

Council asked to support a universal system of penny postage being adopted.

Council Meeting – 19th December, 1908

Engineer in Charge of Local Government informed Council that they could not keep a consulting engineer, but must have a permanent engineer.

G.S. Beeby, M.L.A. informed Council that a permanent engineer would have to be appointed but that Council could appoint any salary that an engineer would accept, provided that the engineer was qualified as required by the Act. Applications for the position of Engineer, Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances be called for at a salary of £250 per annum.

A Mr. Stevenson wrote directly to the Minister asking him to compel Council to employ a permanent engineer. The following resolution was carried unanimously that Mr. Stevenson be informed:

“That in the opinion of this Council, the action of Mr. Stevenson in approaching the Minister for Works in reference to the appointment of a permanent Engineer to this Shire is an unwarranted interference with the

rights of the electors of which the present Council have the confidence and action highly impertinent in its purport”.

It was also decided that the Clerk be instructed to point out to Mr. Stevenson that the Council had that day called for applications for the position but were not influenced by his action in any manner, but by New Regulation No. 4.

Turon Shire informed council that they had decided to paint their half of the Muttons Falls Bridge. Council decided to paint the remaining half of this bridge.

President allowed £2 for his expenses to Sydney.

1909

Council Meeting – 2nd January, 1909

Position of Engineer filled by Thomas Davonu, the Shire Engineer of Bolwarra Shire Largs, at £250 p.a. to include all allowances and to embrace the positions of Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances.

In future, no officer of the Council can write to the papers unless the latter has first been submitted to Council for approval.

Council Meeting – 16th January, 1909

Estimates for General Rate for financial year ending 31st December, 1909:

Amount of proposed expenditure out of the General Fund to which the proceeds of rates are to be carried: £4,533.0.0

Amount in hand available for such expenditure: £1,227.0.0

Amount of other revenue likely to be available for such expenditure: £2,396.0.0

Amount required to be raised by rate for such expenditure: £910.0.0

Total unimproved capital value of the land on which the rate is to be levied: £174,936.17.0

Rate proposed to be made and levied on penny farthing on the Unimproved Capital Value

Request the Governor to allow Council to postpone the levying of the rate for 1909 until September, instead of in the first 3 months of the year as it was thought it would be too great a hardship to levy them earlier as the rate for 1908 was only due in September of that year.

Thomas Davonu, appointed as Shire Engineer at last meeting informed Council he would not accept the position as sufficient inducement has been offered him to remain at Bolwarra Shire. Advertise for further applications.

Mark Foy refused to licence his motor car on the grounds that he did not ply for hire. He is to be advised that Council would take immediate action the next time he picked up a passenger at Jenolan Caves, unless his cars were licenced.

Partition between two inner rooms of Council Chambers to be removed and an office table be procured.

Minister for Mines be asked for grant of £50 to cover cost of repairing damage done to road and fencing on Caves Hill caused by fire which originated on Caves Reserve and in future keep grass (which is now allowed to grow unchecked right up to the fence) down for a reasonable distance from the road.

Council Meeting – 30th January, 1909

Maintenance men given permission to destroy noxious weeds on the length of road under their charge, when the opportunity offered.

Dept. of Public Works advised that issuing of rate notices could not be done in September, but must be done by 31st March.

Culvert Pipes: Procure 20 ft. of Conduit Wood Pipes, 12 in. diameter for trial purposes.

Auditor: Mr. F.J. Tonkin be appointed for 1909 at £15.15.0.

Finance & Works Committees be a Committee of the Whole – Councillor T.C. Brennan, Chairman.

Contract Specifications:

Clause to be added – “Contractor to be responsible for all damage done to any property and to obtain the consent of the owner before entering any land for the purpose of getting gravel. Such consent to be obtained before tendering and the cost of gravel (if any) to be included in the tender.”

Special Council Meeting - 13th February, 1909

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor H. Kelly.

Deputy President: Councillor T.C. Brennan.

Council Meeting - 27th February, 1909

Public Holiday proclaimed in Oberon district for Friday, 12th March.

Wollondilly and Oberon Shires to see Minister to try and secure as grant of £1,500 for construction of a road from Yerranderie to Mt. Werong.

£12 voted for delegates' expenses to Sydney.

Council Meeting - 13th March, 1909

A case of typhoid was reported at O'Connell. Health Officer to take immediate action to prevent any spread of the disease.

Council to take over control of the Town Pump and Public Watering Reserve near Oberon.

Special Sub-Committee Meeting - 27th March, 1909

Casual hands be given 1 week's trial and if found incompetent at the end of that time that the Overseer be empowered to dismiss him.

Council Meeting - 27th March, 1909

Street Lighting: Left in the hands of Crs. Kelly and Richards to ascertain if the ratepayers desired it.

Council Meeting - 21st April, 1909

Council Meetings every fourth Wednesday be rescinded and that in future the meetings be held every fourth Saturday. Shire Clerk to be allowed the Wednesday afternoon off on the week in which the meeting is held.

Shire Clerk be appointed Acting Engineer, subject to the consent of the Minister.

The Lord Mayor of Sydney requested a public meeting be called to establish a fund in Oberon for the purpose of building a

“Dreadnought”. Meeting to be held on 21st May at Federal Hall.

“Illuminated Address” be presented to Minister for Works on his visit to district over railway matters. Cost to be borne by Councillors and not exceed £2.2.0.

Council Meeting - 22nd May, 1909

If Council desired to have the Shire proclaimed a district where the Careless Use of Fire Amendment Act could be exercised, it would be necessary to make application.

J. Keith Ross offered to act as Consulting Engineer for 50 days for £2 per day and traveling expenses. Council offered a retaining fee of £20 and £2 per day for a minimum 30 days' employment, without expenses.

4 gallon drum of carbolic acid to be obtained.

Council Meeting - 19th June, 1909

Sub-committee be appointed with the Engineer to draw up regulations with regard to the erection of buildings that would be applicable to this Shire.

Typhoid Fever victim from Wisemans Creek in Bathurst Hospital. Advise Abercrombie Shire as patient lives in that Shire.

Mr. J. Keith Ross offered to act as joint Engineer with Blaxland Shire for £2.15.0 per day with a minimum of 60 days employment.

Typewriter to be purchased when Endowment arrives at a cost of £26.

Co-operate with Wollondilly to have road surveyed from Upper Burragorang to Mt. Werong via Carlons, Coolong Creek and Bindook on stock route.

Notice given to John Hawke to repair fence at Council Chambers damaged by him otherwise action will be taken.

Application to be made to Department of Agriculture for care, control and management of the Oberon Town Common.

Monthly meetings of Council to be rescinded and back to fortnightly meetings.

Council Meeting – 3rd July, 1909

Road from Tuglow to Shooters Hill be surveyed, provided Council provided £25 to cover costs.

Dept. of Agriculture asked Council to state why present management of the Common was unsatisfactory. Council replied that the management was unsatisfactory in so far as the present Trustees were large stockholders running their stock on the Common; that there was no Common Ranger; that the management as far as it related to traveling stock was entirely unsatisfactory; and that the Council required gravel on the Common for road purposes.

Council to ask why the Schoolmaster at Porters Retreat, who was an inmate of a house where a case of infectious disease was, was allowed, after closing the School at Porters Retreat to immediately come to Oberon Public School to teach. The owner of the house to be asked why the matter was not reported.

Council Meeting – 17th July, 1909

Lands Dept. asked for a sketch of proposed gravel reserves.

Director of Botanical Gardens asked for the number and particular kinds of trees required for the Council Chambers. 60 trees and shrubs be asked for and the kind left to the discretion of the Director, it being pointed out the coldness of the climate.

12 trees to be planted in the main street of Oberon.

A stallion was constantly roaming about the public road and was a source of danger to travelers. Snr. Const. Hawes to investigate.

C.J. Whalan granted renewal of his Cattle Slaughtering Licence.

J. Keith Ross resigned as Consulting Engineer. Blaxland Shire to be asked if Engineer appointed by them could act as Consulting Engineer to this Shire and if not the Department be asked to recommend an Engineer.

Council Meeting – 31st July, 1909

Purchase of 1 road plough @ £4.5.0 and a 7 ft. road scoop at a cost of £3.

Halls at Oberon and O'Connell be inspected to see that they are in accordance with the provisions of the Public Halls Act.

Council Meeting – 14th August, 1909

Shires Association forwarded a list showing the subdivision of shires into districts from which it is suggested to elect representatives to the Executive Council of the Association.

Miss Hawke asked permission to erect some trees on public road at her residence. O.K. provided trees are planted 6 ft. from outside edge of footway and 15 ft. from corner.

Shire Clerk's salary increased to £208 p.a., provided he act as Valuer and write up the Valuation and Rate Books.

Council Meeting – 11th September, 1909

It was decided that in future the sum of 2/6 be charged as a fee for search in cases where information is wanted re assessments.

Maintenance men keep inventories of tools they have and receive during the year and make a return to stocks of all old tools at end of "December each year.

Another chimney to be erected at Council Chambers and also a strong room with a fire proof door – room to be 6 x 8.

Council Meeting – 25th September, 1909

Mr. Thos. Henderson made an application for the position of engineer at a salary of £300. £275 offered to cover all allowances – offer of position declined.

Fisheries Dept. informed Council that a supply of 2 cans of trout would be forwarded on 29th for distribution in the Fish River.

J.J. Heffernan applied for position of Engineer at £300 per year. Ad to be placed for £275 p.a. to cover all allowances.

Port Stephens Shire asked that the administration of the Width of Tyres Act be made optional in each Shire.

Cr. Richards appointed to draw up specification for chimney and strong room door to be erected at Chambers. Clerk to get cost of a dulled steel strong room door.

Council Meeting – 28th September, 1909

Lands Department asked for the date of the Gazettal of the Oberon Pound and Pound Keeper and the condition of the Pound. All gates erected on any main public road be either registered or removed before 1st December.

Fisheries Department to be asked for a supply of trout.

Council Meeting – 9th October, 1909

Local Government Engineer advised that he had been unable to secure an Engineer for the Council because the salary was insufficient.

Chilled steel door for strong room quoted at £60. Purchase of a suitably cheap strong room door be left with Cr. Richards.

5 tons of drain pipes to be procured from Lithgow Valley Colliery Co. made up of 12 x 12 inch pipes and the balance of 12 inch. Prices to be obtained for cartage from Tarana.

Council Meeting – 6th November, 1909

Municipality of Wyalong asking for support in having the Act amended to provide for a tax for the support of hospitals.

Request for the Post Office at Jenolan to close a half day each week. Granted.

Bulli Council asked that support be given in an effort to make residents give preference to goods of British manufacture.

Applicants for work to be graded into 1st, 2nd and 3rd class workmen.

J.J. Green appointed as Engineer provided he acts as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances at a salary of £275 p.a. and his duties commence on 1st December.

Following rates abandoned owing to errors in assessments – A Riding - £14.4.7.

Council Meeting – 4th December, 1909

Amended Ordinances with respect to erection of hoardings received.

Australian Alliance Assurance Co, notifying that Public Risk Policy with them had expired and they would not review it. Clerk to make arrangements with some other Company.

Shire President and Shire Clerk to draw up necessary agreement between Council and the Engineer.

1910

Council Meeting – 8th or 10th January, 1910

Dept. of Public Health asked Council to have necessary repairs done to the slaughtering premises of A.N. Hillan of O'Connell. Const. Hillan of O'Connell instructed to have repairs effected and report when finished.

Council's permission sought to include Oberon District in a proclamation for a public holiday on 10th January on the occasion of the visit of Lord Kitchener to Bathurst. Granted.

Erection of a strong room for £125 not accepted.

Council Meeting – 5th February, 1910

Endowment for Council for coming 3 years = 52/- in the £.

General Fund can be used for purchase, construction and maintenance and management of public pounds.

Councillor Richards asked if there had ever been dissent from the passing of accounts during the time of the President holding office – no. Had accounts at all times been passed unanimously – yes. Had a contract ever been let to any councilors – no.

Council's attention to unsatisfactory condition of affairs existing at Wisemans Creek. Sanitary Inspector to visit and report.

Estimates for General Rating purposes are as follows:

Amount in hand available for expenditure:
£1,237.6.0

Amount of other revenue likely to be available: £2,497.0.0

Amount required to be raised by rate:
£940.0.0

Total: £4,674.6.0

Amount of proposed expenditure:-

Administration:

Engineer £ 275.0.0

Clerk & Valuer £ 200.0.0

Travelling, etc President £ 150.0.0

Sundries £ 100.0.0

£ 725.0.0

Public Works: Maintenance £3,439.6.0

Construction £ 400.0.0

Bridges Maintenance £ 80.0.0

Bridges Construction £ 30.0.0
£3,949.6.0

Total: £4,674.6.0

Rate fixed at 1 ¼ d. in the £ on the unimproved capital value.

Following grants applied for:

Tuglow Road to Shooters Hill - £200;
Kanangra Walls Road - £100; Alec Swamp Deviation - £100; Mt. Werong Road - £200; Emu Valley Bridge - £50; Edith-Jenolan - £200; and Jenolan-Mt. Victoria - £200.

Blaxland Shire to be asked to move in the matter of establishing a camping reserve at Tarana and also to abate the straying stock nuisance at Tarana Station.

Special Meeting – 5th February, 1910

President's Allowance: £25.

President: Cr. H. Kelly

Finance & Works Committees be Committee of Whole with Cr. Richards as Chairman.

Council Meeting – 26th February, 1910

Dr. J. Brooke Moore reported a case of typhoid fever at premises of John Armstrong of Titania, patient George Waddell Armstrong. Engineer immediately inspect and report and in future all such matters be

immediately attended to in preference to any other work on hand.

Mr. F.J. Toukin appointed Auditor for year @ £15.15.0, and if additional work to be done, Council would make necessary extra allowance.

J.J. Greene, Engineer, asking for 2 weeks annual leave but only given 1 week's leave with a view to attending the Engineers' Conference.

Back to monthly meetings.

O'Connell Progress Association advised they could recommend a suitable man as Pound Keeper who would give the necessary guarantee that the O'Connell Pound would be re-opened.

Council Meeting – 26th March, 1910

J.J. Greene resigned as engineer.

Mr. A.J. Doyle be appointed temporary Overseer at £11.4.0 per week.

O'Connell Progress Association asked if Council had power to regulate the speed of motorists passing through the Village of O'Connell. If the Association could instance a case where the speed had exceeded 10 m.p.h., action would be taken.

Const. O'Farrell advising that necessary repairs required by the Health Department at the slaughtering premises of A.N. Hillan had been carried out.

Mr. A.E. Freer asked that a tree and guard be removed from in front of his premises. No.

Council Meeting – 23rd April, 1910

Titania Public School rate be eliminated as property unoccupied.

Examination of Council's Accounts – the following should apply:

Voucher forms should be used for all accounts and for maintenance mens' time sheets and Contractor's Agreements should be written into the Security Register.

O'Connell Progress Association be advised that Council could not grant any money as a salary to the Pound Keeper.

Council agreed to endeavour to destroy Wild Tobacco Plant, Bathurst Burr, Mexican Poppy and Prickly Pear.

Permission to Erect Buildings: Applicants be informed that a fee of 2/6 must be lodged with application, together with plan of building proposed to be erected.

Resolution Proposed for Shires Conference:

“That the Police have, at all times, the right to inspect all sheep skins, hides and dead wool and that all sheep skins have ears left on and hides to have brands left on and that all dealers and buyers of sheep skins, hides and dead wool be licenced and registered by a Police Magistrate.

£15 expenses for Shire President and Shire Clerk to attend Shires Conference.

Clerk to get cost of erecting a stable 20 x 16.

Council Meeting – 25th May, 1910

A note of sympathy be recorded on behalf of this Council and the residents of the district with the Queen Mother and members of the Royal Family in the loss they had sustained through the death of His Majesty, King Edward VII, and that such resolution be conveyed to the Governor General.

Council then adjourned for 5 minutes.

Subject to the consent of the Minister, Mr. J.J. Griffin appointed as Consulting Engineer on £15.15.0 retaining fee and £3.3.0 per day with all traveling expenses, etc., to and from Sydney and in the Shire.

Alleged practice of removing gravel for road purposes and disfiguring the scenery. Only gravel removed was that which had accumulated on roadway through a land slip and had been removed and used on road repairs.

Mr. J.J. Griffin confirmed as Consulting Engineer, as long as Minister approved. If not, Mr. W.J. Duffy be approved as Engineer.

Overseer's salary raised to £3 per week.

Erection of slab stable quoted at £19.15.0. Accepted,

Clerk to write to those persons who have neglected to pay a building fee.

Council Meeting – 18th June, 1910

Letter from Governor General acknowledging Council's message of sympathy with the Royal Family on the death of King Edward VII.

Letter from State Premier forwarding message to his subjects from King George V.

Cheques of maintenance men and casual hands to be held by Clerk where times sheets and vouchers were incorrectly sent in.

Letter received asking they support the prevention of motor racing on roads in the State.

Cremation Society asked Council's support for a Crematorium to be erected in Sydney.

Minister for Justice to be asked to regulate motor traffic on Jenolan Caves Hill, on both sides, to 4 m.p.h.

Council Meeting – 16th July, 1910

Public Works Dept. asked if Shire Hall was available for training purposes under the new Defence Scheme. Council heartily approves, but no room available.

Slaughter House Licences granted to A.N. Hillan, A.E. Cox, C.J. Whalan, A. Cunynghame and J. Sewell.

Council Meeting – 12th August, 1910

Clerk to write to Secretary of Bathurst Turf Club asking price of Klinometer for sale.

Boards limiting traffic to 4 miles per hour be erected on each hill leading to Jenolan Caves.

Council Meeting – 9th September, 1910

Dept. of Public Works asked Council's opinion as to framing of Regulations to provide for Engineers, Shire Clerks and Sanitary Inspectors having 28 days' leave of absence every year. Council in favour.

Klinometer from Bathurst Turf Club sold. Clerk to write to Sands & Phizackerly re price of same.

Permanent and casual hands to receive 7/6 per day from 8th October.

Horse and dray men to receive the following from 8th October:-

Single horse and dray 11/- per day

2 horses and dray 14/- per day.

Coach owners to be licenced by 1st October.

Council Meeting – 7th October, 1910

Lithos of the Shire can be purchased for 1/- each.

A.H. Morgan applied for a vehicle licence from O'Connell to Essington.

Inspector of Nuisances was instructed to take action to prevent pigs straying around Oberon.

Action will be taken if people are found driving over water tables and foot paths in main street.

Council Meeting – 4th November, 1910

Offer to charter the maps of Shire up to date and to mount same for £14.3.0.

Clerk appointed as Returning Officer for coming election at £10.10.0.

Abandoned Rates: A. Riding £5.18.10

B Riding £1.8.5

C Riding £21.15.1

Grand Total: £53.4.10.

Minister for Education asked for permission to use school building for coming election.

Polling Places (for election on 28th January, 1911):

A Riding – Oberon, Norway, Mayfield, Wisemans Creek, O'Connell, Essington and at Wm. Ryan's, Lagoon Road.

B Riding – Tarana, Oberon, Hazelgrove, Duckmaloi and O'Connell.

C Riding – Oberon, Edith, Norway, Jenolan, Gingkin, Shooters Hill, Porters Retreat,

Hillsbury, Swatchfield, Paling Yards,
Isabella, Arkstone, Mt. Werong, Jaunter and
Essington.

**Council Meeting – 2nd December,
1910**

Public Works again asked why Council had not appointed an Engineer. Local Member, G.S. Beeby, to be asked to prevail on the Minister to amend the Regulations permitting Shires to employ an Overseer and Consulting Engineer.

Mercantile Mutual Insurance Co. intimating that the policy of Council, with regard to employees, now covered risk under the Workmans Compensation Act.

Monthly wages must not, until further directed, exceed £90.

Local Trinity College of London invited Council to be present, and the President to be Chairman, at the distribution of prizes on 3rd December. Invitation accepted.

A.C. Hurling thanked Council for support accorded him as blacksmith @ O'Connell.

Abandon following rates, owing to forfeiture of leases - £6.5.10.

**Council Meeting – 30th December,
1910**

Overseer instructed to limit road expenditure to £99 per month.

Supt. of Technical Education asked if a class of 12 could be established in the district for instructions in sheep and wool. Course to comprise 14 lessons, illustrated by lantern, and would cost 8/-.

Motor Traffic Regulations limiting speed of vehicles to 6 miles per hour applied to the dangerous turns on the Caves Hill. Council erect boards limiting speed.

1911

Council Meeting – 27th January, 1911

Amount of proposed expenditure out of the General Fund to which the proceeds of the rate are to be carried: £4,183.13.7

Amount in hand available for such expenditure £ 712.12.0

Amount of other revenue likely to be available: £2,518. 5.3

Amount required to be raised by rate for such expenditure: £ 952.19.6

Total Unimproved Value of land on which rate to be levied: £182,872.0.0

Rate of 1 ¼ d. in pound for unimproved value for 1911.

Council Meeting – 4th February, 1911

Presidential Allowance: £25.0.0

President: Cr. C.E. Richards for 12 months to 1/3/12

Councillors: Brennan, Harris, Kelly, Robinson and Stevenson.

Finance & Works Committees: To be Committee of the Whole Council.

Council Meeting 25th February, 1911

Stamp Duty on contractors agreements 1/-.
If under Common Seal - £1.

Several people had case of measles in their premises but had not reported it until the patients had recovered. Advertisement to be placed informing householders of the penalty they would incur by failing to immediately report cases of infectious disease.

Deputy President:
Councillor Harris.

Inspector to warn people about straying poultry and pigs.

Overseer, A.J. Doyle, resigned.

Council Meeting – 25th March, 1911

Tourist Bureau claimed that Council's action in reducing speed on Jenolan Caves Hill to 6 m.p.h. was illegal and could not be enforced, suggesting a "Drive Slowly" sign. Letter from the Chief Secretary permitting Council to reduce the speed to 6 m.p.h. on dangerous turns on Caves Hills.

Shire President and Shire Clerk to be delegates to Shires Conference on 15th May.

Shire Clerk allowed £6 for expenses and President £4.4.0 for expenses.

Rifle Club permitted to shoot over Jenolan Road.

Council to co-operate in an endeavour to have a Board constituted to whom all taxes re motor vehicles and petrol shall be paid and to allocate to each Council its just due.

Maintenance men to receive 8/- per day from 1st July, 1911.

Overseer, Mr. A. Young, appointed at a salary of £256 per year.

Rate Notices to be issued for Showground for 1911.

Council Meeting – 22nd April, 1911

Walgett Shire requested Council's co-operation in having an amendment made to the Act to make borrowing for Shires on the same basis as for Municipalities.

Council Meeting – 27th May, 1911

Grants available for:

Edith to Jenolan: £100

Jenolan to Shire Boundary: £ 90

Jenolan Road to Kanangra Walls: £ 50

Chief Secretary informed Council that notice boards on Caves Hills regulating speeds of motor vehicles was illegal and could not be enforced. Amendment of the Regulations to meet the case was being made.

Cards for permanent employees to be filled in in connection with Public Service Persons Scheme.

Mrs. Behan requested that fence be erected in front of her resident to prevent danger of persons falling over embankment.

Mr. A. Morton asked Council to co-operate with Postal Department in removing trees overhanging telegraph line, road and fence on Jenolan-Mt. Victoria Road.

Applications called for Overseer of Works at a salary of £156 p.a. to cover all expenses. Applicants to state qualifications and experience and furnish copies of references. Applicant to act as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Nuisances.

Maintenance men who claimed a full day's pay for Bathurst Show have 7/6 deducted from their next time sheet.

Council Meeting – 20th June, 1911

Minister for Lands be asked to reserve, on Crown lands (on both sides of the Fish River from the Junction to D. Fitzpatrick's) the right to enter the river frontages for fishing and shooting purposes.

Cattle Slaughtering Licences renewed for Jas. Sewell and A.N. Hillan.

Mr. J.R. McDonald from Crookwell was appointed as Overseer to be taken up on 1st July.

Council to ask Blaxland Shire for permission to employ Engineer Heffernan as Consulting Engineer to this Shire.

After exhaustive ballot, the following additional maintenance men were appointed. Wm. R. Barnes (A Riding), William Burton (B Riding) and Henry Barker (C Riding).

Council Meeting – 15th July, 1911

B.A. Heffernan – Engineer, Blaxland Shire – to act as Consulting Engineer on the following terms: £12 per annum retaining fee and £2.2.0 per day for a minimum of 30 days employment, but must work out retaining fee in first 6 days' service.

In future, tenderers for contracts must lodge 5% of contract price with their tenders.

Write to Tourist Bureau re practice at Jenolan Caves of tipping refuse near roadside.

Minutes of Meeting - 12th August, 1911

Local Government Assocn. directing the Council's attention to the clauses prohibiting the erection of unhealthy buildings.

Council to secure wooden navy barrows, with wrought iron wheel, for £9.6.0 per dozen.

A.E. Box, A.R.D. Cunynghame and C.J. Whalan granted Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting – 9th September 1911

Shire Clerk appointed as Coroner.

A.E. Box and A.R.D. Cunynghame requested to have their yards removed from the creek running into the Fish River and thereby polluting the river and becoming a public health menace.

Owing to alteration of Regulations, application could now be made for the limitation of speed of motor vehicles to 4 m.p.h. on dangerous turns on Jenolan Caves Hills.

Appointment endorsed of J.P. Hanrahan, A. Holland, E. Kilpatrick, H. Maxwell and J. McNiven as Trustees of the Mt. Werong Common.

B.A. Heffernan intimating that as retaining fee had been withdrawn, he thought £2.2.0 per day insufficient and asking for £2.10.0 per day. Request acceded to.

Council Meeting – 7th October, 1911

Chief Secretary requested names of roads applicable to 4 m.p.h. speed limits on dangerous turns. The following were named:

Sidling Pinch – Road O'Connell to Beaconsfield.

Jenolan Road at Harvey's gate and at turn at 18 mile post.

Hampton Road at Jenolan with Hazelgrove Road.

Nunans Hill on Hazelgrove Road

Oberon Street at Methodist Church Hill.

Tarana Road turn on Slattery's Hill.

Parish Maps – 5/- each and mounting 2/-.
Secure map of Village of Oberon.

Coach Licences approved for A. Green (7)
and F.S. Graham (4) and the Clerk and
Overseer inspect the coaches not seen by the
Council.

Finger Boards indicating Stock Routes
through the town requested by Trustees of
the Oberon Common and offering to pay
half the cost.

Abandoned Rates of £39.9.3.

J.R. McDonald resigned as Overseer.

**Council Meeting – 4th November,
1911**

Chief Secretary asked for further particulars,
together with distances, on roads on which it
is desired to reduce the speed.

Application be made for required
postponement of Poll under Seal of Council.

Notify owners of poultry that action would
be taken against them for allowing their
poultry to pollute water, etc. on Water
Reserve.

**Council Meeting – 2nd December,
1911**

Vehicle licenses granted to Messrs. Kelly
and Young and J. Kelly.

Shire Clerk instructed to secure information
relative to the construction of Bush Fire
Brigades.

**Council Meeting – 30th December,
1911**

General Fund can now be used to make
provision for or mitigate bush fires.

O.G. Williams granted Slaughtering
Licence.

Rates abandoned amounting to £4.0.4.

1912

Council Meeting – 27th January, 1912

Chief Secretary forwarded an Instrument giving Council power to reduce the speed limit of motor cars to 4 m.p.h. on dangerous turns on various roads in the Shire. Council thought the length of turns as granted were too short and Council to ask the Department to adhere to the original request.

Estimates for General Rating:

Amount of proposed expenditure out of the fund to which the proceeds of the rate are to be carried: £4,328.14.5

Amount in hand available for expenditure:
£ 756.12.3

Amount of other revenue likely to be calculable: £2,585. 2.7

Amount required to be raised by rate:
£ 986.19.7

Proposed Expenditure:

Maintenance – Roads: £3,080.14.5

Maintenance – Bridges and Culverts:
£250.0.0

Emu Valley and Bloom Hill Bridges:
£190.0.0

Insurance: £20.0.0

Salaries – Clerk and Overseer:
£390.0.0

Salaries – Consulting Engineer:
£63.0.0

Travelling Expenses: £90.0.0

Presidential Allowance: £25.0.0

Stationery, Office Expenses and Sundries:
£120.0.0

Construction – Roads: £100.0.0

The rate to be 1 ¼ d. in £ on unimproved capital value.

Special Council Meeting – 10th February, 1912

Presidential Allowance: £25.0.0

President: Councillor C.E. Richards

Deputy President: Councillor Harris.

Council Meeting – 24th February, 1912

Lands Dept. advised it was intending to reserve 2 acres of the Oberon Temporary Common for a rubbish tip and appointing the Council Trustees, provided half the cost of survey was borne by the Council. Half cost estimated at £1.15.0.

Council to transfer its banking from Bathurst Branch of the Commercial Bank to the Oberon Branch.

F.J. Toukin re-appointed Auditor @ £15.15.0.

Council to enquire into the legality of stopping portion of maintenance men's wages for purpose of paying Insurance Premium and as to the responsibility of Council for pension of men taken over from Roads Department.

Council Meeting – 23rd March, 1912

Suggestion that "Drive Slowly" signs be used instead of 4 m.p.h. speed signs. Agreed. To apply to all roads except "The Mount" – Oberon-Bathurst Road.

Shires Association Solicitor advised Council that it could not deduct a weekly sum from the wages of maintenance men to cover cost of insurance and maintenance men previously employed by the Roads & Bridges Dept could not claim a pension from Shires when retiring from the service.

Drummoyne Council asked for Council's co-operation to try and have all Federal and State Government properties rated. Council agreed.

Sanitary Inspector to remove rubbish in lanes to the Depot when same is surveyed and handed to Council and to give notice to owners of blocks covered with rubbish to remove same.

Application for following Government Grants:

Paling Yards Hill - £100; Jenolan Caves Road - £400; Gingkin-Shooters Hill - £100; Bloom Hill Bridge - £200; Kanangra Walls Road - £50; and Emu Valley Bridge - £70.

Council Meeting – 27th April, 1912

O.K. for 4 m.p.h. signs to be put on all dangerous turns on roads mentioned, 1 chain in either side, but not to the whole of the Mount $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on Oberon-Bathurst Road.

Complaint re excessive speed of cars on Caves Hills.

Clerk & President's traveling expenses to Conference be similar to next year, with the addition of a railway ticket for the Clerk.

Council Meeting – 18th May, 1912

Overseer to draw up specifications for a strong room, in brick or reinforced concrete, painting of chambers outside and all woodwork in and out, colouring walls inside, lowering floor and rewiring partition and erecting necessary shelving.

It was decided to expend £2 in sinking well and repairing pump at Town Well.

Clerk be granted £8.8.0 as honorarium and 10 days' leave of absence for services rendered.

Council Meeting – 15th June, 1912

Letter to be sent to Public Works Dept. pointing out that grants reduced this year by £50 and referring to cost of upkeep of roads in question, the small revenue derived from the adjoining land as rates by the Shire and the large increase in tourist traffic and consequently revenue at the Caves.

Letter from Immigration & Tourist Bureau asking if there was any employment for immigrants in this Shire.

J. Sewell granted renewal of his Slaughtering Licence.

Complaint about nuisance caused by Indian hawkers camping for days on road, etc. near Porters Retreat.

Councillor Richards, Shire President, resigned from Council owing to his appointment to the Bathurst Land Board.

Election to fill Extraordinary Vacancy to be 10th July, 1912.

Special Council Meeting – 22nd June, 1912

President: Councillor Kelly.

Council Meeting – 13th July, 1912

Councillor Fitzpatrick elected to Council.

Government Savings Bank asked Council's consent for the Clerk to act as the Bank's agent in Oberon owing to the Federal Government compelling them to remove their business from Post Offices. The work would only occupy about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour per day. Agreed.

A.N. Hillan had his Slaughtering Licence renewed.

Casual hands asking for an increase of 6d. per day in their wages. Granted.

Council Meeting – 10th August, 1912

Public Works Dept. sent a Gazette notification to the effect that the General Fund may be used in establishing and maintaining public libraries.

Reserve requested on Fish River for fishing and shooting purposes could not be granted.

Council thanked for their information re drawing the Fox Estate property occupied by the nuns.

Mr. A. Cunynghame asked to effect the repairs previously notified for his slaughtering premises.

Council Meeting – 7th September, 1912

Amendment to Local Government Act providing that the General Fund may be applied to the prevention or mitigation of menace to the safety of life or property from floods.

District Surveyor advised that no delay would occur in the establishment of the required rubbish depot in Oberon.

Gibson Battle & Co. offered to supply Council with a portable engine – 8 m.h.p.; 15 x 9 stone breaker; driving belt and road grader for £683.10.0. Payment to be made 1/3 on delivery, 1/3 in 12 months and balance in a further 12 months @ 6% interest. Postponed for consideration at November meeting.

Council decided not to remove the partition in the office, but to re-arrange the furniture in order to give more room.

Clerk given permission to act as Secretary to the A.H. & P. Association, if appointed.

Council Meeting – 5th October, 1912

Notice of Motion: “that the Minister for Lands be requested to set apart 5 acres of land situated at McKeowns Hole near Jenolan Caves for camping purposes and that the Progress Association in the locality be asked to co-operate in the movement.

Mr. A.Green asked for licences to be granted for 6 vehicles he was plying for hire. Licences to be issued subject to fees being paid and all available vehicles be submitted for inspection.

Council Meeting – 2nd November, 1912

J.R. McDonald resigned as Overseer, giving the necessary 1 month’s notice. Reference under Seal supplied.

Mr. A. Young appointed Acting Overseer for a period of 3 months 1st December at a salary of £3 per week.

Council Meeting – 30th November, 1912

Imlay Shire Council asking co-operation in connection with a deputation to the Minister to protect against the Board of Health compelling Shires to install sanitary services in small towns.

Rates abandoned owing to errors in assessment, forfeiture of leases and conversion of C.L’s into C.P’s - £35.8.11.

Council Meeting – 28th December, 1912

A 16 x 10 stone breaker, 8 h.p. Robey portable engine and road grader be procured for a month on trial, with a view to purchase.

Ask Police to put up more notices on Camping Reserves and T.S.R’s prohibiting careless use of fire.

1913

Council Meeting – 25th January, 1913

Annual Conference to be held on 31st March.

Water on the Reserve being polluted by straying geese and pigs. Inspector of Nuisances instructed to locate owners and have nuisance abated.

A lady from Hazelgrove was in Lithgow Hospital suffering from typhoid fever. Sanitary Inspector instructed to take necessary steps to prevent spread of disease.

Amount of proposed expenditure:
£2,467

Amount in hand available for such expenditure: £405

Other revenue likely to be available:
£1,030

Amount required to be raised by rate:
£1,032

Expenditure as follows:

Maintenance of roads and bridges (not main): £1,537

Insurance: £20

First instalment road plant:
£255

Salaries: £435

Travelling Expenses:
£75

President's Allowance:
£25

Stationery, Office Expenses:
£120 = £2,467

Unimproved capital value on which it is proposed to levy rate £197,032

Rate proposed to be levied – 1 1/4d. in £ on unimproved capital value.

Special Council Meeting – 8th February, 1913:

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillors H., Kelly and E. Robinson were nominated. Voting equal. Draw from hat won by Cr. Kelly.

Deputy President: Councillor Robinson.

Council Meeting – 22nd February, 1913

Condition of butcher's shop at O'Connell - immediate action be taken to have the shop brought up to provisions of Regulation 17 of the Pure Foods Act. Premises to be immediately put in a clean and sanitary condition. Permission given for premises to continue for a period of 2 months, pending erection of a suitable shop within that time.

Lithgow Mercury to send reporter to take Shire Meetings when opportunity offered.

Finance, Health and Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole.

Mr. A. Young appointed Acting Overseer for a further 3 months.

Council Meeting – 22nd March, 1913

Inspector instructed to see that all butcher's shops are brought into conformity with Ordinance 56.

Council Meeting – 19th April, 1913

Clerk to notify employees that in future they would be classified as labourers under the Award and not maintenance men as they were erroneously known prior to the Award. The increase as the men were classified at 8/6 per day meant an increase of £109.4.0 per annum in wages.

Stone breaking plant ready for delivery and to be forwarded to Tarana.

Labourers to be informed that in future, when their work is situated more than one mile away from home, they must either

camp on site of the work or arrive on and depart therefrom in their own time, and in future the week's holiday granted on full pay will be discontinued.

Council Meeting – 17th May, 1913

Request for Oberon-Bathurst Road to be made a Main Road.

A Mrs. Hop Poou Govey forced from the Commonwealth under the Aliens Restriction Act.

Mr. Alex Young appointed Overseer permanently at 10/6 per day.

Council Meeting – 14th June, 1913

Clerk to obtain legal opinion on the liability of Council in case of accident to the casual employees.

Overseer's Report showed that during the trial of the stone breaking plant, 124 yards of metal had been broken at a cost of 4/8 ½ per yard. Plant to be purchased, subject to a new belt being put on the plant free of charge and that the grader be given satisfactory trial. Council to pay first instalment and sign pro-notes for stone breaker. Company to be asked to send all duplicate parts of plant which should have been originally sent.

Mr. A. Blair engaged as Engine Driver in charge of plant for 3 months at 12/6 per day, provided that plant is ready to crush at 7.30 p.m.

A fee of 10/- be charged all butcher's shops in Shire.

Slaughtering licences granted to Jas. Sewell and A.N. Hillan.

Council Meeting – 12th July, 1913

Overseer reported that as weather had greatly interfered with the crushing plant both as regards the quantity and the cost thereof, only 335 yards of stone was broken, spread and blended at a cost of 6/8 per pound.

Butcher's Shop Licences granted to A.N. Hillan, E.Lambert, C.J. Whalan, J. Sewell and A.R.D. Cunynghame.

Measles not an identifiable infectious disease under the Public Health Act.

Council Meeting – 9th August, 1913

Following resolution carried:- "That steps be taken (in view of the outbreak of smallpox in the State) to safeguard the public health interests of the district by making representation to the Health Dept. with a view to the establishment of a Public Vaccination Depot in Oberon.

Shires having in stock explosives weighing 25 lbs. or more should in future possess a licence as required by the Explosives Department.

Insurance clause in Shire Employees' Award covers casual as well as permanent hands and the Council is liable for damages for accident occurring to casual hands. Secure from all casual employees a document indemnifying the Council against action in case of accident, and also obtain legal opinion on legality of this action.

Council Meeting – 6th September, 1913

Shire Clerk pointed out that if there were to be another payment made to labourers out of the General Fund there would not be sufficient left to meet the Council's liabilities for administration expenses up to April, 1914. It was decided that all labourers cease work on 13th September until such time as the Government pay to the Shire the amount long overdue for Main Roads Grants.

Post Mistress at O'Connell asked Council's consent to close the O'Connell Post Office from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Granted.

Shires Association Solicitor advised that the fact an employee gave a written guarantee indemnifying the Council against accidents would not improve the position of the Council as they would still be liable.

When a Medical Officer was in the locality, the offer of the free use of Council Chambers as a Vaccination Depot would be borne in mind.

General Fund can be used for maintenance,
etc. of Public Cemeteries.

Council Meeting – 4th October, 1913

Revision Court to revise list of electors.
This is held in Oberon.

Notice of Motion for Next Meeting:

“That application be made for the provisions
of Ordinance 10, Voting by Post, to be
extended to Oberon Shire.

**Council Meeting – 1st November,
1913**

Notice of Motion re Voting by Post,
approved.

**Council Meeting – 29th November,
1913**

Clerk to enquire into the matter of the
application of the General Fund to
maintenance of Fire Brigades for bush fires.

**Council Meeting – 20th December,
1913**

General Fund could now be applied to
making of provisions for prevention and
mitigation of bush fires including
establishment of Bush Fire Brigades.

Advertisement to be placed drawing
residents’ attention to the danger of bush
fires and urging the necessity of the
formation of voluntary bush fire brigades in
the various districts.

Council asked, in future, to consent to plan
of subdivision being endorsed on copy of
original plan.

Ordinances 10 and 13, Voting by Post, had
been applied to the Council.

Premium on Workers’ Compensation Act
Policy due - £15.14.6 – and Council to
increase Policy by £300 for additional wages
paid to maintenance man (casual).

Clerk to act as Returning Officer for the
Shire Elections.

Rates abandoned due to errors in
assessments, etc. = £28.7.10.

Clerk permitted to act as Registrar of Births,
Deaths and Marriages for Oberon.

1914

Council Meeting – 24th January, 1914

Shires Conference to be on 28th April and following days.

Special Council Meeting – 11th February, 1914

Presidential Allowance £25.

Shire President: Cr. Harris to serve as President for period ending 28th February, 1914.

Councillor Harris then nominated for next 12 months commencing 1st March, 1914.

Councillor Nunan new Councillor.

Council Meeting – 21st February, 1914

Clerk reported that the Postal Voting System had been very satisfactory, the cost being £18.19.8 as against £74.15.1 in 1911 and the increase in % of votes polled as follows:-

Riding A	-	increase 31%
Riding B	-	increase 29%
Riding C	-	increase 22%.

Shire President and Shire Clerk to represent Council at Shire Conference now being held on 5th May.

Rate to be 1 ½ d. in the £.

Total amount of proposed expenditure:
£4,778.17.8

Maintenance of Roads:
£2,168.0.0

Construction of Roads:
£1,529.0.0

Salaries – Clerk, Engineer, Overseer:
£ 491.0.0

Instalment on Road Plant:
£ 265.17.8

Stationery, Printing and Sundry Expenses:
£ 120.0.0

Travelling Expenses:
£ 75.0.0

President's Allowance:

£ 25.0.0

Election Expenses:

£ 20.0.0

Insurance:

£ 20.0.0

Balance Due Engineer – 1913:

£ 75.0.0

Amount in hand available for expenditure:

£ 562. 4.0

Amount likely to be available (Endowment – \$1,000) (Main Road Grants - £1,968):
£2,968. 0.0

Amount required to be raised by rate:

£1,248.13.8

Unimproved Capital Value of the land on which it is proposed to levy the rate:

£197,042.0.0

Deputy President: Councillor Fitzpatrick.

Health, Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole.

Council Meeting – 20th March, 1914

Resolved that the rate in the £ be increased to 1 ¾ d. and the Estimates increased correspondingly.

Immigration and Tourist Bureau asked what action had been taken in connection with reducing the speed limit of motors cars through the Grand Arch at Jenolan Caves.

Public Works Dept. forwarding Minister's Consent for borrowing £200 temporarily.

Mr. F.J. Toukin re-appointed Auditor at £15.15.0.

Shires Association informed Council that the General Fund could not be applied to the cost of garbage removal.

Council asked to move in the matter of the embargo against fishing on the Fish & Duckmaloi Rivers and also to prevail on the

Dept. to have the quail season opened one month earlier in the district.

Special Council Meeting – 20th March, 1914

The rate of 1 ¾ d, in the £ on the Unimproved Capital Value of the ratable land within the Shire was confirmed.

Council Meeting – 18th April, 1914

4 m.p.h. boards to be erected at entrance and exit of the Grand Arch at Jenolan Caves.

Fisheries Dept. refused to lift the embargo on the Fish & Duckmaloi Rivers with regards to trout fishing.

The opening of the quail season in Oberon district could not be altered to 1st February, one month earlier than normal.

Narromine Shire Council asking that all western delegates to the Conference should meet prior to the Conference to discuss resolutions from western shires with a view to having same carried. President to attend.

President and Clerk asked to interview the Tourist Bureau with the object of securing an alteration of the system in existence at Jenolan Caves preventing a person who has already visited the Caves from seeing any other cave without first seeing the Lucas and Right and Left Imperials.

Notice of Motion for next meeting: “that consideration be given to the age of labourers at present employed by the Council with a view to the employment of younger and abler men.”

Council Meeting – 16th May, 1914

Present method of inspections at Jenolan Caves was discussed with the Tourist Bureau and it was promised that when additional guides were put on an improvement would be effected.

Tourist Bureau objected to the Mc.Keowns Creek site for a camping ground at the Caves on the ground that campers might pollute the water supply and kill the wallabies.

Sgt. E. Hawe indicated that the necessary repairs had been effected to Mr. A.R.D. Cunynghame’s slaughtering premises.

Sgt. Hawe also requested an Instrument limiting speed of cars to 4 m.p.h. on Jenolan Caves Hills be produced on Court day, in connection with 6 summonses that had been issued against drivers. Clerk to attend Court and produce Instrument.

Out of pocket expenses allowed to Councillors.

Council, if they so desire, can retire any employee on attaining the age of 60.

Council Meeting – 13th June, 1914

Industrial Inspector Baker visited Shire in connection with the classification of the employees and the rate of wages paid and the Shire were threatened with being summonsed for a breach of the Award. If Council summonsed, Mr. J.H. McIntosh be secured to fight the Council’s case.

As the Shooters Hill School was closed, Council to abandon rates thereon.

Cudgegong Municipality asked Council’s co-operation in protesting against any alteration of the Local Government Act giving the Minister for Works power to bring about the amalgamation of areas without the consent of the ratepayers in the area affected

Slaughtering Licences renewed for J. Sewell and F. Luther.

Shire Office to be connected with proposed telephone service.

Council Meeting – 11th July, 1914

Sub-Committee appointed to report on proposed Width of Tyres Bill made the following suggestions, which were adopted:-

Minimum tyre for wagons to be 2 inches to carry 2 tons and 3 inches to carry 4 tons; and then as in proposed Schedule.

1. Minimum tyre for dray to be 2 inch to carry 30 cwt. and 23 inch to carry 2 tons; and then as in proposed Schedule.

2. The reduction of registration fee to 2/6 for first year and then annually doubled.

Health Dept. forwarding pamphlet on prevention of spread of Consumption,

Renewal of Slaughtering Licences granted to C.J. Whalan and A.N. Hillan.

W.S. Hodges claimed compensation of £5 for damage to his hearse in crossing creek on Bloom Hill Road. Not Council's responsibility.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1914

Marthaguy Shire asked that concerted action be taken to destroy the following noxious plants – tobacco plant, castor oil plant, Bathurst burr and Mexican poppy.

Butcher's Licences granted to A.R.D. Cunynghame, C.J. Whalan and F.M. Luther.

Slaughtering Licences issued to A.R.D. Cunynghame and F.M. Luther.

Council Meeting – 5th September, 1914

"Drive Slowly" board be erected on Falls Hill, Swatchfield Road.

Council informed that McKeowns Creek Camping Site could not be granted on the ground that, as the Caves House water supply to be taken from Grand Arch, there would be danger of pollution. Council objected as the site is the only suitable one at Jenolan for camping purposes and that the suggestion pollution of the water supply was not possible if reasonable sanitary accommodation were provided on the Reserve.

N. David made application to erect a building on corner of Karrington (sic) Avenue and North Street.

Council Meeting – 3rd October, 1914

A "War Chest" to be placed in the Council Chambers and employees asked to contribute.

Advertisement to be placed in "Lithgow Mercury" asking residents to contribute new or partly worn clothing to be forwarded to Belgium for use of the affected families.

Fisheries Dept. forwarded 10,000 trout fry to Shire Clerk for liberation in the Duckmaloi and Fish Rivers. Department to be

requested to open the rivers for fishing purposes this year.

John Sands Filing System to be procured for use in the office at a cost of £7.12.0.

Council Meeting – 31st October, 1914

Action being taken to close a portion of the Duckmaloi River against trout fishing, but that the whole of the balance of the Duckmaloi and Fish Rivers would remain open.

Council Meeting – 28th November, 1914

Duckmaloi River closed from Deans Station Creek to Armstrong's Crossing against trout fishing.

Local Government (Shire Loans) Act permits a Council to borrow any sum up to 3 times the amount of the year's income.

It was unanimously agreed that no Council have any commercial trading with any German or Austrian firms (on the request of Manly Municipality).

Slaughtering Licence granted to L. Wilcox.

Council Meeting – 23rd December, 1914

Snr. Const. Sheridan appointed as Inspector under the C.S.D.A. & M. Act in that part of his patrol district within the Shire.

10% write off for depreciation of plant.

Council to emphatically protest against the removal of the Police Station from Porters Retreat on the grounds that the owners of stock in the locality were not properly protected and that the district could not be adequately patrolled from Jenolan.

Council co-operate with Coonabarabran P.P. Board to secure a Royal Commission to enquire into and deal with all the traveling stock and camping reserves in the State.

Owing to errors in assessment, forfeiture of leases and conversation of C.L's, the following amount of rates be abandoned - £33.7.1.

1915

Council Meeting – 23rd January, 1915

Closing of Porters Retreat Police Station.
Chief Secretary advised Council that the needs of the district were amply provided for by patrols from Oberon, Burruga, Taralga and Jenolan Police Stations.

Council asked to eradicate Pattersons Curse on Sydmouth Valley Road and old Oberon Road.

Shires Conference to be held on 11th May and following days.

Estimates for 1915 on rate of 1 ¾ d. in £.

Total amount of proposed expenditure:
£4,944.18.8

Amount in hand available for expenditure:
£661.0.0

Amount likely to be available (Main Roads Grant - £1,300; Endowment - £1,433.18.8; Sundries - £100)
£2,833.18.8

Amount required to be raised by rate:
£1,450.0.0

Unimproved Capital Value of ratable land:
£197,317.0.0.

General Expenditure made up as follows:

Maintenance Roads) as per
£1,950.0.0

Construction Roads) Estimates
£2,000.0.0

Salaries – Clerk, Engineer, Overseer
£491.0.0

Instalment due on road plant
£280.18.8

Travelling Expenses – Councillors:
£75.0.0

President's Allowance:
£25.0.0

Insurance: £16.0.0

Stationery, printing, etc:
£47.0.0

Sundry expenditure:
£60.0.0

No stabling accommodation at Jenolan Caves for horses nor could feed be procured although it was one of the conditions of the lease that both would be available. The matter to be brought to the notice of the Minister as an added reason why McKeowns Creek Camping Site should be granted.

Council requested that afternoon inspections of caves be altered from 3 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Possibility of construction of the Oberon-Tarana Railway Line out of the proposed Norton Griffiths scheme and the advisability of making early application.

Special Council Meeting – 6th February, 1915

Presidential Allowance: £25

President: Councillor Richard Harris from 1st March, 1915.

Council Meeting – 20th February, 1915

Immigration & Tourist Bureau had decided not to alter the hour of the afternoon inspection at the Caves as it was considered that 3 p.m. was the most suitable time for the persons visiting the Caves. Council to inform Bureau of the great inconvenience visitors from the district are put to.

Local Government Bill has been withdrawn and the Clause which correspondence with Clause 159 (3) now reads:-

“After the year 1916 Endowment shall not be paid in any year to any Shire which in the preceding year has not levied a general rate of at least 2 d. in the £.”

This removes any doubt that existed for the necessity of a 2nd rate for 1915.

The Post Mistresses of Black Springs, Essington, Edith, Gingkin Wisemans Creek, Norway and Porters Retreat asking for Council's consent to the closing of their individual offices on Wednesdays in every

week from 1 p.m. to 5.45 p.m. and to re-open from 5.45 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Council to ask Railway League to convene a meeting to agitate for the proposed Oberon-Tarana Railway Line.

S. McKibbin, Secretary, O'Connell Progress Association asked Council to take over control of the O'Connell General Cemetery. To be considered at next meeting of Council.

Letter asking Councillors to exercise their persuasive powers to secure the enlistment of young men for the war.

Shire Clerk's salary increased to £234 p.a.

Dr. A.L. Devenish Meares complained that storm water had overflowed from Oberon Street and flooded the back premises of his residence and asking something be done to prevent a recurrence thereof.

Deputy President: Councillor A.F. Fitzpatrick.

Finance, Health & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole.

Council Meeting – 20th March, 1915

Any complaints or requests made in connection with postal, telegraphic or telephonic communications should be made direct the Postal Inspector for the district, who would deal with them.

Post Mistress at Shooters Hill asked Council's permission to close the P.O. from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. every Wednesday.

Shores Association Executive took exception to certain proposals in the Width of Tyres Bill and after discussions with the Minister the State will be divided into 2 parts. In the part covering the Oberon Shire the Bill will come into operation immediately it becomes law. The other part of the State will remain in abeyance.

Several letters were read in connection with the establishment of Patriotic Funds by the Council and it was decided that the President call a public meeting in the Federal Hall on Saturday, 27th March at 3 p.m. for the purpose of determining a method to assist the starving Belgians.

Council to take action to prevent the demolition of the Bolton Vale School as proposed by the Department.

The question of Council taking over the care, control and management of the O'Connell Cemetery could not be entertained as there were 16 cemeteries in the Shire the Trustees of which could ask for the same concession if the Council took over the O'Connell Cemetery.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin appointed auditor for £15.15.0.

Council Meeting – 24th April, 1915

Council informed Dept. of Public Instruction was not intending to demolish the Bolton Vale School.

Jenolan Camping Ground. Mr. James Padley informed Council that he could not afford the time to canvass for signatures on the Petition. He has been asked to secure the services of some suitable person in Lithgow to canvass for signatures.

Water cart purchased from Mr. R.L. Webb.

Belgian Relief Committee in Sydney forwarded a book of Art Union tickets for a motor car to be auctioned for the Belgian Fund. The Councillors and staff purchased a ticket.

Black Springs Tennis Club asking for exemption from rates on land leased by them on which the Court was constructed. No.

Belgian Relief Committee in Bathurst asked that a systematic canvass of the Shire be organized to raise funds. £200 had already been forwarded from Oberon and £100 from O'Connell.

S. Whalan granted a Slaughtering Licence.

Council Meeting – 22nd May, 1915

Clerk to procure a Roll of Honour for the Council Chambers containing the names of all who had gone to the front from the District.

A motion of sympathy with relatives of deceased Australian soldiers was carried.

Letter of Sympathy be sent to Mr. James Stevenson who lost a son from wounds at the Dardanelles.

Council to purchase a pipe making plant. Clerk to ascertain cost.

Petition containing 500 signatures in connection with Caves Camping Reserve received.

Council to place, when available, £500 in Fixed Deposit in the Commercial Bank, Oberon to tide over the lean period of 1915-1916. To remain at interest for 6 months.

Engineer to prepare an estimate of cost for erection of a shed to house machinery.

Council Meeting – 12th June, 1915

Roll of Honour procured.

Final payment made on stone breaking plant and grader.

Pipe making plant. Set of pipe moulds to be purchased for £29.15.0.

Manly Council asked Council to support an endeavour to persuade the Government to intern all German, Australian and Turkish descendants of military age, whether naturalized or not. Council of opinion that the military authorities could be relied on to safeguard the interests of the Commonwealth.

Erection of shed for housing machinery estimated to cost £67. To be put to tender and Shire Engineer, Mr. Heffernan, to prepare plans and specifications.

Council Meeting – 10th July, 1915

Council to endeavour to have Station Masters Office at Tarana connected to the Tarana Exchange. Jenolan to be connected with Oberon direct and that the Oberon Police Station be connected.

Flag Pole to be procured and erected at Council Chambers.

Premier asked that steps be taken in the Shire to form a Recruiting Association in conjunction with the Police and local teachers.

Manly Council asked for public meetings to discuss question of interning enemy subjects.

Mosman Council seeking co-operation in refusing to employ persons of German or Austrian origin.

Cattle Slaughtering Licences granted to A.N. Hillan, Jas. Sewell and S. Whalan.

Approach Fisheries Department to have fishing season opened a month earlier.

Public Holiday for the Shire for Australia Day – 30TH July.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1915

Private Whittaker dies from wounds in the Dardanelles. Letter of sympathy to his father.

Team for working grader secured for £2 per day.

Secretary, Railway Commissioners refused to comply with request to have the Tarana Railway Station connected with the Tarana Telephone Exchange on ground that there were not sufficient subscribers to the Tarana Exchange.

Council request refused to open trout season a month early.

Secretary to the Premier asked that on Thursday, 5th August, the anniversary of the European War, a meeting of citizens should be held at which resolutions would be submitted in the nature of a pledge that the struggle would be continued with unabated vigour until the victory of the British Armies had been achieved.

Germanton Shire Council asked that the Minister for Justice be approached to have all German, Austrian and Turkish natives who are J.P's be struck off the Roll of Magistrates.

Jas. Logue resigned as Engine Driver for the stone breaking plant. L.W. Roels to replace him.

A.R.D. Cunynghame's Slaughtering Licence renewed.

Council to make application for 5,000 trout fry.

Council Meeting – 4th September, 1915

Idea of placing £500 at fixed deposit be abandoned.

4,400 trout fry to be forwarded on 2nd September for liberation into the Duckmaloi and Fish Rivers and asking that arrangements be made to convey them from Tarana to the streams.

A direct telephone communication will be established between Oberon and Jenolan Caves.

Federal Attorney General asked that Council render every assistance, where required, to residents to fill up their War Census Cards.

Local Govt. Dept. advised Minister had decided to allow councils to expend their corporate funds in assisting recruiting up to the amount of £50, without surcharge, and that no objection would be taken to councils making up to any officer who enlisted, the difference between his salary and his military pay.

Case of Measles at Royal Hotel. Necessary notices have been served.

Wickham Municipality seeking co-operation in endeavouring to shut up all boxing saloons, etc. and to prevent boxing contests during the war.

Council Meeting – 2nd October, 1915

Fisheries Dept. that 6,600 trout would be sent for liberation into the Duckmaloi and Fish Rivers.

Council has increased powers with regard to the inspection of hotels from a sanitation point.

Council Meeting – 30th October, 1915:

Council's sympathy and regret that Cr. Stevenson's son, Private H.V. Stevenson, had been invalided ill to England from Gallipoli.

Epidemic of measles had broken out in the town and that the necessary notices had been served.

A person had failed to report (for a period of 2 weeks) 2 cases of Scarlet Fever on his

premises. He is to be warned that a repetition of the offence would mean prosecution.

The Secretary, Sydney Allies Day movement, suggested holding of an Allies Day in Oberon and suggesting February, 11th, 1916 as a suitable day. Clerk to call a public meeting.

Local Government Clerks' Association advised that a Clerks' Conference would be opened on 24th November and asking that Clerk be granted permission to attend. Given.

Duckmaloi River and all its tributaries from Deans Station Creek to its source have been closed against all methods of fishing until 31st October, 1916.

Clerk to procure 5 gallon drum of disinfectant for use in cases of infectious diseases. The public to pay cost price for same unless unable to do so.

Council Meeting – 27th November, 1915

Council's attention drawn to the question of afforestation and if Council desired to engage in the work the State Forestry Department would forward suitable trees.

Berrigan Shire asked Council's co-operation in protesting against the payment of M.P.'s doing recruiting work. Agreed.

Mr. J.O. McBean granted Cattle Slaughtering Licence and Licence for Butcher's Shop.

Council asked for co-operation in having legislation introduced to prevent shouting or treating in hotels. Agreed.

Abandoned rates = £30.14.3.

Council Meeting – 30th December, 1915

Bogan Shire asked Council's co-operation in endeavouring to get Parliament to introduce legislation to disenfranchise all Germans. Agreed.

It was asked if Council intended installing a pan system in Oberon. Clerk said there was no truth in the rumour.

Shires Association advised that proposed L.G. Bill provided that unless 1 ½ d. rate were imposed in 1916, endowment would not be paid. This is modification of original Bill which provide a minimum rate of 2 d.

Amount of proposed Rate = 1 ¾ d. in the £
on the U.C.V. of all ratable land in the Shire.

Lengthy correspondence was read in connection with the Recruiting Scheme to raise 50,000 additional men and, after full discussion, it was resolved that the Council co-operate with the Local Recruiting Committee and offer the movement every assistance.

Estimates for Rating:

Total amount of proposed expenditure:
£4,988

Construction & Maintenance – Main Roads
£2,692

Construction & Maintenance – Other Roads
£1,429

Repairs to Bridges
£100

Salaries – Clerk £234; Overseer £208
£442

Salary Engineer
£90

Travelling Expenses
£75

Stationery, Printing & Misc.
£100

Presidential Allowance
£25

Election Expenses
£20

Insurance
£15

Amount in hand available for such
expenditure £394

Amount of other Revenue likely to be
available: £3,124

Amount required to be raised by Rate:
£1,470

Unimproved Capital Value of the land on
which it is Proposed to levy the Rate:
£200,601.

1916

Council Meeting – 22nd January, 1916

As nothing had been done by the Local Recruiting Committee in the matter or raising the district's quota and as it is urgent, that a public meeting be called to form a War Service Committee – Wednesday 26th January – Federal Hall – 12 noon.

Municipal & Shire Agency indicated that they had in stock War Service Returns at 11/6 per 100. As the forms would be required in connection with recruiting, 100 were ordered.

Thomas Burcher asked for permission to erect a rabbit freezing works. Granted.

Special Meeting – 5th February, 1916

Presidential Allowance: £25

President: Councillor A. Stevenson.

Council Meeting – 19th February, 1916

Timbreebongie Shire objected to appointment of Johann August Siegfried Kayser as Officer in Charge of Passports.

Annual Shires Conference to be held on 9th May and following days.

Movement for erection of a memorial to Nurse Cavell.

Deputy President: Councillor Nunan.

Health, Finance & Works Committee to be Committee of the Whole.

Council to lodge strong protest for early closing of mails at Oberon Council Post Office owing to inconvenience caused.

Clerk to make enquiries as to the number of subscribers to the telephone at Tarana and Oberon so that if sufficient, further application could be made for the connection of the Station Masters Office.

Council Meeting – 18th March, 1916

E.S. Carr, M.H.R. refusing Council's application for Post Offices to revert to old hours.

Council asked to co-operate in having hotels close at 6 p.m.

Request to close Sweetbriar P.O. from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Granted.

Jas. Whiteley offered Allotment 4, Section 20 for the purpose of erecting a suitable new Council Chambers (office) for £150. Consideration to remain in abeyance for a while.

Council to make application to the Railway Commissioners to have Tarana Railway Station connected to the telephone exchange as there were now the necessary number of subscribers.

Letter of Sympathy to Mr. A.S. Whalan on the loss of his son at Gallipoli.

Permission was given to Thos. Burcher to build a rabbit freezing works on Lots 1-2, Section 44, in lieu of permission previously given.

M. J.J. Keen allowed 22/6 whilst driving and assisting the Recruiting Sergeant, to pay £8 due and permit the arrangement to continue for another 2 weeks.

Council Meeting 15th April, 1916

Total cost of State Recruiting Campaign to date was £19.18.6, not including a payment of £9.10.0 to the Recruiting Sergeant which amount had been contributed by State Committee and paid through the Trust Fund.

Oberon Show Committee requested the use of the grader for effecting improvements to the show ring. Granted, provided payment be made for any damage.

State War Council asking that councils should take into consideration the question of giving preference to returned soldiers in

the councils' various services. Agreed, as long as the applicants are eligible.

President of Anzac Day asked that Council take steps to have the day suitably recognized, preferably on the lines laid down by the Central Committee. Council to ask local Ministers to hold a united church service or other form of service and to fix their own time and place. A collection to be taken up and the proceeds to be devoted to the building of the "Anzac Memorial Hall".

Waterloo War Service Committee asked Council's operation in an endeavour to have all enemy subjects of 18 years or upwards interred irrespective of position. Agreed.

Notification of 3 cases of diphtheria in Tarana. Patients now in Bathurst Hospital.

Receiving Office Keeper, Bolton Vale, asking permission to closing office at 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Granted.

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor at £15.15.0 per year.

Clerk to write letter of thanks to Deputy P.M.G. in connection with improvements to telephone wires on Gingkin to Porters Retreat Road.

Council Meeting 20th May, 1916

Officer in Charge, Local Govt. forwarded copy of Naturalised Subjects Franchise Act, 1916, rendering naturalized British subjects of enemy origin ineligible to vote for or act as Councillors, or to officiate as J.P's, Coroners, Jurors, etc.

Railway Commissioners advising that connection of telephone would shortly be made between Tarana Railway Station and Tarana Exchange.

Public Meeting to be called for 27th May to arrange for taking up collections and selling War Chest Buttons on War Chest Button Day on 30th June.

Council Meeting – 17th June, 1916

The President moved that the Council's deep sense of the loss the Empire has sustained through the death of Lord Kitchener be

placed on record. The motion was carried, Council standing in silence.

W.P. Rutter asked permission to erect a Billiard Saloon and Barbers Shop on the block adjoining the Royal Hotel. Permission granted.

Letters of sympathy to be forwarded to C. Hotham, M. Feebrey and R. Lewis in the losses recently sustained by them.

Council Meeting – 8th July, 1916

Tumbarumba Shire Council forwarded copies of affidavits in connection with alleged disloyal utterances of Dr. A.R. Heupt McLeod and asking to co-operate in the direction of procuring a Royal Committee to enquiry into them.

Cattle Slaughtering Licences granted to A.N. Hillan, J. Sewell, S. Whalan and R.AP. Burcher.

Council Meeting – 5th August, 1916

Premier asked President to arrange for the suitable commemoration of the 2nd Anniversary of the beginning of the War.

Government intends to nationalize the road from Edith, via Jenolan to Hampton.

Council to receive and distribute a consignment of trout.

Council to co-operate with Wingadee Shire in an endeavour to have 200,000 acres in Coonamble district made available for settlement of returned soldiers.

War Chest Button Day received £109 in proceeds from the Button Day in Oberon.

Application to be made to Fisheries Dept. to open trout fishing waters in the Shire 1 month earlier.

Council Meeting – 2nd September, 1916

President suggested that a permanent engineer be appointed at £350 p.a. as the existing arrangements were not satisfactory. At this stage the Overseer tendered his resignation.

Applications to be called for position of engineer and all inspectorships at salary of £350 p.a.

Sympathy extended to relatives on the death of Private A.H. Rogers on active service in France.

Gazette notification forwarded declaring as a National Work the road from Edith via Jenolan to Hampton.

Council can make any place near his work a centre for any workman and change it from time to time. This has to be mutually agreed, but if men refuse to accept they can be discharged.

Const. Wilding re-appointed as Inspector under the C.S.D.A. & M. Act at O'Connell.

Alex Young resigned as Overseer of Works.

Council Meeting – 30th September, 1916

10,000 trout fry forwarded for liberation in Duckmaloi River.

Leichardt Council asked to have a clause inserted in the Amending Local Government Bill to present house and land agents acting as Aldermen or Councillors.

A.R.D. Cunynghame given permission to erect a slaughter yard on his property.

6 applications received for position of Shire Engineer. Mr. W. Stoddart, late of Goobang Shire, appointed.

Council Meeting – 30th October, 1916

Engineer appointed, Mr. W. Stoddart, failed to take up his duties. Fresh applications to be called and "that an Engineer be not appointed until the Department forces the Council to have one."

Mr. A. Young appointed as Acting Overseer pending the appointment of an Engineer.

Letter of reference given to Mr. B.A. Heffernan the outgoing Consulting Engineer.

Clerk mentioned the matter of obtaining land for returned soldiers in the Shire as the district had everything to recommend it in that direction. Minister of Lands be written

to informing him that there were several estates suitable for the purpose of selling returned soldiers which might be resumed and subdivided.

Council Meeting – 25th November, 1916

Land suitable for settlement by returned soldiers being inspected by a survey and a fruit expert.

Council asked to co-operate in urging the Govt. to proceed with the construction of the Wyangla (sic) Weir to provide employment for returned soldiers.

Vacuum Oil Co, offered to supply cylinder oil at 3/3 per gallon and lubricating oil at 2/9 per gallon. President to order 4 tins of lubricating and 2 tins of cylinder oil.

Postal District Inspector be asked to remove telephone from the old Station Masters Office at Tarana to the one now being used by him.

Shire Clerk appointed Returning Officer for forthcoming elections at a fee of £5.5.0.

Council Meeting – 23rd December, 1916

Revision Court held and the rolls and ballot papers for coming election were being printed.

Time of closing of polls by Postal Ballot changed from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Council's request for moving of telephone from Station Masters Room at Tarana refused.

Shire Hall to be made available for recruiting purposes.

Abandoned Rates = £45.10.10.

Local butcher's shop to remain open on Saturday afternoons and close on Wednesday afternoons.

1917

Council Meeting – 20th January, 1917

Councillor Hugh Kelly died. An enlarged photo of Cr. Kelly to be procured and hung in the Shire Office.

Council to temporarily borrow £200 from the Commercial Banking Co.

Windsor Council asked for co-operation in protesting against the Daylight Saving Bill. Agreed.

Prevalence of thistles on roads mainly at O'Connell. To be attended to.

Advertisement to be inserted in "Mercury" drawing attention to danger of bush fires and suggesting formation of Bush Fire Brigades.

Special Council Meeting – 10th February, 1917

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor Robinson for balance of 1916-1917, e.g. to 28th February.
Councillor Robinson for 1917-1918.

Deputy President: Councillor G.P. Todd.

Councillors Harris and Stevenson replaced by Crs. Bailey and Todd.

Council Meeting – 10th February, 1917

Estimates for General Rating Purposes:

A. Proposed expenditure out of fund to which the proceeds of the rate are to be carried: £4,460

Maintenance & Construction on Main Roads: £2,190

Maintenance & Construction on other roads: £1,045

General Repairs to Culverts & Bridges: £400

Salary Clerk - £234; Overseer - £260: £494

Salary – Consulting Engineer: £75

Travelling Expenses: £75

Stationery, Printing & Advertising: £100

Presidential Allowance: £25

Election Expenses: £30

Sundry Expenses: £35

B. Amount in hand available for such expenditure: £115

C. Other revenue likely to be available: £2,636

D. Amount required to be raised by rate: £1,678

Unimproved Capital Value of land on which proposed to levy rate £198,995.

Amount of proposed rate 2d. in £ on U.C.V. of all ratable land in Shire.

Council Meeting – 17th February, 1917

Clerk makes lengthy report on the whole position with regard to the new Award, pointing out the increase in wages under existing conditions and suggesting several remedies, but preferably that of letting contracts for the maintenance of the roads by contract. Owing to the Award not being binding on contracts, a specification based on a certain wage for contractor and a labourer and a man with horse and cart would relieve the Council from responsibility, assure better service and at a considerably reduced sum.

N.S.W. Recruiting Committee asked for formation of Win the War Leagues.

A.H. & P. Association thanked Council for the use of the grader.

Crookwell Council asked for co-operation in an endeavour to compel the Government to take action to erect Abercrombie Bridge recently destroyed by flood as a national work. Agreed.

President and Clerk to attend Shires Conference on 8th May.

Finance, Health & Works Committees be Committees of the Whole.

Mr. B.A. Heffernan appointed as Consulting Engineer.

Mr. Alex Young appointed as Overseer.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin reappointed as Auditor.

Shire to be cut up into 4 maintenance areas with power to increase to 5, on the basis of 10/- per day for the contractor, 9/2 for labourers and 13/2 per day for horse and cart, and men to be informed that their employment would terminate on 15th March.

Council Meeting – 17th March, 1917

Letter from L.G. Dept. regarding the desirability of planting fruit trees on roads in Shire.

Bogan Shire asked for compulsory military service to be introduced.

Council Meeting – 14th April, 1917

A reprint of the Local Government Act, with all amendment to date, could be procured from the Government Printer for 2/-.

Rate on Little River Public School to be abandoned as it was unoccupied.

Council Meeting – 19th May, 1917

Sympathetic letters to be sent to families of Private H.V. Stevenson, Lt. Col. McIntosh, Lt. Cooney and Private Selius.

Coolah Shire sent book of tickets for a raffle of a blood stallion in connection with the settlement of returned soldiers on Oberon Estate. Councillors and Staff purchased the tickets.

Bexley Council asked co-operation in an endeavour to secure legislation preventing shouting or treating of soldiers or civilians. No Action.

Gunnedah Council asked co-operation in an endeavour to have decimal coinage and the metric system of weights and measures introduced throughout the British Empire. Agreed.

Oberon Progress Association asked that an Inspector of Nuisances be appointed. Deferred pending a request to have town lighted.

Recommendation of Camping Reserve of 3 ¼ acres at Red Turn on Jenolan Road.

T.W. Weatherell granted Slaughtering Licence.

Red Triangle Day Committee asking that steps be taken to call a public meeting to arrange for raising funds for the Y.M.C.A. scheme for the comfort of the soldiers at the front. Meeting arranged for Saturday, 26th May.

Inverell Council asked for co-operation in endeavour to have legislation introduced asking it compulsory to destroy Green Sheep Fly. Agreed.

Council Meeting – 9th June, 1917

Inverell P.P. Board asked for co-operation in endeavouring to have legislation introduced to permit P.P. Boards to destroy noxious weeds on T.S.R's. Agreed.

Council Meeting – 7th July, 1917

Letters of sympathy to be forwarded to relatives of Privates Harvey and Seymour who gave their lives in the defence of the Empire.

Clerk suggested the purchase of an Honour Roll to contain the names of those who had enlisted within the shire. Clerk to get a correct list of names and a suitable Roll.

Gingkin School unoccupied – rates abandoned.

France's Day Committee asking for steps to be taken to celebrate the day and methods be devised to raise funds for the French nation. Local Red Cross League already moved in the matter and Council to heartily co-operate with their effort on behalf of the movement.

All paid military positions in connection with recruiting filled by returned soldiers.

Try to have the debenture Fee of 1/- charged for use of telephones after hours abolished.

Council's co-operation asked for in trying to have Daylight Saving Act repealed.

Yass P.P. Board asked for action to be supported to allow storekeepers to sell rabbit poison, sheep dip, etc. without a licence.

Request for footbridge over Wisemans Creek, Mayfield Road to be erected so that children could attend Sweetbriar School, which is about to be re-opened. Agreed.

Slaughtering Licences were granted to E.H. Burcher, A.N. Hillan, J. Sewell and A.W. Wetherill.

Council Meeting – 4th August, 1917

Delivery of trout fry for liberation in Fish & Duckmaloi Rivers.

Acting Premier asked that steps be taken to recognize the 3rd Anniversary of the War.

Council ceased its deliberations for 5 minutes.

John Sands quoted price for Honour Roll at £10.10.0 and £17.17.0. As price was too high, matter to remain in abeyance.

Citizens War Chest Committee requested permission to have a street collection.

Council Meeting – 1st September, 1917

Railway Commissioners refused Council's request to have telephone removed to Station Master's office at Tarana, but promising attention to the bell where it was thought the defect lay.

Where any land is resumed for the purpose of settling returned soldiers, the Minister be requested to submit the matter to the local council for approval.

1st Class Const. Grady be appointed Inspector under the Cattle Slaughtering Act for Oberon.

Council Meeting 29th September, 1917

Department of Public Health asked that Council take every precaution to prevent spread of Diphtheria which it was reported had broken out in Oberon.

Mr. F. Press offered to remove trees from Rockley Road for the sum of 10/-, such amount to be donated to any Patriotic Fund in Oberon. Offer accepted.

Council Meeting – 27th October, 1917

References were made to the losses several residents had sustained owing to deaths at the front in France and also the fact that some soldiers were severely wounded. Letters of sympathy to Mrs. Luther and Messrs Cosgrove and Stevenson.

Clerk to be appointed Valuer and receive the sum of £20 for writing the rate notices, attending to transfers and making additional entries in rate books.

Dedication of 2 acres, Portion 62, Parish of Wyndham, as a site for Paling Yards School.

Memory Drive Committee extended an invitation to Council to be present at the official opening on Saturday, 3rd November.

Oberon Progress Association asked that a windmill, tank and trough be erected at the Town Well and that footpaths be made from Church of England to Post Office. No money available for first request and 2nd matter would have attention at a later date.

Manly Council asked to have all enemy alien subjects interred.

N.S.W. Referendum Committee forwarded petition for signatures in favour of Compulsory Military Service.

Council Meeting – 24th November, 1917

It was unanimously resolved on the Clerk's request that, in the case of conscription being carried and he being compelled to enlist, that his position be held for him on his return.

Shires Association asked for annual subscription of 21/- to the Wages Board Defence Fund. Agreed.

Letters of sympathy to relatives of T.B.
Webb and Councillor G.P. Todd.

**Council Meeting - 22nd December,
1917**

Rates to be abandoned on Shooters Hill
Public School as it is unoccupied.

Scottish Women's Hospital for War Service
wrote asking for help.

Sharma, Sheriff Dau and Anton applied for
Hawker's Licences. Granted.

Councillor G.P. Todd resigned from
Council. Polling Day to be 21st January,
1918. Poll to be conducted by Postal Ballot.
Shire Clerk as Returning Officer – fee of
£5.5.0.

Rates abandoned = £39.19.4 or £39.6.9.
Two sets of figures shown.

1918

Special Council Meeting – 5th January, 1918

Proposed expenditure out of the fund to which the proceeds of the rate are to be carried : £4,315

Amount in hand available for such expenditure: £24

Other revenue likely to be available: £2,635

Amount required to be raised by rate: £1,656

U.C.V. of land on which it is proposed to levy rate: £194,180

Rate 2 d. in £ on the U.C.V. of all ratable land within the Shire.

Proposed expenditure:

Maintenance & Construction – Main Roads £2,391

Maintenance & Construction – Other Roads £1,050

General Repairs to Culverts £100

Salary – Clerk £234

Salary – Overseer £260

Salary – Engineer: £75

Travelling Expenses: £75

Presidential Allowance: £25

Stationery, Printing, etc: £50

Electoral Expenses: £20

Valuation Fee: £30

Sundry Expenses: £35.

Special Meeting – 5th January, 1918

Application to Minister to temporarily borrow £500.

Council Meeting – 19th January, 1918

Fisheries Department asked for report with regard to the acclimatisation etc. of trout in local streams.

Special Council Meeting – 9th February, 1918

Presidential Allowance: \$25

Shire President: Cr. E. Robinson for period ending 1st March, 1919.

Deputy President: Councillor A. Bailey

New Councillors: Crs. E. Robinson, A. Bailey, W.H. Bailey, T.C. Brennan, A. Fitzpatrick and P.J. Nunan (W.H. Bailey only new Councillor).

Finance, Works & Health Committees are Committees of the Whole.

Council Meeting – 16th February, 1918

Letter re the raising of funds for the Lord Mayor's Patriotic Fund.

A.H.& P. Association asked for the Trotting Track to be graded. Agreed.

Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children running an Art Union for the hospital's funds.

Rev. P. Casey asking permission to erect additions to the Presbytery. Agreed.

Police to prosecute Hawker, Mr. Rhama Khan if he does not take out a Licence.

Council Meeting – 16th March, 1918

Governor of the Commonwealth asked that arrangements be made for holding 4 minute speeches at all public meetings on the 6th War Loan.

Shire Conference to be 14th May and following days. President and Clerk to be delegates.

Rev. Fr. Casey asked permission to erect a church at Brisbane Valley. Agreed.

Red Cross Day to be 26th April.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin re-elected Auditor @
£15.15.0.

Council Meeting 13th April, 1918

Sympathy extended to family of Mr. R. Cranfield, an old and respected resident of the district.

Abandon rates on Titania and Essington Schools as they are unoccupied.

The Proportional Representation Society asked that a petition be signed in favour of proportional representation. Councillors signed the petition and the matter of securing other signatures was left to the Clerk.

Request that timber on the Katoomba Track be removed.

Council Meeting – 4th May, 1918

Cattle Slaughtering Licences granted to S. Whalan and C. Armstrong.

Council Meeting – 14th June, 1918

For the first time, the President presented a typed report as a Presidential Minute.

He mentioned the following:

“That expenditure be reduced to at least £200 per month until the first meeting in March, 1919. That casual employment be dispensed with until the expiration of present contracts. The services of the Overseer be dispensed with and that Mr. Young be offered 1 week’s employment every 4 weeks @ £6 per week until further notice. I regret having to make the foregoing recommendations, but the present financial position fully warrants it.”

Report received and adopted.

Council Meeting – 6th July, 1918

Ashfield Council asked for co-operation in protesting against the provision for a Main Roads Board. Agreed.

Slaughtering Licences were granted to Mrs. Burcher, C. Armstrong, A.N. Hillan, S. Whalan and W. Wetherill.

Council Meeting – 3rd August, 1918

Minister for Repatriation asked that preference be given to returned soldiers in filling vacant positions.

Council Meeting – 31st August, 1918

First meeting where minutes were typed.

Council’s quota to the 7th War Loan is £10,000.

Forbes Council asked co-operation in having the existing regulation prohibiting private persons from sending newspapers to soldiers at the front withdrawn. Agreed,

Petersham Council wants date of Triennial Elections and date of election of President altered. Council agreed.

Council Meeting – 28th September, 1918

Letter from L.G. Dept. re materials, plant, etc. available for purchase from British Government after the War.

L.G. Dept. wrote re shortage of galvanized and black iron and the difficulty of councils to secure same and asking that the requirements of Council for next 12 months be stated.

Council Meeting – 26th October, 1918

Dept. of L.G. asked what supply Council would require of iron to manufacture sanitary pans for next 12 months. Council advised “nil”.

Council Meeting – 23rd November, 1918

WORLD WAR I ENDED 11.11.1918.

In future, Council to issue an Annual Report.

Council Meeting – 21st December, 1918

Shire Clerk appointed valuer for 1919 @ £30.

Hawker’s Licences granted to Sharma J. Cordette and C. Antony.

1919

Council Meeting – 18th January, 1919

Director General of Public Health forwarded instructions for coping with Pneumonic Influenza should same break out in the Shire.

Request to have Gingkin-Jenolan Caves Road proclaimed a National Work as it is part of the road from Jenolan to Wombeyan Caves.

Special Council Meeting – 8th February, 1919

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: 2 nominations – Crs. Nunan and Brennan. Voting equal. After drawing lots – Councillor P.J. Nunan elected to 31st March, 1920.

Deputy President: Councillor A.F. Fitzpatrick.

Finance, Works and Health Committees appointed as Committees of the Whole.

Council Meeting – 15th February, 1919

President outlined what had been done in connection with trying to prevent the spread of Pneumonic Influenza in this district. He referred to the capable manner the Government, and particularly the Dept. of Public Health had coped with the matter and moved the following resolution:

“That this meeting placed on record its appreciation of the determined stand taken by the N.S.W. Government in fighting the Pneumonic Influenza scourge in the interest of the health and lives of the people in this State, and that this meeting urge upon the Government the necessity of taking immediate steps to cancel all passenger traffic on the Western Line from affected areas.”

The Shire Clerk reported that he had succeeded in establishing an Inoculation Depot at Oberon and a sufficient supply of

vaccine had been received. Patients can be inoculated free of charge on the days set apart for same. If desired other depots could be established in remote portions of the Shire.

The Clerk reported on the financial position, emphasizing the necessity for exercising the strictest economy during the year as, owing to the loss of £800 p.a. in Endowment, the Council would be hard pressed to make ends meet.

The Council was asked to do as much work as possible during the Influenza epidemic to relieve the distress that had arisen owing to so many being thrown out of employment.

The Municipality of Manly objected to the Federal Government's action in releasing German internees.

Complaint about geese polluting water supply in Cunynghames Creek and that stock would not drink the water. The offender warned that the practice of allowing poultry to stray must be discontinued otherwise action would be taken.

Bathurst Council also asked co-operation in impressing on the Government the necessity of stopping passenger traffic from areas affected by Pneumonic Influenza into clean areas on the Western Line. Council agreed to co-operate.

Council to make application to the Lands Department to have set aside as a Public Watering Place portion of the Gold Field Reserve on Lowes Mount Road,

Council Meeting – 15th March, 1919

Several forms for application for aid to necessitous farmers (because of the drought and bush fires) have been attended to.

Councillor Brennan resigned.
Extraordinary election to be held.

L.G. Dept. asked if Council wished to purchase any motor lorries from the British Govt.

Health Dept. authorized the establishment of an Inoculation Depot in Oberon and indicating that the Dept. would not be responsible for traveling expenses for any doctor for inoculation purposes in any remote part of the Shire. They also asked for the date on which the Depot was opened and the number of patients inoculated.

The Voluntary Workers' Association asked for Council's co-operation in endeavouring to prevent the useless waste of money in fire works, banquets, etc. on the days set apart for celebration of Peace and that the money be devoted to the erection of homes for returned men or war widows and in the preparation of farms for men who had decided to go on the land. Council agreed with the premise.

The road from Jenolan to Wombeyan Caves cannot be classified as a main road.

2 cases of typhoid from the Oberon Shire admitted to Bathurst Hospital.

Concord Council wants the Federal Capital moved from Melbourne to Canberra site owing to the domination of the Federal Government by Victorian ideas and to the laxity of the Victorian authorities in dealing with the Influenza Epidemic. Council agreed.

Shires Association Conference to be on 13th May and following days. S.P. & S.C. to attend.

Overseer (who had been working 1 week per month) be continuously employed at his usual salary.

Council Meeting – 10th May, 1919

Councillor A.L. Hughes elected.

Quarantine Regulations broken at Jenolan Caves. It was suggested that the law should be carried out and action taken against those who had broken them.

Country Influenza Administrative Board and the Health Dept. forwarded £51, being half the cost of expenditure incurred to date for fighting the influenza epidemic.

A complete inventory of all material and equipment used in connection with the temporary hospital be prepared and that same be stored pending disposal.

Shire Association Conference postponed.

Jas. Doust resigned as Oberon Pound Keeper.

Council Meeting – 7th June, 1919

Dr. E.E. Griffiths drew Council's attention to the great amount of duty thrown on the Shire Clerk and pointing out that, but for the prompt and capable way in which he tackled all difficulties, the district would have been in a much worse plight. The doctor said that the assistance he received was incalculable and he suggested a testimonial or some form of expression of gratitude be arranged. President to call Public Meeting.

Miss E. Johnston was recently the Matron in charge of the temporary hospital.

Council Meeting – 5th July, 1919

Country Influenza Board asked for particulars of expenditure of Council for fighting the influenza epidemic. Council asked for balance outstanding of £51.

Council to apply for 10,000 trout fry for distribution in Duckmaloi & Fish Rivers.

Council Meeting – 2nd August, 1919

Police advised Council that proceedings would have to be instituted against those persons who had broken quarantine (by Council).

The Country Influenza Administration Board agreed to pay Council the full amount of expenditure incurred in connection with the recent epidemic. (£102 in all - £51 received so far).

Municipality of Lithgow asked Council's co-operation in protesting against the detention of Paul Freeman.

Alterations to Council Chamber - £3.7.6.

Shires Conference now to be held on 9th September.

Slaughtering Licences granted to A.R. Cunynghame, A.N. Hillan & Whalan Bros.

Clerk to write up the Valuation and Rate Books for the coming Triennial period and to issue the Rate Notices for the year and to make valuations of any additional lands taken up during the year at a fee of £60.

The matter of a telephone lines from Porters Retreat to Curraweela was mentioned and it was resolved that if the residents requiring same would forward a petition to the Council pointing out the necessity for the line, Council would endorse same and forward to Post Master General.

Protest to be made to Federal Member with regard to the reduction of telephone hours at country Post Offices, pointing out the serious inconvenience that would arise to residents.

Council Meeting – 30th August, 1919

Health Dept. notified that Pneumonic Influenza was no longer a notifiable disease.

Supply of trout fry to be liberated into the Fish, Campbell and Duckmaloi Rivers.

Country Influenza Board asking for particulars of the £4 charged for nurses insurance in Council's claim. Clerk pointed out that before coming to Oberon the nurses had been insured by the Bathurst Council and the amount paid was the Shire's contribution for the period the nurses had been engaged in Oberon. Board forwarded a further cheque for £47.9.8 as final payment and eliminating the £4 for insurance as it was contended the Govt. had established a Treasury Insurance Fund for the purpose of insuring nurses without cost.

Council Meeting – 27th September, 1919

Lands Dept. refused Council's application for a Water Reserve in Parish of Oberon on Lowes Mount Road owing to objections by Dept. of Mines.

20 cans of trout fry received for liberation into Fish, Campbells and Duckmaloi Rivers.

Repairs needed to Katoomba-Jenolan Bridge Track.

Council Meeting – 25th October, 1919

Local Govt. Dept. to be supplied with photos of any Memorial erected in memory of fallen soldiers.

Council was requested to provide a testimonial to the healing qualities of an ointment known as "Lucky Hit". Refused.

Council Meeting – 22nd November, 1919

Repairs required to town pump to enable local people to secure water.

Commonwealth Quarantine Service asked Council what supplies of Typhoid Vaccine was required.

Anzac Memorial Appeal Committee notifying that 5 Bursaries had been allotted to Oberon Shire and asking that the money required to pay for same, viz. £125 each, be raised in the district.

The Clerk was directed to secure, if possible, a Pound Keeper for the Oberon Pound and to take necessary steps, on receipt of an application for the position of Pound Keeper, to re-open the O'Connell Pound.

Council Meeting – 20th December, 1919

Clerk appointed Returning Officer. Election be by Postal Ballot.

Minister would not consent to the adoption of the 1919 Valuations for 1920 unless the Council undertook to immediately have a valuation of all ratable lands made within the Shire as no valuation had been made since the year 1907. The matter would then receive favourable consideration.

Applications to be called for the position of Valuer and Minister be informed.

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 1920.

The Local Government Department advised that as Parliament failed to vote the necessary money the additional 40% it was intending to give councils to the Main Roads Grant could not now be paid.

Minister of Public Health asking to be supplied with the names of public school teachers who rendered service and were in direct contact with the disease during the influenza epidemic as it was proposed to pay them at the rate of £1 per week.

Country Influenza Administrative Board asked for names of those who rendered valuable assistance during the aforesaid

epidemic as it was tended to forward each one a certificate.

Mr. A.H. Morgan appointed to position of Pound Keeper at O'Connell.

Owing to errors in assessment, etc. £9.0.3

1920

Council Meeting – 17th January, 1920

Public Health Dept. notified Council that Acute Malarial Fever was not longer an notifiable disease.

Shires Association Annual Conference to be held in July next.

S.W. Bailey granted Slaughtering Licence.

Bolton Vale School to be disinfected as a child recently attending there had been found to be suffering from Diphtheria. Request complied with.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor.

Council Meeting – 2nd February, 1920

Councillors G.L. Brien and C.E. Richards elected to Council.

Mr. W.A. Patterson appointed as Valuer for £250.

Mr. S.J. Cunynghame appointed Pound Keeper.

Finance Cttee. and Works Cttee. to be Committee of the Whole.

It was decided to arrange an overdraft with the Commercial Bank.

It was decided that the building at present used as a stable be altered for use as a shelter for Council's engine.

Special Council Meeting – 14th February, 1920

Presidential Allowance: £425

Shire President: 2 nominations – Crs. Richards and Robinson. 3 votes each so draw from hat. Councillor E. Robinson won.

Deputy President: Councillor C.E. Richards.

Council Meeting – 13th March, 1920

Shire Clerk suspended for 1 month. J. Williams asked to accept position of Acting Clerk for 1 month. He agreed, as long as it

was with the unqualified consent of the Clerk. At close of meeting President to take possession of the keys of the office, pending a definite reply from Mr. Williams.

Council Meeting – 10th April, 1920

Mr. Young resigned as Overseer from 8th May. Accepted with regret.

Council Meeting – 8th May, 1920

Mr. Looby's suspension lifted and keys returned to him.

Limited Overdraft of £1,200 approved by Minister and Mortgage signed under Seal of Council.

No delegate from Oberon to attend the Shire Association Conference.

The question of lighting the Oberon streets was discussed and it was referred to the Progress Association with a view to ascertaining the wishes of the ratepayers who would benefit.

Council Meeting – 5th June, 1920

Letter from the State Trophy Committee informing that Council's share in the distribution of War Trophies would be one machine gun and asking that steps be taken to appoint 3 Trustees, one of whom should be a returned soldier, for the purpose of installing the trophy in some suitable park or building and being responsible for its upkeep. It was also suggested that the Trustees should arrange for a suitable ceremony when the trophy was being taken over. The following Trustees to be appointed – The President, Councillor E. Robinson, and Messrs. H.V. Stevenson and A.R. Cunynghame and in the event of Mr. Cunynghame refusing, that Mr. G. Batcheldor be asked.

A.E. Freer and S.H. Cunynghame received permission to build. In Mr. Freer's place, it was agreed that at no future time would the Council interfere to the levels of the footpath in Ross Street top a depth greater than 3 feet.

Council Meeting – 3rd July, 1920

Councillor E. Robinson, and Messrs. H.V. Stevenson and A.R. Cunynghame appointed as Trustees for the Shire's War Trophy.

Sustenance charges (from 1st July, 1920) for impounded animals be as follows:

Horses and Cattle – 1st April to 1st October = 15/- per week per head and for balance of year (in each year) = 5/- per week per head.

Rams, Ewes, Sheep, Lambs and Goats – 1st April to 1st October in each year = 1/- per week per head, for balance of year 4d. per week per head.

Pigs – 1st April to 1st October each year = 10d. per head per week and for balance of year the same amount.

Government Savings Bank has been declared a statutory body representing the Crown.

Randwick Council asked for Council's support in a scheme to establish Fire Insurance for Shire and Municipal Councils with the object of raising revenue.

S.W. Bailey's Cattle Slaughtering Licence renewed.

Any sum up to £2,000 could be arranged for as a loan for the purpose of erecting Council Chambers, cattle sale yards and for purchase of machinery, etc.

Valuer: Mr. J. Doust.

Overseer: Mr. T.A. Brooks of Chinchilla Shire in Qld. Be appointed.

Leading Hands: W.R. Burns, W. Burton, Andrew Wilcox, G.A. Armstrong, Jas. Connoley, D. Gibbons and W.G. Higgins appointed.

Chief Secretary to be asked to lift the restrictions at present in existence with regard to the destruction of kangaroos, wallabies and wallaroos for 6 months because of great damage to fences and growing crops

Council Meeting – 31st July, 1920

Forestry Commission intend to dedicate 8,000 acres in the locality of the Kanangra

Walls Road as State Forest, which would become ratable.

20,000 trout fry to be sent for Duckmaloi and Fish Rivers.

Second Peace Loan of £4,000 is Shire Quota.

T.A. Brooks to commence as Overseer on 2nd August.

Cattle Slaughtering Licence granted to A.R. Cunynghame.

Council Meeting – 28th August, 1920

45 cans of trout fry liberated in Duckmaloi and Fish River with a further consignment expected within a few days.

Complaint re teamsters camping and feeding their horses in the main streets of town. Overseer to take action.

Action to be taken to have Oberon made a weather station.

Local telephone subscribers want local exchange hours lengthened to be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Progress Association to be asked to inform Council as to proposed area it was intended to embrace and number of persons that would be liable for fees if sanitary and garbage service were established.

From H.R.H., the Prince of Wales, thanking President and Council for their splendid work during the term of the War.

The Overseer, T.A. Brooks, to act as Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Nuisances and Impounding Officer.

Council Meeting – 25th September, 1920

Post Master General informed Council that its request for a daily delivery of mail in Oberon and extension of telephone exchange hours would be considered.

Chief Secretary informed Council that Saturday, 25th September had been proclaimed a day on which kangaroos, wallabies and wallaroos could be destroyed in the Parishes of Bolton, Crete, Jocelyn and

Oberon and that the matter of proclaiming further days would be considered.

Quotations received from Gas Light Co. and Messrs Brandt Bros. relative to purchase of lamp posts and lamps. Information to be sent to Local Progress Association.

Council Meeting – 23rd October, 1920

Final distribution of trout fry has been made and owing to the scarcity thereof, no further consignment could be sent for distribution in the Duckmaloi River.

Further destruction of kangaroos, etc. open day to be 16th October, 1920.

Number of letters received at Oberon did not permit a daily delivery of mails.

Marthaguy Shire asked Council's co-operation in having all motor licence fees collected and paid to each district in which they were licenced.

W. Austin Dapto asked Council for an opinion as to the prospects for establishment of a newspaper in the district.

Clerk take necessary action to prevent loads over weight being carried on various bridges within the Shire.

Council Meeting – 20th November, 1920

Because of the great growth of grass in the Shire there is considerable danger of disastrous bush fires and Council decided that they would draw the attention of residents to the danger and that they be requested to form Bush Fire Brigades in each centre to minimize the danger.

Clerk informed Council that machine guns were available from the State Trophy Committee for O'Connell, Hazelgrove, Bloom Hill, Wisemans Creek, Edith and The Mount and arrangements have been made to hand them over.

P.M.G. refused the request for telephone exchanges to be open until 9 p.m. unless Council deposited the sum of £50 as a guarantee against the increased cost of providing the facility. The contribution to be reduced to the extent of the additional

revenue from local and trunk line calls. Matter referred to Progress Association so that local subscribers who desired the extension could take advantage of the offer.

L.J. McKenzie asked Council what weight of load he would be allowed to carry with his traction engine. Weight over bridges or culverts should not exceed 12 tons.

Council Meeting – 18th December, 1920

Noxious plants to be proclaimed within the Shire are Star Thistle, Hemlock, Bathurst Burr and Pattersons Curse.

Printed copies of Ordinance 70A to be handed to persons making application to build and the provisions be strictly enforced.

Rates abandoned = £48.4.6.

Clerk to make necessary arrangements with regard to the Oath of Allegiance to be taken by Councillors.

Letter of appreciation to be sent to Sgt. Grady in appreciation of his services whilst in occupancy of the Officer-in-Charge position at Oberon Police Station.

Special Council Meeting – 18th December, 1920

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor E. Robinson.

Finance, Health and Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole.

Estimates for 1921 attached.

1921

Council Meeting – 15th January, 1921

Govt. Meteorologist refused Council's request to have a daily weather report posted at the G.P.O.

Councillors elected prior to 1921 would not need to take the Oath of Allegiance.

C. Antony of Crookwell granted Hawker's Licence.

Sgt. E. Genner appointed Inspector under the C.S.D.A. & M. Act in lieu of Sgt. Grady.

Council to control the erection of structures of inflammable material and charge necessary fee.

Council Meeting – 12th February, 1921

Delegates to this year's Shires Conference be Cr. Richards and Shire Clerk.

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1921

Expenditure for the year exceeded income by £152.15.7 and it was recommended that outstanding accounts of £303.4.4 be collected.

Fisheries Dept. asked for report as to the acclimatisation of trout in Oberon streams.

B.A. Heffernan resigned as Consulting Engineer and then changed his mind.

Wallarobba Shire asking Council's co-operation in having Gun Licences Act amended and to provide that boys under 16 be allowed to learn to shoot. Agreed, as long as boys under 16 were prevented from carrying revolvers.

Shires Association Conference to be on 31st May and following days.

Council Meeting – 16th April, 1921

Essington, Balfour and Gurnang Schools be written off as they were unoccupied.

Father Casey asked permission to erect a motor shed at the Presbytery.

Council Meeting 7th May, 1921

Locks to be purchased for Oberon and O'Connell Pounds after stock released.

Council's portable engine be advertised for sale with a view to purchasing a caterpillar tractor which would draw the plant and the grader.

Council Meeting 11th June, 1921

Health Officer, Bathurst, reported cases of diphtheritic croup and diphtheria. All necessary action taken.

Manning Shire asked for co-operation in asking the Minister for Education to have the Union Jack flown at all public schools and the children taught to salute it daily.

Turon Shire Council asked for co-operation in having an overhead bridge erected at Kelso on the Oberon-Bathurst Road.

Council Meeting – 2nd July, 1921

Another case of diphtheria reported in the Shire.

S.W. Bailey granted Slaughtering Licence.

Council to write to Education Department with regard to the condition of the residence provided for the public schoolteacher at Hazelgrove.

Council Meeting – 30th July, 1921

Clerk to make application for trout fry to be released into the Fish, Tuglow, Duckmaloi and Hollander Rivers.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor for the coming year.

A.R. Cunynghame had his Slaughtering and Butcher's Shop licences renewed.

Council Meeting – 27th August, 1921

Complaints received in reference to owners of motor cars carrying passengers without first having obtained a licence and also to the matter of vehicles being driven on roads and within the township at night without the necessary lights.

Complaint about prevalence of cattle camping on footpaths in the town.

Trout to arrive in September for release into Fish, Duckmaloi, Tuglow and Hollander Rivers.

Department of Education informed Council that the Hazelgrove teacher's residence was not owned by the Department and that at present there was no money available to build a new residence.

Waterloo Council asked for Council's co-operation in endeavouring to have all vehicles registered and to carry a number plate. Council opposed to proposition.

Council Meeting 24th September - 1921

The matter of Council acquiring the control of the Town Common and the Oberon Park was discussed and it was decided to ascertain from the Trustees the particulars of the revenue to be derived from the Common and to acquaint both the Park and Common Trustees of Council's intention to consider the question of asking for control of the areas.

The Clerk was directed to enquire into the matter of purchasing or leasing suitable cattle sale yards within the area.

State Fisheries consigned 9,600 trout fry to Oberon for release in the Fish and Duckmaloi Rivers and asking in what condition they arrived. The fry had landed in very bad condition, a large percentage having died. This was attributed to the fact that instead of being consigned to Tarana by mail train as in previous consignments, this lot was forwarded by goods train which did not reach Tarana until 8 a.m., thus delaying the arrival of the Fish at Oberon until 1 p.m. instead of 4 a.m. as in previous years. The day being warm, also contributed to the loss.

Local Government conveyed instructions as to the methods to be adopted to prevent bubonic plague. Council to call attention of householders to the necessity of destroying rats where possible.

Council Meeting – 22nd October, 1921

Clerk presented a statement showing the revenue and expenditure of the town for the past 14 years. Amounts were as follows:

Oberon Street Maintenance and Construction: £726.2.0

Queen Street Maintenance and Construction: £214.6.1

Destruction noxious weeds, repairs to other streets, pound yard.

Road notice boards, etc, not including purchase, additions and repairs to Council Chambers: £70

Total Expenditure: £1,010.81

Rates levied during period: £724.10.10

Excess of expenditure over rates: £285.17.3.

27 cans of trout fry to be released into the Duckmaloi River.

Joseph Pratley granted Cattle Slaughtering Licence.

Trustees of Oberon Park advised that as the present Trustees had done all the pioneering work in creating the existing park from a thick bush to its present condition and intended to effect more improvements in the near future, that they would not care to, at present, relinquish their trust. Council decided that no further action would be taken in connection with applying for transfer of the Trust.

2 cases of Infantile Paralysis were reported.

Resident Engineer Tarana Oberon Line asked if Council could meet the Chief Engineer for Railway Construction to confer relative to sidings on the line.

Council Meeting – 19th November, 1921

A report was given about the meeting with the Chief Engineer for Railway Construction in connection with sidings on the Tarana Oberon Line. It was decided that there would be one siding at Snakes Valley Creek, where the Old Tarana Road crosses the line, and one near Hazelgrove, where the line crosses the road from Bathurst Road to Hazelgrove.

A “turnout” was purchased for the Overseer. Overseer to keep a record of the cost to Council of feed, shoeing, repairs, etc. for 3 months so that an estimate of the allowance to be granted for that purpose could be ascertained.

Shire Clerk appointed as Valuer for the coming year at a fee of £15.

An estimate has been received for the lighting of Oberon streets with 6 electric lights covering a distance of 10 chains = £850.

The Health Department sent instructions on how to prevent cancer.

“The Common” Trustees advised they had no desire to relinquish their Trust.

B.A. Heffernan, Consulting Engineer, was informed his services were no longer required.

Council Meeting – 17th December, 1921

Rates and interest to be abandoned = £125.18.11.

Councillors’ travelling expenses increased to 1/- per mile each way and 9 (pounds or shillings not stated) per hour for subsistence allowance.

Estimates for 1922 as per attached.

Glyndwr Estate subdivided 30 years ago.

Mr. E. Pickering granted permission to erect a dairy.

B.A. Heffernan refused to accept dismissal from his position as Consulting Engineer.

A letter from the Local Government Engineers’ Union advised that Council

would, under Section 90, either have to suspend the Engineer or order an enquiry into the matter of retaining his services or not. Consideration of matter held over to next meeting.

From 24th November, owing to reduction of the basic wage, salaries of Engineer, Clerk, Overseer and Labourers would be reduced by 3/- per week.

Minister for Lands to be asked to reduce the area of the existing Recreation Reserve at Jenolan consisting of 12,000 acres, that portion would be available for grazing purposes,

Special Council Meeting – 17th December, 1921

Presidential Allowance - £12.10.0.

Shire President: 2 nominations – Crs. Robinson and Richards. In a draw Councillors C.E. Richards was elected Shire President.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor E. Robinson.

1922

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1922

The Shire President referred to the necessity of evolving a scheme for lighting the township of Oberon, the establishment of a sanitary system and also to the need to advertise the district as a tourist resort.

A rate of 2 d. in the £ was confirmed.

Oberon Co-operative Dairying Co. to be allowed to run a set of pipes along Prince Street to drain surplus water on to land to be purchased by them and permission was granted provided that the water was in no way allowed to interfere with the watercourse on which the town pump was situated.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1922

President and Clerk attended official opening of Recreation Hall at Jenolan Caves.

The matter of sending letters of sympathy in all cases was discussed. It was pointed out that in the past, the custom had been to send letters where the matter was brought to the notice of Council but that in many instances several families had inadvertently been overlooked, thereby causing offence where none was intended. President moved that in future letters of sympathy be sent to the relatives of public servants or persons of public standing.

It was decided to re-instate Consulting Engineer, B.A. Heffernan, because the Act provided for the employment of an Engineer by every Council and that if the dismissal was gone on with, the Council could be compelled to employ the services of another Engineer.

President and Clerk to attend Shires Association Conference on 9th May.

Council to secure a road plough on trial.

1923

Minutes of Council Meetings from 11th
March, 1922 until the end of December
1923 have gone missing.

1924

Council Meeting – 5th January, 1924

Councillors: W.H. or A. Bailey,
Brennan, A.L. Hughes, Robinson & Wilcox.

President at this time: Cr. C.E. Richards.

President advised that he had inspected the new road to Hazelgrove Station and was of the opinion that an excellent job had been made of it.

President also suggested that an application be made to the Lands Dept. for the reservation of 4 acres at Sancho's Hole on the Campbells River for future recreation purposes.

There was an Acting Clerk.

The Health Inspector reported that he had carefully considered the matter of a sanitary system and had received valuable information from a metropolitan sanitary contractor regarding the working of a plant. It was agreed that a man would be engaged for 3 days a week only on sanitary service so consequently it could be carried out at a cost not exceeding 1/3 per pan per week. He strongly recommended that a sanitary service be installed. This has been referred to a sub-committee consisting of the President, Crs. Wilcox and Brennan, the Acting Clerk and the Inspector, for report.

A Consulting Engineer attended this meeting.

A rate of 2 d. in £ was confirmed.

Mr. S.E. Marsden appointed Shire Clerk taking up his duties from 2nd February, 1924.

Rates abandoned = £26.8.6.

The Common Trustees advising they would be agreeable to allow Council 2 acres of land, adjoining the present rubbish tip, for the purpose of a sanitary depot. Council to bear any expense in the fencing, etc.

Council Meeting – 2nd February, 1924

Mr. A.E. Wilcox appointed Trustee of Unsectarian Burial Ground.

Mr. F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor.

Council Meeting – 1st March, 1924

President reported his attendance at a meeting with the Soldiers' Memorial Committee when it was decided to ask Council to consider the advisability of erecting new Council Chambers and Hall, together with room for Soldiers' Club, the Committee to contribute half the cost.

Clerk given permission to destroy the records which are not required.

Shire Clerk to get someone to clean up the office periodically.

Shire President to attend Shires Conference this year.

Council Meeting – 29th March, 1924

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 3rd May, 1924

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 24th May, 1924

Honour Roll not complete and would like to see a full one made out. Full list of names to be made out.

Building Inspector to be given power to give provisional permission to building applications coming between meetings.

Plan of the Southern Cross Hall submitted by Rev. O'Reilly approved, subject to the Theatres & Halls Act.

Application be made for the delivery of letters within the town of Oberon.

Council Meeting – 21st June, 1924

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 19th July, 1924

Public Meeting held with regard to the lighting of the main street and the public had agreed to provide the poles and lamps and suggested Council to subsidise for the lighting. Committee to be appointed to look into the matter and grant permission.

President, Cr. Wilcox, Clerk and Overseer be appointed to a Committee to look into the matter of erection of poles and wires and grant permission, if suitable.

Slaughtering and Butcher's Shop Licences granted to A. Fitzpatrick and A.R.D. Cunynghame.

President empowered to inform the Soldiers Memorial Committee that Council will grant them a portion of the ground provided the Government's consent to such grant is obtained on condition that a room be available for Council Meetings.

Council Meeting – 16th August, 1924

Soldier's Memorial Committee asked to meet with Council. The proposal is to sell the present site and obtain the site opposite the Wesleyan Church. President would like them to build on the present site and Council to grant £100 towards the building.

Council Meeting – 13th September, 1924

President and Cr. Bailey to attend Noxious Weeks Conference in Bathurst as delegates.

Permission granted to Mrs. Jessop to collect subscriptions for the X Ray outfit for Bathurst Hospital.

Council Meeting – 11th October, 1924

Clerk recommended that representations be made to the Tourist Bureau to have Oberon included in the Tourist District and the issuing of round tickets to the Jenolan Caves via Oberon, the same as is done via Mt. Victoria and other towns.

Council Meeting 8th November, 1924

Opium Poppy declared a noxious weed throughout the State.

Special Council Meeting – 6th December, 1924

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor Richards.

Council Meeting – 6th December, 1924

Estimates for 1925:

Proposed Expenditure out of General Fund
£4,393

Amount in hand available for such expenditure
Nil

Amount of other revenue likely to be available
£1,870

Amount required to be raised
£2,523

U.C.V. of all ratable land within the Shire
£302,724

Rate proposed – 2 d. in £ on U.C.V.

S.J. Cunynghame resigned as Pound Keeper.

Resolved that the Soldiers Memorial Committee be informed that Council will allow them to build on the present site of the Council Chambers and give them £100 towards the building providing the Council has the right of the office and chambers, as owing to the financial position of the Council, this is the best offer that can be made. A further resolution read "that a second offer be made to the Committee informing them at the Council is willing to give £100 and, if allowed to sell the present site, the proceeds be handed to the Soldiers Memorial, provided the Council has the use of it and the deeds be in the name of the Council." This also was carried.

Council approved a "seat and Disinfecter" submitted by the Sanitary Seat Mfg. Co.

In co-operation with The Common Trustees, Council agreed to appoint Mr. James Rawson as Impounding Officer at a fee of 5/- per week.

1925

Council Meeting – 10th January, 1925

President and Clerk attended meeting in Bathurst with regard to the Great Western Road and a resolution was passed that steps be taken to urge the Government to make the Great Western Highway the main road to the west.

Resolution passed making the rate for the year and also resolution needed fixing the price for the sanitary and garbage service.

Fee for the sanitary and garbage service to be 19/6 per quarter for one service weekly to each premises and at the same rate for any additional service or services, and payment of fees must be in advance.

S.J. Cunynghame re-appointed Pound Keeper at Oberon.

A.H. Morgan resigned as Pound Keeper at O'Connell.

Council Meeting – 31st January, 1925

Endeavour to try to have the Great Western Road pass through Lithgow, Tarana, etc. to cut out some of the very hilly parts.

Council Meeting – 28th February, 1925

President and Clerk to represent Council at the Shires Conference.

The Council to co-operate with the Soldiers Memorial Committee in the erection of a combined Council Chambers and Memorial to the extent of £100 per year for 5 years, provided the Deeds are in the Council's name.

Council Meeting – 28th March, 1925

Area Commissioner had practically promised the erection of a weighbridge at the Railway Station.

Council to rent a team of bullocks, with the option of buying.

O'Connell Progress Association asked for an "Avenue of Trees". Their request acceded to and survey to be carried out.

Offer of Railway Estate Agent of £52 to construct the road from Scotia Avenue to Herborn Street be accepted, subject to the Council not being liable for any compensation.

Slaughtering Licence granted to J.A. Green.

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor at £15.15.0.

Mr. Brooks appointed Valuer at £10.

Council Meeting – 2nd May, 1925

Notice be given to both hotel keepers to discontinue placing rubbish at the back of their premises.

Tender be called for cleaning the streets and back lanes of rubbish.

Council Meeting – 23rd May, 1925

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 20th June, 1925

S.J. Cunynghame resigned as Pound Keeper. President and Clerk to try and get another one.

Permission granted to O'Connell Progress Assocn. to plant trees on the roadway, with the exception of the narrow part of the road, and it be left with the Engineer or Overseer to arrange where.

C. Sheppard granted permission to erect a power house at Southern Cross Hall.

C. Fox granted permission to erect a Butcher's Shop in Oberon Street.

Council Meeting – 18th July, 1925

Consulting Engineer, B.A. Heffernan, resigned as he had been appointed Engineer to the Wallarobbal Shire.

Slaughtering Licences granted to S.W. Bailey, J.A. Green, A.F. Fitzpatrick and A.R. Cunynghame.

Council Meeting – 15th August, 1925

William Jess appointed Pound Keeper for O'Connell.

Council Meeting – 12th September, 1925

Electoral Rolls to be typed, 25 copies at a cost of about £5. A charge of 2/6 be made for each copy supplied to anyone requiring same.

Permission granted to Miss Fox to demolish and re-erect the shed at the Imperial Stores.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1925

Mr. Hunning, Engineer for Abercrombie Shire, has offered to come as Consulting Engineer for £125 per year, such to include travelling expenses for 800 miles, anything over to be paid for at the rate of 7 d, per mile and any under to be deducted at the same rate.

Abandoned rates = £141.19.9.

Estate Late A. Fox granted permission for additions to store in Oberon Street .

Council Meeting – 24th October, 1925

Clerk, Mr. Marsden, appointed Returning Officer for election on 5th December at a fee of £12.12.0 and Mr. Chudleigh Substitute Returning Officer at £5.5.0.

Council Meeting – 21st November, 1925

Mr. E. English asked for further particulars with regard to the erection of the petrol pump.

Sanitary Contractor to be told not to empty the pans anywhere except at the Depot.

Special Council Meeting – 19th December, 1925

New Councillors: S.M. McKibbin, H.V. Stevenson and Murphy.

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: 2 nominations – ballot for position – Cr. E. Robinson elected.

Council Meeting – 19th December, 1925

Permission granted to Mr. English to install a bowser at the Brighton Hotel provided that a fee is chargeable to pay same.

All Committees to consist of the whole Council.

1926

Council Meeting – 16th January, 1926

Frank Cunynghame appointed Pound Keeper for Oberon.

Council Chambers to be opened at 9 a.m. instead of 9.30 a.m. Mondays to Fridays and closed on Saturdays except on Council Meeting days.

Council to subsidise the Oberon Branch of the Bathurst Ambulance with £10 per year.

From A. Charles re alterations to Rutters Hall and permission to erect a bowser pump. Permission granted subject to Building and Health Acts.

Council Meeting – 13th February, 1926

Place notice in paper that all vehicles plying for hire within the Shire must pay their Licences and the Police be asked to assist.

C. Morgan asked permission to install a bowser. Granted, subject to approval of Overseer.

Miss C.B. Fox asked permission to install a bowser at the Imperial Stores. Granted, subject to approval of Overseer.

An application was made to the Chief Secretary to prevent the use of wax matches within the Shire during the summer months.

Council Meeting - 13th March, 1926

Mr. F.J. Tonkin re-appointed as Auditor @ £15.15.0.

Overseer to commence kerbing and guttering in Oberon Street.

Federation of Australian Industries asked that, when Council granted permission for kerbside petrol pumps, to stipulate that Australian made pumps are to be used.

J.M. Condon asked permission to install a bowser in front of the O'Connell Hotel. Granted, subject to the approval of the Overseer.

A. English asked permission to install a bowser in the main street. Granted, subject to the approval of the Overseer.

Council Meeting – 10th April, 1926

J.A. Green asked for his Slaughtering and Shop Licences to be transferred to F. Parker.

C. Ellis and E. English asked permission to erect motor garages. Granted, subject to the Building Act.

Council Meeting – 8th May, 1926

Chief Secretary forwarded proclamation prohibiting the sale and use of other than safety matches from 1st October each year until 31st March in the succeeding year.

Council to purchase new grader, 2 scoops and a plough as recommended by the Overseer and also Overseer instructed to purchase a new horse.

Council Meeting – 5th June, 1926

Overseer asked to prepare a comprehensive report on the yearly cost of running a steam roller, together with the work it would do.

S.J. Hunnings tendered his resignation as Consulting Engineer.

Council Meeting – 2nd July, 1926

Council to purchase a steam roller, as recommended by the Overseer, subject to a trial on the conditions submitted.

Special Council Meeting – 15th July, 1926

T.A. Brooks resigned as Overseer and Health Officer.

Council Meeting – 30th July, 1926

Council to appoint E.W. Priddle as Consulting Engineer, subject to the approval of the Minister.

Mr. A. Bailey granted renewal of his Slaughtering Licence.

F.L. Parker and A.R.D. Cunynghame granted renewals of their Shop and Slaughtering Licences.

A. Charles granted permission for a bowser and a sign over the footpath. Granted on the usual conditions.

W. Burns appointed Acting Overseer.

Council Meeting – 27th August, 1926

A policy for boiler explosion be taken out on the roller for £1,400. Motor Traders' Association asked Council to only grant permission for the erection of petrol pumps outside legitimate motor trading houses.

A.F. Fitzpatrick granted renewal of his Slaughtering and Shop Licences.

Progress Association asked to be supplied with information regarding proposed scheme of lighting the streets of Oberon, especially with regard to cost and how the cost would have to be defrayed. Council advised that it had no definite information with regard to street lighting, but that some years ago the Council and the public went thoroughly into the matter but found it too costly, also that the cost would have to be defrayed by an extra rate on the property within the lighting area.

Council Meeting – 24th September, 1926

Progress Association asked for Council's co-operation in endeavouring to obtain a bounty from the Fisheries Department for the destruction of cormorants. Agreed.

Council to apply to several firms to obtain the cost of a system of lighting Oberon streets.

W.R. Burns appointed Building Inspector and he be given power to grant provisional permission for the erection of buildings.

Council Meeting – 22nd October, 1926

The Clerk informed Council that they were very short of funds and thought in a short time the men would have to be "knocked off".

Council Meeting – 19th November, 1926

A. Sambrook forwarded plans and specifications of the proposed Memorial and Council Chambers. Plan and specification accepted.

Sanitary Contract transferred from W.A. Watkins & W. Osborne to W. Osborne.

Special Council Meeting – 17th December, 1926

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor H.V. Stevenson.

Council Meeting – 17th December, 1926

Progress Association to be advised that there is to be a conference on street lighting with regard to obtaining electric light from the Government.

Application be made to the Minister for permission to sell the present site of the Council Chambers, Council to occupy same until proposed memorial is erected.

1927

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1927

W.R. Burns appointed Health Inspector at salary of £10 p.a.

The Pound Keeper at O'Connell be asked to resign.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1927

Local Government Dept. asked what is the minimum price the Council would accept for the Council Chambers site. £400.

Council Meeting – 11th March, 1927

Council asked to co-operate in preventing racing motorists from carrying out record breaking speed tests on roads. Agreed.

Council Meeting – 8th April, 1927

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor - £15.15.0.

Rates abandoned = £107.14.1.

Council given Governor's permission to sell the present Council Chambers site by auction.

Council Meeting – 6th May, 1927

Meeting called for those who have electric light plants.

Building Application received from C. Harding for alterations to the Royal Hotel. Plan passed, subject to the Licensing Board's approval.

Council Meeting – 3rd June, 1927

£10 donated to Bathurst Ambulance.

F. Cunynghame resigned as Oberon Pound Keeper. J.C. Wilcox appointed in his stead.

Council Meeting – 1st July, 1927

Licences granted to A. Bailey, A. Fitzpatrick, A.R. Cunynghame and F. Parker.

Council Meeting – 29th July, 1927

J.H. Thompson granted permission to erect bowser.

An call for architects to tender for the building (Soldier's Memorial Committee and Council Chambers)

P. & C. granted permission to plant trees in Dudley Street.

Council Meeting – 26th August, 1927

Only 2 tenders received for new Chambers and Memorial Hall. Fresh tenders to be called, provided the Soldier's Memorial Committee agrees.

Special Council Meeting – 2nd September, 1927

Engineer instructed to prepare plans and specifications for a bridge at O'Connell.

Engineer instructed to prepare plans and specifications for a bridge over the Little River on the Goulburn Road.

Council asked for completion of the telephone line from Porters Retreat to Paling Yards, as there is only about 12 miles to complete the connection between Jenolan Caves and Wombeyan Caves.

Council Meeting – 23rd September, 1927

Tender of J. Newton accepted provisionally on the approval of the Memorial Committee for the Memorial Hall and Council Chambers.

Selling of present Council Chamber site be placed in the hands of H.C. Cunynghame for sale on 22nd October, subject to tender being accepted by Memorial Committee.

Sale to be left in the hands of President to do best possible.

Council Meeting – 21st October, 1927

Mr. Logue congratulated on the report of the Boiler Inspector for the road roller who informed Council it is the best looked after job that he has inspected and that Council had an exceptionally good man looking after it.

Council Meeting – 18th November, 1927

Nothing

Council Meeting 17th December, 1927

Nothing.

Special Council Meeting – 17th December, 1927

Presidential Allowance: £25

President: H.V. Stevenson.

1928

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1928

2 d. in £ on U.C.V. of all ratable property in Shire.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1928

Memorial and new Council Chambers: Agreement signed and Council Seal attached. Memorial Stone be of Marble and the names of the fallen put on, estimates be obtained for fencing at the building, with galvanized piping and wire.

Clerk instructed to obtain quotes for about 6 light cars.

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1928

A Sanitary and Garbage Service fee of 1/3 per pan per week to commence from 1st January, 1928.

Council to purchase a Cletrac Trawler Tractor and Britstand Scarifier Grader from British Standard Machinery Co., subject to satisfactory trial.

Council Meeting – 31st March, 1928

Quote for fence at Memorial Hall @ 12/- per chain be accepted.

Shire Conference – 22nd May and following days.

Soldiers Memorial Committee asked Council to co-operate in a United Service on Anzac Day. Agreed.

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor @ 20 guineas.

Steam engine purchase for £165.

Council Meeting – 5th May, 1928

Tender for erection of 2 lavatories at the new building be accepted, subject to the approval of the Memorial Committee and a screen to be erected around one.

A brick wall, 2 ft. high, and fabric fence, be erected in front and on side of new building.

A Chevrolet car to be purchased on £48.6.8 deposit, balance on 2 yearly instalments and car be insured for £150 on a comprehensive policy.

Council Meeting – 2nd June, 1928

Annual subscription sent to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 30th June, 1928

Soldiers Memorial Committee willing to pay extra cost of £35, over the scheduled price, for mural panel.

A.J. Morgan applied for permission to erect an Atlantic Union Petrol Bowser. Granted as long as the bowser is erected to the satisfaction of the Overseer.

Slaughtering Licences granted to A.F. Fitzpatrick, A.P. Callaghan, Smith & Foster and A.R. Cunynghame.

Council Meeting – 28th July, 1928

New building and shed to be insured for £1,700 with United Insurance Co.

E. English granted permission for 2 petrol bowsers at garage in main street, subject to satisfaction of the Overseer.

Council Meeting – 25th August, 1928

J.C. Wilcox resigned as Pound Keeper.

Council Meeting – 22nd September, 1928

Soldiers Memorial Committee invited Councillors to the opening of the Memorial Building on 3rd October.

Council Meeting – 20th October, 1928

Shire Clerk to be Returning Officer @
£12.12.0 and Substitute Returning Officer @
£5.5.0.

Bicentenary of Captain Cook Celebration
Committee – owing to lateness of Council
Meeting, time not allowed for any
celebration.

Western Area Commissioner forwarded
particulars of the “Reso” Train.

C.J. Harding applied for permission to
install a septic tank on his property.

Request from L. Anstiss to erect garage and
C.J. Harding to make extension to dining
room at Royal Hotel.

**Council Meeting – 17th November,
1928**

Nothing.

**Special Council Meeting – 12th
December, 1928:**

Presidential Allowance: £25.

President: Councillor Mc.Kibbin.

**Council Meeting – 12th December,
1928**

All Committees to be Committees of the
Whole Council.

1929

Council Meeting – 12th January, 1929

Purchase of scoop @ 430.

Sale of bullock team in hands of Overseer to make the best sale he can over £9 per head.

Building application from J.H. Thompson to erect Motor Garage.

Council Meeting 9th February, 1929

Application for 21st February to be proclaimed a public holiday for the English Cricketers at Bathurst.

Council Meeting – 9th March, 1929

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor.

Postal Dept. officer advised the Post Office would be closed between 1 – 2 p.m. each day, but facilities would be available for telegraph business between those hours, also Office to be closed at 1 p.m. on Saturdays, country mails to go out and back on Friday instead of Saturdays.

Progress Association asking for a swimming pool. Mr. Priddle asked to submit an estimate and report.

Mr. Charles requested permission to erect Atlantic Bowser. Agreed, provided to the satisfaction of the Overseer.

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1929

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 4th May, 1929

Usual £10 annual contribution to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 1st June, 1929

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 29th June, 1929

Progress Association to be advised that the matter of silent cops be left in abeyance until the streets are lighted, and that Council has received legal advice that it would be liable should any accident occur.

A.P. Callaghan, A.R. Cunynghame, A.F. Fitzpatrick and H.A. Foster be granted Cattle Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting – 3rd August, 1929

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 24th August, 1929

Application to be made to the Railway Commissioners for a loading dump to be put in at Carlwood Station.

Letter to be written to C.A. Kelly, M.L.A., asking him to use his best endeavours to have an electric cable run from Tarana to Oberon for the purpose of supplying electricity from the bulk supply at Lithgow.

Council Meeting – 21st September, 1929

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 19th October, 1929

A.H. & P. Association asking for closing of Dillon Street. Advised that if they can obtain the consent of the adjoining owners, Council will consider the matter.

Council Meeting – 16th November, 1929

Mr. J. Wilson appointed as Council's solicitor.

**Special Council Meeting – 14th
December, 1929**

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Councillor S. McKibbin.

**Council Meeting – 14th December,
1929**

A.H. & P. Asscn. put in building
application to change the Publican's Booth
and Fruit Stall. Approved – with provisos.

1930

Council Meeting – 11th January, 1930

Letter to be written to J.B. Chifley, M.P., asking him to endeavour to obtain a through telephone line from Oberon to Porters Retreat.

General rate of 2 d. in £ on U.C.V.

Council Meeting – 8th February, 1930

Deputation from Progress Association asking that Engineer go into the matter of a swimming pool for Oberon. Pool to be about 40 yards x 25 yards, 8 ft. deep at deepest end and 3 ft. deep at shallow end. Engineer to be asked to submit a scheme for a swimming pool below the Town Well.

Area Commissioner would not hear of having the goods shed removed from Tarana to Oberon, but promised to have goods yard extended.

J.C. Wilcox offered to be Pound Keeper as long as the pound yards are repaired. Yards to be repaired at a cost of £10, and Mr. Wilcox to be appointed Pound Keeper.

L.G. Cunynghame granted Butcher's Shop Licence, subject to usual conditions.

Council Meeting – 15th March, 1930

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor.

Licence Fees for Barbers Shops to be 2/6 per annum.

Sgt. H.H. Buchan appointed Inspector under the C.S. & D.A. and Meat Act.

Council Meeting – 5th April, 1930

The Town Clerk, Yass Council asked for open season on opossums. Council to co-operate.

Council Meeting – 3rd May, 1930

Barber's Shop Licence granted to C.J. Livermore.

Council Meeting – 24th May, 1930

Bathurst Ambulance - £5 donation.

Air gas plant to be placed through the Council building.

Council Meeting – 28th June, 1930

Returned Soldiers and Sailors League – picture – landing of Anzacs – to be handed to Memorial Committee.

A.F. Fitzgerald, A.R.D. Cunynghame, L.G. Cunynghame and P.R. Larnach granted Licences.

A.P. Callaghan granted Licence, subject to Inspector's approval.

Council Meeting – 26th July, 1930

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 23rd August, 1930

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 20th September, 1930

T. Hollis offered £2 for the old counter and desk. Accepted.

Sanitary Contract – W. Osborne won at 1/- per pan.

Council Meeting – 18th October, 1930

Barber's Shop Licence granted to E.E. Ryan.

Council Meeting – 15th November, 1930

Nothing.

**Special Council Meeting – 13th
December, 1930:**

Presidential Allowance - £25.

Shire President: Councillor S. McKibbin.

**Council Meeting – 13th December,
1930**

All Committees to consist of the whole
Council.

**Special Council Meeting – 24th
December, 1930**

Nothing.

1931

Council Meeting – 10th January, 1931

Rubbish Depot be fenced in. Matter left in hands of Overseer to do best he can.

Council Meeting – 7th February, 1931

Talk of replacing the Cletrac with a Caterpillar for £450.

Letter from New States League re Parliaments.

Council Meeting – 28th February, 1931

J. Wilson has Cunynghame Subdivision approved.

Council Meeting – 28th March, 1931

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed as Auditor.

Const. Williams appointed Slaughtering Inspector under Cattle Slaughtering & Diseased Animals & Meat Act.

Sanitary Services to be 1/1 per pan.

Council Meeting – 24th April, 1931

Overseer to inspect Charles Hall and report to the Chief Secretary.

£5 donated to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 30th May, 1931

Mr. Osborne given permission to erect shed at Sanitary Depot and given tenant rights.

N.R.M.A. wrote re petrol prices.

Const. F.G. Williams appointed Slaughter House Inspector for O'Connell Police Patrol.

Permission given to the Bowling Club to make a Bowling Green on the Council Grounds.

Council Meeting – 27th June, 1931

Shire Clerk appointed Valuer @ £10 for each of 3 years.

V.P. Collins, A.R.D. Cunynghame and A.F. Fitzpatrick granted Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting – 25th July, 1931

Clerk instructed to accept this year's rates by instalments.

Council Meeting – 22nd August, 1931

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 19th September, 1931

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 17th October, 1931

Shire Clerk, Mr. Marsden, appointed Returning Officer @ £6.6.0 and Substitute Returning Officer - £3.3.0.

Council Meeting – 14th November, 1931

Letter from War Memorial Office re portrait of St. John Monash. Letter to Memorial Committee.

Special Council Meeting – 12th December, 1931

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Councillor S. McKibbin.

Council Meeting – 12th December, 1931

G. Eather – permission to erect garage on usual conditions.

All Committees consist of the whole Council.

1932

Council Meeting – 9th January, 1932

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 6th February, 1932

Because of traffic problems on some roadworks, it was suggested that a flag be put at the end of each section of work being done.

Mt. Werong Common Trustees asking for a pound.

Mr. Priddle leaves

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1932

Mt. Werong Common Trustees advised that Council cannot grant permission for a pound.

Council has no objection to the transfer from W. Osborne to J. Jackson (on 1st April, 1932) for sanitary contract.

Council Meeting – 9th April, 1932

Mr. E.W. Priddle's resignation accepted with regret.

Council Meeting – 7th May, 1932

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 10th June, 1932

Clerk obtain prices for spark arrestors etc. on tractors.

Contribution of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 9th July, 1932

Slaughtering Licences renewed for A.P. Callaghan, V.P. Collins, A.F. Fitzpatrick, A.R.D. Cunynghame and J.E. Hotham.

Make application to Bathurst and Abercrombie Councils asking them to allow Mr. Priddle to be appointed joint Engineer to

this Council with theirs, the time for this Council to be limited to 25 days per year.

Council Meeting – 6th August, 1932

Council to ask Mulwaree Shire Council to co-operate with it in endeavouring to have the road on the hill on each side of the Abercrombie River improved and asking for a special grant for that purpose.

Council Meeting – 3rd September, 1932

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 1st October, 1932

Prisons Department be written to asking them to assist in repairing Shooters Hill Road.

S.E. Mawhood granted permission to erect a shed, subject to usual conditions.

Council Meeting – 29th October, 1932

Applications to be called for a part time Engineer, time to be limited to 25 days per year at a salary of £2.2.0 per day. Council to provide car at Oberon.

Council Meeting – 26th November, 1932

Application for position of Engineer be held over until next meeting.

Special Council Meeting – 10th December, 1932

Council notify Mr. J. Wilson they are dissatisfied with the conduct of a court case and his appointment as solicitor to the Council be cancelled.

**Special Council Meeting – 21st
December, 1932**

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Councillor S. McKibbin.

**Council Meeting – 21st December,
1932**

Possibility of half the Vale Creek Bridge going to Bathurst and other half to Oberon for replacement of the O'Connell Bridge.

Letter from S.E. Mawhood re street lighting. Offer accepted, provided work is carried out to the satisfaction of the Overseer. All Committees to be the whole Council.

Mr. J. O'Neill be appointed Engineer, subject to approval of the Turon Shire and Minister.

1933

Council Meeting – 21st January, 1933

Rate of 1 ¾ d. in £ on U.C.V.

Council Meeting – 22nd February, 1933:

P.P. Board to be asked to have the Alsation Dog declared a noxious animal.

Council Meeting – 18th March, 1933

F.J. Tonkin re-appointed Auditor at £21 per year.

Applications called for an Engineer at £367.10.0 p.a.

Council Meeting – 8th April, 1933

Mr. Anstiss be allowed to put in a petrol pump.

W.R. Burns (Overseer) resigned. Date of leaving be left in abeyance.

H.A. Cunynghame granted permission to erect a shop and slaughter house and licences for both, subject to the usual conditions.

Applications for Engineer be considered at next meeting.

Council Meeting – 12th May, 1933

Donation of £2 to Bathurst Ambulance.

Mr. J.W.F. Connan appointed Engineer.

Council Meeting – 10th June, 1933

J. Jackson's Sanitary Contract be extended for 3 years @ 11 d. per pan.

Slaughtering Licences for H.A. Cunynghame, V.P. Collins and A.F. Fitzpatrick renewed.

Engineer allowed use of car for private purposes at 4 d. per mile.

Council Meeting – 8th July, 1933

Engineer, Mr. Connan, be appointed Health Officer and Building Inspector at a salary of £10 p.a.

Council Meeting – 5th August, 1933

6 weeks sick leave granted to Shire Clerk, on Dr's Certificate, to spend in lower altitude.

Mr. Connan to be Acting Clerk while Clerk absent. (He is now Engineer, Acting Clerk, Health Officer and Building Inspector).

H.A. Cunynghame given permission to erect a motor shed.

C.R. Sheppard given tender for erection of machinery shed at a cost of £48.4.6.

Council Meeting – 2nd September, 1933

3,000 trout fry ordered for coming season.

Special Council Meeting – 9th September, 1933

Mr. Baillie Council's new solicitor.

Report on Shire Clerk.

Council Meeting – 29th September, 1933

Council authorized the Acting Shire Clerk to request Mr. J.W. Cook, auditor and accountant of Bathurst, to make an investigation of the defalcations of funds and furnish Council with a report at the earliest moment.

Sanitary charges increased to ¼ per service, such charge to be subject to a discount of 3 d. per service if the total amount of fees owing be paid within 21 days of service of notice of demand.

Shire Engineer to arrange fire and third party insurance on Council car and possible

disposal of car and replacement by a new utility truck.

Council has no objection to closing portion of Dillon Street and add this area to the Showground.

Council agreed to co-operate with Sutherland Shire Council in having telephone charges reduced.

Report re dismissal of Shire Clerk.

Position of Shire Clerk and a Committee be constituted to interview Messrs. C.P. Hendry and F.H. Rowe.

Council Meeting – 28th October, 1933

President and Acting Shire Clerk interviewed Mr. Marsden and conveyed Council's decision with regard to the lodging of a sufficient sum to cover the defalcations. Mr. Marsden had subsequently paid in £250. He was before the local court on the previous day and had been sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour, the sentence being suspended on his entrance into a recognizance to be of good behaviour for 2 years.

President had arranged to interview Messrs. Hendry and Rowe, but former did not appear and after interviewing Mr. Rowe was satisfied with his qualifications and suitability for the appointment.

Council approved the action of the Acting S.C. in accepting £240 from Mrs. Marsden on condition that the money be utilized to cover the amount of defalcations only.

Acting S.C. informed Mr. Marsden that Council is not prepared to accept his typewriter in full payment of his indebtedness for his contribution to superannuation payments but will offer to accept it at a value of £7 on condition he pay the balance in cash within 14 days. Failing settlement, the Acting S.C. to take proceedings for recovery of the amount.

Council to purchase a Ford model "40" 15 cwt. Utility fitted with solid leather upholstery for £192.10.0, such price including an allowance of £70 for the car at present in use.

Council co-operate with Hamilton Council with regard to the matters of standardization of hours, wages, etc. and the abolition of State Parliaments.

Fred H. Rowe appointed as Shire Clerk.

Council Meeting – 25th November, 1933

Copy of Marsden Trust Account attached.

Sanitary Fees reduced from 1/4 d. to 1/3 per service, with a rebate of 3d. per service if paid within 21 days from due date, as from 1st January, 1934 and that sanitary fees to be paid in advance, quarterly, from same date.

Co-operation of Police sought in riding of bikes on footpaths.

Speed limit of 20 m.p.h. for vehicles traveling in Oberon Street in order to minimize dust and danger, and co-operation of Police sought.

Council to proclaim a Town Improvement District of Oberon Township, including Springfield and Glendwyr (sic) Estates.

Shire Clerk granted special leave for 1 week for matrimonial purposes.

Steps to be taken to proclaim the Oberon Well as a Town Water Supply.

Council will give approval for the suspension of electric lights in the main street provided that each person desiring so to do make separate application to Council and the work be carried out to the satisfaction of the Shire Engineer.

J.C. Wilcox resigned as Pound Keeper.

Special Council Meeting – 15th December, 1933

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Cr. H.A. Cunynghame.

Vice President: Cr. S. McKibbin.

Finance & Works Committees to be whole Council.

**Council Meeting – 15th December,
1933**

J.C. Wilcox appointed as Pound Keeper and Impounding Officer within the boundaries within the Town of Oberon.

Report on Boundary for Impounding and Straying stock.

1934

Council Meeting – 27th January, 1934

Total Estimated Expenditure for 1934 =
£6,226.7.0

Total Estimated Income for 1934 =
£5,455.0.0

Estimated Deficit for 1934 =
£771.7.0

U.C.V. of £309,761.0.0 on 2d. in £ =
£2,581.6.10.

Stroud Shire asked for forest areas to be rateable.

Solicitor, Faulkener of Bathurst, to take such action as he may see fit, other than Court action, against Mr. F.J. Tonkin, Council's Auditor, in connection with the recovery of an amount computed by the Shire Clerk which the Council has been caused to expend in connection with recent investigations in regard to the late Shire Clerk, S.E. Marsden.

Council Meeting – 10th February, 1934

Presidential Allowance to be paid monthly in accordance with the Act, as no decision was made to pay the amount in any other manner.

Suitable person to clean Shire Offices left in hands of the Shire Clerk.

Council cannot permit stock owners to allow milking cows and working horses to stray on streets and that the impounding provisions be extended to and enforced within the whole Shire.

Council Meeting – 10th March, 1934

Defalcations tabled.

Town Improvement District and Town Improvement District Estimates.

Mr. G.A. Harris appointed caretaker of the O'Connell Bridge @ £5 p.a.

Auditor Tonkin paid £100 to settle Council's claim of £150 for expenses caused by his negligence. Application sought for Auditor for ½ 1933 and full 1934 @ £21 for 1934.

Council Meeting – 14th April, 1934

A building application was received from Mr. Whiting for a Rabbit Boning Works. Approved, subject to drainage being to Engineer's satisfaction.

A petrol depot was approved for Mr. H.A. Cunynghame.

Soldiers Memorial Committee asked Council to take over the administration of the Soldiers Memorial Building in conjunction with the Committee. Accepted.

Mr. R.W. Burke appointed as Auditor.

Town Improvement Local Rate to be 2d. in £ on U.C.V.

Council asked to make arrangements for the visit of Prince George to Jenolan Caves.

Shire Clerk to be allowed to use Council car on the same terms as the Shire Engineer.

Council Meeting – 12th May, 1934

Mr. F.J. Gibbs engaged to clean shire office at 2/6 per week.

F. Parker and C.J. Livermore granted Barber's Licences.

Donation of £2 to Bathurst Ambulance Transport Service.

Council Meeting – 2nd June, 1934

Council adopted the Emergency Relief Work Scheme.

All streets within the present Town Improvement District be proclaimed as public roads.

Council Meeting – 7th July, 1934

Further amounts totaling £12.19.1 defalcated from Marsden Suspense A/c.

Sgt. Buchan resigned as Inspector under Cattle Slaughtering Act.

A.F. Fitzpatrick, A.P. Callaghan, V.P. Collins and H.A. Cunynghame granted Butcher's Shop and Cattle Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting – 4th August, 1934

President and Cr. Richards attended a meeting at Lithgow on 17.7.34 in connection with the development of the Newnes-Capertee Shale Oil Deposit. It was decided to ask the Government to take definite action in the near future.

Bathurst Burr, Noogoora burr, St. John's Wort, Opium Poppy, Coca Leaf and Cape Tulip declared as noxious weeds in N.S.W.

Council Meeting – 1st September, 1934

£2.13.8 was found to be defalcated and was paid from Marsden Suspense Account.

The Council car lost a drain plug in the oil sump and repairs would cost no less than £20.

Dramatic Society to put on play in Southern Cross Hall.

Const. Cox of Oberon and Const. Reynolds of O'Connell appointed as Inspectors under the C.S.D.A. & M. Act.

Council Meeting – 5th October, 1934

A further £2.6.1 to be taken from Marsden Suspense Trust Fund.

Shire Clerk, F.H. Rowe appointed as Returning Officer for next triennial election. Fee for Returning Officer - £6.6.0 and Substitute Returning Officer - £3.3.0.

Approval given to the removal and re-erection of Church Hall by Methodist Church Trustees.

Council to become member of N.R.M.A. and that Comprehensive Insurances be transferred thereto upon expiry.

H.A. Cunynghame transferred Butcher's Shop Licence to T. Wilson.

Council Meeting – 3rd November, 1934

First reference to the C.W.A.

Oberon Amateur Dramatic Society borrowed Council's duplicator.

T.A.G. Wilson granted Cattle Slaughtering Licence.

Alex Young, ex Overseer, died.

Special Council Meeting – 8th December, 1934

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Councillor H.A. Cunynghame.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor Hoolihan.

Finance & Works Committees consist of whole Council.

Council Meeting – 8th December, 1934

C. Whiting's application for additions to his boning works approved.

Council applied for assistance for a low level bridge at the Abercrombie River.

Engineer to prepare an estimate of the cost of construction of a dam at the Oberon Well and forward to Bathurst P.P. Board.

1935

Council Meeting – 12th January, 1935

Transfer of Butcher's Shop Licence from V.P. Collins to J. Holloway granted.

J. Holloway granted Cattle Slaughtering Licence.

Estimates for 1935:

Estimated Expenditure: £8,071

Estimated Income: £7,943

Loss of £128 based on a rate of 2d. in £ on U.C.V. of 305,138 less 5% allowance for reduction on appeal.

Town Improvement rate – no rate to be levied for 1935.

Annual Fee of 5/- per petrol pump.

Request for Bathurst Burr, Star Thistle, Saffron Thistle, Patterson's Curse, Verbena Verosa, Blackberry, Stinkwort, St. John's Wort, Galvanised Burr, Noogoora Burr, Skeleton Weed and Hemlock be proclaimed as noxious weeds in Oberon Shire.

Special Meeting – 26th January, 1935

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 9th February, 1935

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor @ £21.

Council Meeting – 2nd March, 1935

A contribution of 6/- to the School Sports be made to defray sanitary fees charged.

Special Council Meeting – 23rd March, 1935

Shire Engineer: 28 applications. Given to Ralph Lewis Coles of Goulburn.

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1935

New Engineer commenced on 1.4.35.

Katoomba Council requested co-operation of Council in having electrification of railway line from Parramatta to Bathurst.

Bathurst Council complaining of continued removal of railway loco staff.

Town Well proclaimed as town water supply.

Council Meeting – 11th May, 1935

R.J. Coles (Shire Engineer) appointed as Health Inspector @ £10 p.a. and to be paid 6d. per mile if he has to use his own car.

Council Meeting – 8th June, 1935

Stock routes for droving and trucking (attached).

A.L. Phillips granted Barber's Shop Licence.

Application be made through Local Member for a grant to construct a dam for public watering supply.

Council Meeting – 13th July, 1935

Proposed Bridge over Abercrombie River at Bumaroo Ford. After meeting with Mulwaree Shire it was decided to put the work in hand and Mulwaree would carry out preliminary work and supervise the job.

£2 p.a. to be licence fee for street trading.

Applications for Butcher's Shop and Slaughterhouse Licences granted to J. Holloway, T.A.G. Wilson, A.P. Callaghan and A.F. Fitzpatrick.

L.A. Anstiss granted an electric light franchise in Oberon Township.

J.C. Wilcox resigned from positions of Pound Keeper and Impounding Officer.

Engineer empowered to get what suitable assistance is necessary to assist with surveying of Government Grant works.

Council Meeting – 10th August, 1935

The Conference at Lithgow in connection with the development of Newnes Shale Oil industry stated that oil could be produced therefrom equal to any other oil and at less cost.

16 applicants for position of temporary assistant to Engineer. J.T. Parslow appointed @ £5.12.0 per week. Secondary choice L. Stapleton.

Council to help Newnes Development League re shale oil @ £1 per £100,000 of U.C.V.

Suggestion that road from Jenolan Caves, via Oberon, Kelso, Sofala and Ilford be proclaimed as a State Highway.

Advance Oberon League asked for consideration of providing a water supply for the town out of Government Grants and the practicality of constructing swimming baths in the town.

Council Meeting – 7th September, 1935

Abandoned rates = £241.8.11.

C.R. Whiting granted Butcher's Shop Licence.

C.J. Livermore granted Barber's Shop Licence.

Fisheries Dept. now charging for trout fry. 10/6 per 1,000 for brown trout and 15/- per 1,000 for rainbow trout. Council to get 20 cans of each.

Council endorsed Bathurst P.P. Board's petition to raise the bonus on dingo scalps with a view to reducing and wiping out the pest.

Council Meeting – 5th October, 1935

Suggestion that the Afforestation Camp be removed from the area.

A further £5.4.0 to be transferred from Marsden Suspense A/c to General Fund.

Building Applications:

L.A. Anstiss for power house in Ross Street and J.J.G. McGirr for hotel in Oberon Street. (Tourist).

Turon Shire agreeing with the suggestion of a State Highway from Jenolan Caves via Oberon, Kelso, Sofala to Ilford, etc. Rylstone said no.

Council prepared to go 50/50 with Mulwaree Shire on building a bridge over the Abercrombie River at Bumaroo.

Bathurst P.P. Board granting bonus on dingo skins.

J.A. Green and A.B. Connoley granted licences of Public Vehicles and Drivers of Public Vehicles.

L.A. Anstiss granted sole rights in connection with electricity franchise.

Council Meeting – 2nd November, 1935

Building Applications approved:

S.E. Mawhood – storage shed; Bank of N.S.W. – renovations; E. English – drive-in service station; and F.R. Reynolds – new barber's shop and billiard room.

J.M. Attuell granted licences for Driver of Public Vehicle and vehicle as a Public Vehicle.

Special Council Meeting – 7th December, 1935

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Cr. H.A. Cunynghame.

Deputy Shire President: Cr. Hoolihan.

Finance & Works Committees consist of whole Council.

Council Meeting – 7th December, 1935

Electricity Franchise – 8 street lights to be positioned as per plan.

Valuations for 1936 Rating Year:
Rating Value - £306,757.

Town Improvement District - £19,491.

Closure of part of Albert Street near Showground.

Alf Charles granted approval to install further 3 (1 dual, 1 single) petrol pumps on kerb side – subject to payment of fees.

Reduction of working hours to 40 hours being suggested.

Total Estimated Expenditure for 1936:
£17,322.16.9

Total Estimated Income for 1936:
£16,513.0.0

Town Improvement levy of 1d. in the £ on U.C.V.

General Rate levy of 2d. in the £ on U.C.V.

1936

Council Meeting – 11th January, 1936

L.A. Anstiss granted permission to erect poles in street to carry current to his picture show.

Engineer to enquire into the cost of cheap fire brigade plant.

Request that wombats be declared noxious animals.

Council Meeting – 8th February, 1936

Application of J. Jackson for the erection of a pise cottage in Scotia Avenue approved.

C.W.A. asked Council for a suitable block for a rest room. No suitable blocks to offer.

J. Holloway applying for transfer of butcher's shop licence to Cunynghame & Sons and Cunynghame & Son applying for a licence under C.S.D.A. & M. Act. Granted.

R.W. Burke re-appointed as Auditor.

A Miss Hilary Smith applied for permission to render services in the Council's Office for the consideration of experience.

Council Meeting – 14th March, 1936

A Mr. H. Graham granted permission to build a bake house, etc.

Bathurst and Turon Councils advised they would co-operate in endeavouring to have the road from Kelso to Jenolan Caves taken over by the Dept. of Main Roads.

A.L. Phillips granted Barber's Shop Licence.

Boning Works apparently at end of Earl Street coming from Oberon Street.

Council Meeting – 4th April, 1936

Building Applications approved: Brick Shop, Oberon Street – S.E. Mawhood; Dance Hall and Picture Theatre, Fleming Street – Dr. Gummer.

A Bathurst P.P. Board deputation asked Council to declare the Alsation Dog a noxious animal within the Shire. Council agreed.

Licences issued to A.B. Connoley for Public Vehicle & Public Vehicle Drivers Licence; T.A.G. Wilson for transfer of Butcher's Shop Licence to Samuel Germon; and S. Germon for Licence under C.S.D.A. & M. Act.

Special Meeting – 17th April, 1936 held at Southern Cross Hall

Meeting called to enable quick passage of the Electricity Franchise granted to Mr. Anstiss through Parliament.

Council Meeting – 2nd May, 1936

Tenders for Sanitary Contract be invited for 3 years from 1.1.1937, Contractor to provide his own plant.

C.W.A. granted permission for an out house.

Arrangements for the lighting, by electricity, of the Office and Hall to be gone into in conjunction with the Soldiers Memorial Committee.

A Street Lighting – Switching On Ceremony to be held when lights ready.

Applications by J.M. Attuell for Public Vehicle and Public Vehicle Driver's Licences and C.J. Livermore for Barber's Shop Licences granted.

Alsation – Noxious Animal – Extension of Description: To mean and include Alsation, whether male or female, which is wholly or partly of the species or kind commonly known as "Alsation Dog" or "Alsation Wolf Hound", or belongs wholly or partly to any variety of the said species by whatever name such variety may be known.

Council Meeting – 6th June, 1936

Building Applications for J.J.G. McGirr for Barber's Shop and S.E. Mawhood for residence over shop were approved.

Director General of Public Health forwarded information regarding Diphtheria Immunisation. Mr. Robson and Dr. Gummer, local schools, local bodies to get their opinions on the matter.

10,000 rainbow trout to be purchased at 10/- per 1,000.

Licences to A.L. Phillips for Hairdresser; B.M. Hessin for Public Vehicle and Public Vehicle Drivers; and Cunynghame & Son for Butcher Shop and Slaughter House granted.

E. English invited Councillors and Staff to attend opening of new Tourist Hotel.

Special Meeting – 2nd July, 1936

Only to get solicitors advice on a contract not completed and the fact that the contractor was in Bathurst Jail for a similar offence.

Council Meeting – 11th July, 1936

Enquiries be made as to what cost would be entailed from appointing a Consulting Electrical Engineer to safeguard Council's responsibilities in connection with electricity undertaking under franchise agreement.

£2.2.0 donation to Bathurst District Ambulance.

Councillor A.S. Marr resigned as he is leaving Shire. Election Day to be 5th September, 1936 and Clerk to ask as Returning Officer.

A Council delegate invited to attend meeting to arrange programme for sesqui celebrations at Bathurst.

A further request for funds to be made to Minister for Lands for construction of a dam.

Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme to proceed with circulars being printed and get others from Health Dept. and forward to all schools in the district for distribution.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1936

No nominations received for extraordinary vacancy.

Building application approved for L.A. Hogan for Butcher's Shop at O'Connell.

Minister for Lands advised no money available for dam at Oberon Well.

Miss Ada Inglis granted Barber's Shop Licence at "Dulce Domum".

Rev. Dr. A. Gummer given approval to build new hall in Oberon Street instead of Fleming Street.

Council Meeting – 12th September, 1936

Oberon Scavenging District and Garbage Ordinance No. 51.

Diphtheria Immunisations: As consent had been given for 53 children to be treated under the immunization scheme, application be made for the necessary quantity of serum and that the scheme be gone on with and the necessary notifications given accordingly.

H.K. Graham granted Public Vehicle and Public Vehicle Driver's Licences.

Council refused request of C.W.A. for free sanitary services.

Council requested to purchase 1 photo of King Edward VIII for £2.2.0 by Returned Sailors' & Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia to help with funds for the Distress Funds of the League.

R. Cunynghame granted licence to sell Small Goods.

New Contract for sanitary service to J. Jackson @ 8 ½ d. per service.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1936

Sanitary Fees from 1.1.37 be fixed at 1/- per service subject to a discount of 3 d. per service if paid within 21 days from date of notice to pay in advance.

Mr. G. Batchelor willing to act in capacity of Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper for £1 per day to remove straying stock from roads and streets prior to the tourist season.

All frontages to Oberon Street from North Street to Raleigh Street be declared and proclaimed a brick area and that all awnings approved in this area must be of an approved cantilever type.

Main Roads Dept., be requested to augment the present M.R. Programme to the extent of £246 for bitumenising of the main street from North Street to Raleigh Street, Council to bear its usual 1/3rd of cost and work to be done by contract.

Willimbong Shire sought co-operation in obtaining referendum on Abolition of State Parliaments when Referendum is being taken on amendment of Constitution Act.

The British-American Co-operation seeking assistance of Council in forwarding resolution as under to Prime Minister:

“That this Council, deploring the present grave international tension and realising the unparalleled tragedy which another World War would entail, is of the opinion that in the interests of the ratepayers it should join with the Prime Minister in endorsing the general proposals of the British–American Co-operation for closer co-ordination between the British Empire and the United States of American, as a practical means of ensuring world peace.”

C.W.A. sought permission to hold opening function of Rest Room in Oberon Street. Permission granted subject to provisions of the L.G. Act and provided that an obstruction is not created.

Oberon Police requested co-operation in formation of a Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade. Council to co-operate.

In future copies of Minutes of previous meeting to be forwarded to each Councillor, together with his Notice of Meeting and Agenda Paper for the oncoming meeting. Due precaution to be taken by the Councillors to prevent public or any inspection thereof.

Council Meeting – 14th November, 1936

Marsden defalcation had added to it the sum of £92.6.5 – total to date £331.7.1.

Extraordinary Election for “A” Riding had 4 nominations.

Boundaries of Street Lighting District to be the same as Town Improvement District.

Public Vehicles and Driver’s of Public Vehicles Licences granted to C.E. Bailey and J.A. Green.

Grant for a suitable track into Kanangra Walls available.

Special Council Meeting – 12th December, 1936

Presidential Allowance: £25.00

Shire President: Councillor J.J. Hoolihan.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor Wilcox.

New Councillors – McPhillamy and Spicer.

Finance & Works Committee to comprise whole Council.

Council Meeting – 12th December, 1936

Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme completed on 29th November, 1935. Surplus of £2.4.1 to be paid to Dr. Perkins as he had carried out the work gratuitously.

Council decided to approach the Advance Oberon League asking if it would share the cost (approx. £30) of obtaining a Departmental Officer to come to Oberon to make preliminary investigation into the matter of installing a water supply in the town.

Miss A. Inglis applied for licence of Barber’s Shop occupied by Mitchell & Co. Granted.

Howell Bros., applied for permission to erect a sign reading “Bergers Paints & Varnishes” over the footpath. Granted.

Lithgow State Mine Bank sought permission to play a programme in Oberon and to take up a collection. Granted.

Mention of the Railway Station in these Minutes.

1937

Council Meeting, 9th January, 1937

Rates set for 1937 are General Rate – 2d. in £; Town Improvement Local Rate – 1d. in £; and Street Lighting Local Rate – 1d. in £ on U.C.V. of respective districts.

The road to the Reef was cleared by voluntary labour.

Some of the building applications applied for were – S.E. Mawhood, for a shed with basement and a new Roman Catholic Church in Queen Street. Granted.

H.K. Graham granted Public Vehicle and Driver of Public Vehicle Licences.

Registrar General advised of additional cost of Certificates for searches under Old System Titles. Council to make application for all necessary searches.

Special Meeting – 23rd January, 1937

Local Police forwarded letter and statement saying that on 28th November, 1936 Rollon Phillips and Thomas Fitzpatrick had been seen to place logs across the “Faugh’A’Ballah” (sic) Road to the danger of traffic and seeking Council’s authority to proceed against the offenders. Granted.

Council Meeting – 13th February, 1937

Peters & Co. and F. Wolfe applied for Small Goods Licences and C.E. Bailey for P.V. & P.V. Drivers Licences. Granted.

Advance Oberon League requested, among other things, for the Department of Defence to establish an aeroplane landing ground at Oberon.

Council Meeting – 13th March, 1937

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor @ £21 p.a.

Council Meeting – 10th April, 1937

Council decided to purchase a “Victor” Adding Machine for £58.10.0 over 12 month terms, with quarterly payments.

3 waste paper baskets to be purchased for erection in suitable places in the main street.

2 flagpoles to be erected and a Union Jack and Australian Flag to be purchased.

Council Meeting 1st May 1937

Coronation Celebrations to be held 12th May with a bonfire and fireworks display, also 400 medals @ 25/0 per 100 should be purchased and distributed amongst the school children throughout the Shire.

S.E. Mawhood to erect a wool and skin shop in Oberon Street, subject to Public Health Department raising no objection.

It has been estimated that the provision of a water supply in Oberon would cost in the vicinity of £10,000. Write to Local Member, Mr. Kelly, M.L.A., and ask if he could find out how much the Government would grant towards the cost.

Mr. A. Brown granted P.V. and P.V. Driver’s Licences.

Council Meeting – 11th June, 1937

Senior pupils of Public School attended Council Meeting for a lesson in civics.

As the Kanangra Walls Scheme would involve the payment of workmen on the job, it was resolved that an application be made for a Police escort and that suitable firearms be procured and necessary insurance effected.

Owing to heavy office work contemplated for next 6 months, senior office assistance was granted for a period of 3 months.

Commission on Main Roads Maintenance Programmes to be allocated to the Engineer and Clerk, as previously done.

Permission granted for S.E. Mawhood to build a 2 storey shop in Oberon Street.

3 new street lights to be installed at Southern Cross Hall, cnr. North Street and Scotia Avenue and Church Hill.

S. Bailey granted Butcher's Shop and Slaughter House Licences.

Council Meeting – 10th July, 1937

Councillor C.E. Richards died.

Bathurst section of Australia's 150th Anniversary Celebrations (18th to 28th March, 1938). Suggestion Oberon have a float depicting Jenolan Caves, Kanangra Walls, Bullock Wagon, historic family, etc.

Advance Oberon League had P.B. Howell, E. English and R.E. Wilson as some of its members.

Mr. R.T. Nelson engaged as Assistant Clerk (temporary).

Applications for Licences:- Barbers Shop - M.McDermott and R. Nicholson; P.V. & P.V. Drivers – J.A. Green and B.M. Hessin; Butcher's Shop and Slaughter Houses – A.F. Fitzpatrick, S. Germon and Cunynghame & Son granted.

9 applications received for position of temporary Assistant Engineer. Decided that E. Mayhew of Dalgety be appointed providing that the provisions of the Returned Soldiers Employment Act has been observed in that the 2 returned soldier applicants were deemed incapable of doing the required work. He was appointed to the position.

Council Meeting – 14th August, 1937

General Fund Bank Account was in credit to the extent of £16.

Sizes of allotments for building purposes in town to be 20 ft. for shop and 55 ft. for dwelling frontages.

Employment of a garbage contractor on street cleaning for ½ day per week for trial period of 1 month.

A building application from Miss N. Burton for a lock up shop and bakehouse was approved.

Following licences approved:- J. Attuell and A.B. Connoley – P.V. & P.V Drivers; C.A. Rawson and G. Venardos – Small Goods; and C. Whiting – Butcher's Shop.

Council Meeting – 11th September, 1937

Miss A. Inglis granted Barber's Shop Licence.

Bathurst Ambulance to receive £2.2.0 as donation.

Megalong Progress and Citizens Association seeking support for a tourist road from Katoomba, via Megalong, Lowther and Oberon to Bathurst.

Council Meeting – 2nd October, 1937

Assistant Clerk to be appointed for a further 3 months.

Mr. Fred Rowe (Shire Clerk) appointed Returning Officer for £5.5.0 and Substitute Returning Officer for £2.2.0 for triennial elections.

Street cleaning arrangement to continue until end of year.

Transfer of Barber's Shop Licence from M.J. McDermott to A.S. Haigh.

W.H. Newson granted permission for petrol pump on roadside at Duckmaloi.

Council Meeting – 6th November, 1937

Street lights to be placed at corner of Raleigh & Queen Streets and Ross & Queen Streets.

Mrs. E. Newson complained of inconvenient railway service to Oberon. Matter was taken up with the Commissioners and the desired alteration had been made to the service.

Special Council Meeting – 11th December, 1937

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Cr. J.J. Hoolihan (from hat).

Deputy Shire President: Cr. A.E. Wilcox.

New Councillors – Murphy and Stevenson.
Finance & Works Committee to be
committees of whole Council.

**Council Meeting – 11th December,
1937**

R.L. Coles – Engineer – resigns. Going to
Blaxland Shire.

G. Batcheldor resigned as Pound Keeper and
Impounding Officer.

Mick Feebrey appointed as Pound Keeper
and Impounding Officer.

Request for 1 street light in Carrington
Avenue granted.

Alteration of boundaries so that Portions 40
and 43, Parish of Ballyroe be in

Abercrombie Shire and Portion 130, Parish
of Swatchfield be wholly within Oberon
Shire.

Victoria General Insce. Co. advised of final
payment in connection with S.E. Marsden
Defalcation A/c. - £81.7.1.

Estimates – General Rate 2d., Town
Improvement Rate – 1d. and Street Lighting
Local Rate 1d. in £ on U.C.V.

**Special Council Meeting – 29th
December, 1937**

D.O. Murray of Walcha appointed to
position of Shire Engineer. Mr. E.A. John
of Roma (Qld.) is second choice.

Mr. R.T. Nelson, Assistant Clerk, to be kept
on until 31.1.38.

1938

Council Meeting – 8th January, 1938

The words “after the President had referred to certain alleged malpractices by members out the Council Chamber” be removed from Minutes of 11.12.37.

Engineer to prepare estimates for kerbing and guttering of both sides of Oberon Street from Ross to Fleming Streets.

A.S. Haigh granted Barber’s Shop Licence.

Council Meeting – 12th February, 1938

An inspection re proposed water supply has been made and in view of the fact that the site proposed for the dam would probably be the final location, it would be advisable to remove the sanitary and garbage depots to another site. Engineer instructed to endeavour to locate a suitable new site and report to a later meeting.

Licences for P.V. and P.V. Driver by A.B. Connoley, B.M. Hessin, C.E. Bailey and H.K. Graham granted.

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor for 1938.

M.R. Dept. temporarily shelved Bummaroo Ford Bridge until July.

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1938

Miss D. Doust appointed as junior office assistant.

P.V. & P.V. Driver’s Licence granted to J.A. Green.

Bathurst requested 21.3.38 as Public Holiday for the Bathurst part of the 150th Anniversary of Australia Celebrations.

Theodolite purchased from ex Engineer Coles for £30.

Dr. Gummer granted permission to hand bunting across street from Gilmore Hall on 23.3.38 for opening of new Roman Catholic Church.

Engineer appointed as Inspector of Nuisances, Buildings and Noxious Weeds @ £10 p.a.

Council Meeting – 9th April, 1938

R. Nicholson granted Barber’s Shop Licence.

No grant available for extension of Memorial Hall.

Application for procuring land for an aerodrome at Oberon be made through Federal Member.

Council Meeting – 7th May, 1938

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 11th June, 1938

Oberon Street kerbing and guttering to cost £2,000. Council - £900; adjoining owners - £260; Main Roads Dept. - £290; and Government Grant - £550.

Engineer granted 6d. per mile when using own car.

Approval of lorry hire rates of 3/3d. per hour for M.L. O’Connell and W.H. Agland for Kanangra Walls Road.

Donation of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance.

S.W. Bailey granted renewal of Butcher’s Shop and Cattle Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting – 9th July, 1938

Butcher’s Shop and Slaughter House Licences granted to L.G. Cunynghame & Son, A.F. Fitzpatrick and S. Germon subject to provision of additional water storage of 1,000 gal. tank by S. Germon and Cunynghame & Son.

Neon sign for R.N. Osborne, Chemist.

Council Meeting – 13th August, 1938

Nurse M.H. Fox granted approval for addition of ward to private hospital in North Street.

1 case of Scarlet Fever reported.

Council authorized to purchase £5 worth of Rainbow Trout fry.

Central Tablelands Acclimitisation Society re formation of Society and seeking contribution to establish a hatchery in Bathurst.

Council Meeting – 9th September, 1938

Necessary steps be taken to have the telephone changed to a hand set.

Mulwaree Shire Council advised that the Main Roads Dept. had included the bridge over the Abercrombie River at Bummaroo Ford in the 1938/39 programme.

Protection for wombats lifted in Bathurst P.P. District but not Carcoar District.

Mr. R.T. Nelson appointed to furnish Works & Local Government Dept. with historical information on Kanangra Walls.

D.O. Murray, Shire Engineer, tendered resignation but requested that it not be accepted.

Mr. T.C. Brennan to be asked for a photo of himself (as first President of the Shire) which could be enlarged and hung in the Council's Offices.

An existing photo in the office to be renovated.

Council Meeting – 8th October, 1938

Mr. T.C. Brennan (first President of the Shire) has died since last meeting when photo asked for.

Engineer's resignation not accepted.

Enlargement of photo of original Councillors for £3.3.0 agreed to.

Approval for a Club House at Golf Club.

Nambucca Shire wants greater allocation of funds for road purposes from Petrol Tax.

Oberon Golf Club requested removal of fence across Dudley Street and erection of direction board to Golf Club. Both granted.

Request for further Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign. Left in Clerk's hand to speak to Dr. Perkins to ascertain his views as to the necessity.

Shire Clerk allowed 6d. per mile for use of his private car on Council work in connection with the Kanangra Walls Road job.

Council Meeting – 12th November, 1938

Ex-Councillor Alfred Bailey died.

S. Harrison asked permission for erection of blind over footpath at side of his shop and E. English for a showroom at the corner of Oberon and North Street. Both approved.

Talk about removing Police Station from O'Connell.

Meeting to be called for 21.11.38 re proposal for formation of a Tourist Bureau.

Special Council Meeting – 10th December, 1938

Presidential Allowance: £25.

Shire President: Councillor A.E. Wilcox.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor Stevenson.

Council Meeting – 10th December, 1938

Poisoning of grasshoppers.

Estimates for 1939: Street Lighting Local Fund – 1 ½ d. in £; Town Improvement Local Fund – 1 d. in £; General Fund – 2 d. in £.

Health and Sanitary Inspectorships to Shire Clerk and Building and other inspectorships to Shire Engineer. Each to be paid £5 p.a.

A Deputation was received from the Tarana Agricultural Bureau - Mr. R.C. Webb and Mr. W. Bell (Bathurst City Electrical Engineer) re taking steps to bring power line from Meadow Flat via Tarana to Oberon.

Council to approach Railway Commissioners and ask the possibility of tapping the power line from Lithgow State Mine at Meadow Flat.

At the request of Oberon Tourist Association, Council to have a district map prepared by Shire Engineer; Reserve (Section 41) Oberon and Reserve below Boggy Flat Bridge on Caves road to be made into Tourist Camping Grounds.

Blaxland Council asked to erect sign “To Oberon” at the Lett River Bridge.

1939

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1939

No building applications to be approved in future without fee being paid first.

Street light to be installed at junction of Ross and Jenolan Streets near Showground.

P.V. and P.V. Driver's Licence granted to H.K. Graham and Barber's Shop Licence to C. Haigh.

MEETING ADJOURNED WITH REQUEST FOR ALL AVAILABLE MEN TO GO OUT TO FIGHT BUSH FIRES. FIRES STILL SUCH THAT MEETING ABANDONED UNTIL 3 P.M. ON 24th JANUARY, 1939.

Letter from Waterside Workers' Federation re loading of pig iron for Japan.

Dept. Main Roads be asked to have notice erected on Oberon side of Caves Hill stating extraordinary steep grade and advise motorists to use low gear.

Special Meeting – 24th January, 1939

This meeting covers a general misunderstanding.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1939

Council's safe sold to S.E. Mawhood for £10 and suitable cabinet to be purchased in its place.

A.H. & P. Association granted permission for erection of Sheep Pavilion.

Miss A Inglis granted Barber's Shop Licence and C.E. Bailey granted P.V. & P.V. Drivers Licence.

Chief Secretary advised that it is not now proposed to remove the O'Connell Police Station.

R.N. Osborne sought erection of a street light near his hospital.

Device for flow of water testing in Fish River Creek outlined.

The owner of a bull patrolling the town streets be instructed to remove him at once.

Council Meeting – 11th March, 1939

Deputation to Sydney re proposed water supply for Oberon. Minister to make £200 available to cover cost of investigation of the scheme by a consulting engineer, such sum to be charged against the work should the scheme be proceeded with and if not the amount to be repaid by Council over a period of years.

Visit and inspection of proposed sites at Charlton and "Black Hole" at Fish River for water conservation dams in conjunction with Bathurst, Turon and Abercrombie Councils.

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor for 1939.

Council considering formation of Bush Fire Brigades.

Kooya Committee of Historical Research advising the first finding of gold on Fish River and proposing commemoration thereof. Suggestion of erection of suitable cairn.

Turon Shire now asking for overhead railway crossing bridge at Kelso.

Postal Dept. requested to extend town delivery to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from P.O.

2 "silent cops" erected in Oberon Street.

Council Meeting – 1st April, 1939

Dept. of Works & Local Government requested councils to permit military authorities to mark sign posts with numbers correspondence with Ordinance Map references. Approved.

2 street lights erected in Scotia Avenue and North Street, near Mr. Osborne's Hospital.

Special Council Meeting – 13th April, 1939

Meeting with various Government people re Kanangra Walls Road.

Council Meeting – 6th May, 1939

Shire President, Councillor A.E. Wilcox died suddenly.

Special Council Meeting – 6th May, 1939

President: Councillor H.V. Stevenson.

Deputy President: Councillor McPhillamy.

Council Meeting – 6th May, 1939 (RESUMED)

Prime Minister – J.A. Lyons – died recently.

Recommended Consulting Engineers for water supply investigation are Haskins, Davey & Gutteridge - £25 plus expenses for preliminary investigation.

Mr. F.H. Kelly engaged for 2 weeks as replacement for Miss Doust who is on annual leave.

Mr. S. Germon's Butcher's Shop prosecuted for a dirty sausage room.

Extraordinary vacancy for "B" Riding on death of Cr. Wilcox. Shire Clerk appointed Returning Officer at 2 ½ guineas and Substitute Returning Officer for £1/1/0 (1 guinea).

Temporary Office Assistance for Engineer to be 1 man for 3 days.

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor for 1939.

Commander A.J. Loudon-Shand, O.B.E., R.A.N. asked for compensation for loss of horse damaged by wire near stock entrance to Showground. No.

James Wilds and R. Nicholson granted Barber's Shop Licences.

J. Jackson offered 2 receptacles for street refuse to be placed near Mawhood's Store and Donnelly's.

Lt. Col. R.T.A. McDonald advised that it is not possible to form a Militia Unit at Oberon at the present time.

Donation to Bathurst District Ambulance of £2.2.0.

The ban on wax matches to be lifted from 1st March to 30th November each year.

S.E. Mawhood asked permission to convert part of building above shop for use as a dental surgery. Approved.

Special Council Meeting – 20th May, 1939

This meeting in relation to proposal for extension of electricity power line to Shire via Hazelgrove, Oberon, Edith and on to Jenolan Caves. After much discussion it was resolved that this matter be dealt with at the next regular meeting of Council.

Council Meeting – 10th June, 1939

Electricity proposal deferred until next meeting.

Works & Local Government Dept. urged to extend telephone to progressive camps on Kanangra Walls. Road.

Shire Clerk to make enquiries as to suitable junior available because of extreme pressure of work in the office. Mr. F.H. Kelly engaged for fortnight whilst Shire Clerk on leave.

S.E. Mawhood asked permission to alter room off café for residential purposes.

L.G. Cunynghame & Son, A.F. Fitzpatrick, S. Germon and S.W. Bailey granted licences for Butcher's Shops and Slaughter Houses.

Oberon Tourist Association asked Council to take over Oberon Park. Council agreed.

Quotation from Oberon Saw Mills accepted for 6,600 super feet of hardwood for huts for the Kanangra Walls Road for £74.5.0.

Petitioners asked for 2 street lights in Cunningham Street. Council agreed to 1.

P.M.G. advised postal delivery service could not be extended.

Council Meeting – 8th July, 1939

Councillor C.R. Armstrong welcomed as new Councillor.

Council not interested in extending electricity power line from Wallerawang to Oberon and Jenolan Caves.

F.H. Kelly to help Engineer for 1 week.

Russell Stevenson appointed to position of Junior Clerk.

Oberon C.W.A. asked permission to plant trees along roads forming main entrances into town. Council to ask Dept. Main Roads what financial assistance available for tree guards. Council has no objection to C.W.A's proposal.

Kooya Committee of Historical Research enclosed extract from McBrien's Field Book recording the discovery of gold on Fish River in 1823 and asked to meet with Council to discuss proposal to commemorate event.

Chief Secretary asked why Council wished to lift ban on wax matches in Shire for a set period. He is to be advised that it was requested by local store keepers as there is no danger of bush fires in this district in the period referred to.

Part of Portion 189, Parish of Ganbenang now within Oberon Shire to be handed over to Blaxland Shire.

Local Member's attention to be drawn to the condition of the Police Station, etc., and requesting erection of a new station, etc. immediately.

Council Meeting – 12th August, 1939

Councillor Spicer reported on meeting with Kooya Committee re McBrien's discovery of gold on Fish River near Rainville. The suggestion was to erect a suitable tablet to commemorate the first finding of gold in N.S.W. at that location. Suggested that tablet be fixed to rock at Flat Rock Crossing on Tarana-O'Connell Road which was near the site. Telegram since received requesting discussion etc. of matter be deferred until further letter received from Committee. No further action at present.

Cost of tablet along would be about £8 and erection of Cairn about £15.

Water Supply for Town: Site proposed was for a dam at a point a few hundred yards below which is known as Boggy Flat Bridge on the Caves Road either for a local scheme which was estimated to cost £13,249 or for a comprehensive district scheme which was estimated to cost £266,190. The annual cost for a district scheme was shown to be less than for a local scheme. Decided Council to proceed with installation of a local water supply scheme as soon as Dept. of Works and Local Govt. has agreed to proposals. Engineers suggest a district scheme, not only to serve Oberon but also to meet augmentation of existing supplies to Lithgow, Bathurst and Katoomba and for new supplies to Portland and Wallerawang. Council asked Government to review merits of both schemes – local and district - in consultation with Consulting Engineers and arrange to receive a deputation from Council with regard to both proposals. Should Government favour the major scheme, a conference of all interested councils with the Government would be sought.

Council received a verbal report from Consulting Engineers (Mr. Haskins) after a visit to alternative site proposed by Councillor Armstrong and he has no doubt that an adequate volume of water would be available from this alternative scheme. Engineer could not state what added cost, if any, would be, or give details of any alterations in the revenue position. Shire Clerk to furnish Consulting Engineers with particulars of added revenue available and Shire Engineer to carry out minor work involved in exploring the foundation conditions at the alternative site for the dam. On receipt of this information, Consulting Engineers to advise Council of costs relative to alternative scheme.

Licences granted to W.H. Donley for Refreshment Rooms and J. O'Connell for Petrol Pump Licence at Duckmaloi.

Control of Oberon Park can be transferred to Council only on resignation of all Trustees and furnishing of a Statement of

Expenditure of Grant of £20 made to the Trustees in 1937.

Lithgow Council advised of proposal to establish a Central Western Development Committee and asking for delegates to attend Conference at Lithgow on 28.8.39. Shire President, Cr. Stevenson, and Crs. Murphy and Spicer to attend.

Miss D.I. Doust resigned from position of Junior Assistant Clerk as she is to be married.

Main Roads Dept. advised it would contribute 2/3rds of cost of approved tree planting on main roads, also cost of planting, provision of and erection of tree guards and future maintenance.

Matter of building new Police Station and Residence taken up with Justice Department.

Public Meeting to be called re inauguration of National Emergency Scheme for Women.

Civic Welcome to be extended to Mrs. Beveridge, State President of C.W.A.

Special Council Meeting – 31st August, 1939

Shire Engineer asked to resign. He did so from 14th October, 1939.

Council Meeting – 9th September, 1939

SECOND WORLD WAR COMMENCED 3RD SEPTEMBER, 1939.

The Police Station at Oberon was inspected and as the condition was considered unhealthy it was decided that the Board of Health be advised that the residential section of the Police Station is unhealthy and unfit for human occupation and desires that a Board of Health Officer make an inspection of the place.

Building Application granted for Butcher Shop in Oberon Street for L.G. Cunynghame & Son.

Mulwara Council advised that only 1 tender had been received for the Bummaroo Ford Bridge and asking for suggestion re Clerk of Works. Engineer advised that

Clerk of Works should be about £7 per week, that works should be completed in about 10 weeks.

Mrs. L. McEwen and Peters & Co. granted Refreshment Room Licences.

Katoomba Council advised it cannot entertain the proposed district water scheme owing to the result of the analysis of the water.

Chief Secretary's Dept. advised that it could not entertain the idea of lifting use of was matches.

Part of Shooters Hill Road dedicated as Public Road.

Miss Marie Robson appointed as Stenographer-Clerk.

Council Meeting – 14th October, 1939

New Shire Engineer to be Mr. Ernest Henry Harris of Coonabarabran.

Shire Clerk appointed Acting Engineer until new Engineer takes up duties.

Miss N. Burton granted Refreshment Room Licence.

Another request for the abolition of State Parliaments (Lyndhurst Shire).

Parramatta Council requesting co-operation in contribution of 1 million pounds of foodstuffs for England.

Commonwealth Oil Refineries advised everyone that they were a British company.

Police Department advised new premises are to be erected for the Oberon Police Station and Residence.

Dept. of Works & Local Govt. advising of leave of absence for rationed and full time relief works for Military Service and Training and also for Council employees.

Central Tablelands Acclimatisation Society seeking finance assistance in construction of ponds for rearing of trout. Some financial assistance to be given in January next.

J. Jackson's tender accepted for Sanitary Contract @ 9d. per service.

Council Meeting – 11th November, 1939

Council agreed to purchase saleyards from V.W. Harrison for the sum of £350.

Fees for sales fixed at 1/- per head for horses; 6d. per head for cattle and 1d. per head for sheep.

Charges for sanitary fees from 1.1.40 to be 1/- per service with discount of 2 ½ d. if paid within 21 days from rendering account.

Extension of telephone line from 1 mile to 12 ½ miles has been verbally approved on Kanangra Walls Road.

Conversion of top floor of “Begonia Café” into 2 flats for S.E. Mawhood approved.

Agreed to co-operate with Annandale Council to protest against increased taxation on motor vehicles.

Chamber of Manufacturers of N.S.W. sent list of goods not produced in Australia.

Special Council Meeting – 9th December, 1939

Presidential : £40.

Shire President: Councillor H.V. Stevenson.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor H.S. McPhillamy.

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole Council.

Council Meeting – 9th December, 1939

General Rate 2 d.; Town Improvement Rate 1 d.; Street Lighting Rate 1 ½ d. in £ on U.C.V.

Auditor's Fee increased to £15.15.0 per half yearly audit.

Cunynghame & Sons granted Butcher's Shop Licence and J.A. Green a P.V. & P.V. Driver's Licence.

M. Feebrey granted permission to erect a crush at the pound yard for £4.16.0.

Formation of Oberon Shire Bush Fire Brigade approved and the names of F.A. Purdon, H. Owens and J. Condon be added

to list of Deputy Captains for their respective districts.

President and Shire Clerk authorized to go into matter of regulations for prevention of burning off during the months of December, January and February and take such steps as are necessary to have some prohibited.

1940

Council Meeting – 13th January, 1940

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

Bush Fire Brigades have been formed and are in operation over the whole of the Shire.

1 light to be installed at the bridge at the foot of Church Hill.

Council Meeting – 10th February, 1940

Contribution of £5 to Bathurst District Trout Acclimitisation.

Opening Function for Bumaroo Ford Bridge left in hands of President and Shire Clerk.

Refreshment Rooms licence to Peters & Co.;
11 Petrol Pump Licences to Alf Charles;
and P.V. & P.V. Driver's Licences to J.A.
Green and H.K. Graham.

M. Robson to be asked if he would accept appointment as Chief Warden for the Oberon Shire for the National Emergency Services. Public Meeting to be called for formation of Local Patriotic Fund Committee.

Special Council Meeting – 27th February, 1940

Letter received from Dept. of Works & Local Govt. approving Kerbing & Guttering Programme.

Council Meeting – 16th March, 1940

Gestetner Duplicator – Clerk to prepare list of printing costs for the part year for comparison with duplicator costs.

Barber's Shop Licences for R. Nicholson and A.J. Harris and Refreshment Room Licence for N.H. Donley approved.

Council to co-operate with Bankstown Council in approaching the Federal Government for appropriation of part of petrol tax to exploit extraction of oil from coal shale.

A letter was received from an Oberon resident complaining of a serious outbreak of scarlet fever in Oberon. The Minute for this reads:- "Anonymous letter received was referred to the waste paper basket".

Fox's Imperial Stores asked permission to conduct a Billiards Club. No action.

Department of Lands advised that Council was appointed Trustee of Oberon Park on 8th March, 1940 in lieu of previous Trustees.

A suitable covering is to be placed over the Well in the Oberon Park.

Shire Engineer, E.H. Harris, appointed Building & Noxious Weeds Inspector.

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1940

No action to be taken re purchase of duplicator.

A map of the Shire to be prepared showing the various sector divisions for bush fire brigades, approximate boundaries for each sector, information regarding Captains and Vice Captains so that return can be forwarded to Bush Fires Advisory Committee.

2 series of Diphtheria injections for 84 children commenced. 59 treated originally but a number of others were unable to attend or receive treatment owing to colds and other causes. A second series was arranged and a further 25 were treated.

Licences granted to R.W. Potts (Barber Shop), L.O. Rawlings (Cattle Slaughtering) and transfer of Butcher's Shop Licence from S. Germon to L.O. Rawlings.

Council agrees with Lithgow Council's suggestion of establishment of a motor car manufacturing industry in Australia,

Council does not consider the time opportune to construct swimming baths until some finality has been reached with regard to the proposed Oberon water supply.

Council thanked C.W.A. for food and assistance given at bush fires during season.

Minutes of Conference of Councils and other interested bodies in the Upper Fish River Water Supply Scheme – 7th May, 1940

The Conference reaffirmed the urgent necessity for proceeding with this Scheme and requested the Minister to receive a deputation. Various other items were covered but if the Minutes are referred to this information can be accessed.

Council Meeting – 11th May, 1940

The Greater Local Government Movement proposed the establishment of Regional Councils.

Council Meeting – 15th June, 1940

Councillor Murphy died 14.5.40 and Councillor Spencer filled extraordinary vacancy for “C” Riding.

Proposal for saleyards cancelled.

Balance of £3.16.0 left after paying all accounts for Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign and it was decided that Nurse Fox receive £11.11.6 and Dr. Perkins £2.4.6 for their services for which no direct charges have been made.

£2.2.0 contribution to Bathurst District Ambulance.

Meeting adjourned to attend a meeting of the “Win The War Rally”.

Council to grant a site for a shed for the Fire Brigade in the Council yard.

Council Meeting – 13th July, 1940

Licences issued to L.G. Cunynghame & Sons, L.O. Rawlings, S.W. Bailey and A.F. Fitzpatrick for Butcher’s Shop and Cattle Slaughtering.

M. Robson resigned as Chief Warden, then changed his mind.

Salvage Scheme for National Purposes – President appointed Group Controller and Council’s shed be used for purposes of a depot.

The matter of reception of children evacuated from Britain was placed in the hands of the President to have it dealt with at the meeting of the Patriotic Committee.

Ronald Williams sought Council permission to enlist in the A.I.F. He was asked to reconsider as he is a key man and if he still wants to enlist, Council will agree. If Mr. Williams enlists, his position will be held open for his return.

1 man to be engaged to do 1 day’s work in cleaning up Oberon Park and a lock to be procured for the gates. The matter of improving the park be left in the hands of the President, Clerk, Engineer and Cr. Armstrong.

Action to be taken to impound all horses and dry cattle straying in town streets and public roads in Shire.

Council Meeting – 10th August, 1940

Camping strictly prohibited in Oberon Park and notices to this effect erected.

Further postponement of Shire Elections and Extraordinary Vacancies.

Liverpool Council complaining about Fed. Govt. apathy in dealing with enemy aliens.

Snowy River Council asking that interned enemy aliens be put to productive work.

Council Meeting – 14th September, 1940

P.V. & P.V. Driver’s Licence granted to Rowland Cunynghame.

The name “Yass River Tussock” has been changed to “Serrated Tussock”.

Council Meeting – 12th October, 1940

With exception of Shire Clerk, office staff all off on sick leave with German Measles.

A pair of scissors, suitably engraved to be purchased for cutting the ribbon at the Opening Ceremony for Kanangra Walls Road on 11th December, 1940.

M.P. Feebrey resigned as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper.

Since Council declared Alsation Dogs as noxious animals, the district has been free from them, Council considers them a menace and should be declared noxious.

Petrol rationing – allowance to members of Bush Fire Brigades.

Ration Tickets received for purchase of motor spirit.

Council to discuss with Sergeant of Police and arrange for necessary supplies of petrol for bush fire fighting requirements.

A fund to be opened for receipt of subscriptions to Britain's Civilian War Victims' Relief Fund and Council donated £5.5.0.

Council Meeting – 9th November, 1940

£15 in donations received for the Britain's Civilian War Victim's Relief Fund and authority requested to send to Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Special Council Meeting – 14th December, 1940

Presidential Allowance: £60.

Shire President: Councillor H.S. McPhillamy.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor H.V. Stevenson.

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of Whole Council.

Council Meeting – 14th December, 1940

Estimates for 1941: General Rate 2d.; Street Lighting 1 1/2d.; Town Improvement 1 d. in £ on U.C.V.

Shire Association advised of postponement of elections.

1941

Council Meeting – 11th January, 1941

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

Application to be made for survey of a township site at Kanangra Walls.

Council Meeting – 8th February, 1941

Shire Clerk prepared to carry on with position of Health Officer for administrative duties and an officer of the Board of Health be requested to make periodical visits to Oberon for inspection work.

Sgt. John Edward Kelly appointed as Inspector under the Cattle Slaughtering, etc. Act.

Cost of steps to the top of Kanangra Walls would be about £50.

Licences granted to: Refreshment Rooms – N. Burton, Peters & Co. and N.H. Donley and Barber's Shop – A.J. Harris.

Closing Order for Police premises be extended until 31st March, provided that building arrangements are in hand by that time.

Council to dispense with services of M. Feebrey as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper and ask Mr. J. Rawson to take on these positions.

Police asked to remove all persons camping at the Oberon Park Recreation Ground.

Council Meeting – 8th March, 1941

Licences granted to R. Nicholson and Miss A. Inglis for Barbers Shops.

Kanangra Walls Road proclaimed as M.R. 520.

Age limit for retiring employees of Council fixed at 65 and all employees reaching that age be put off, this to be from 8th June, 1941.

Council Meeting – 5th April, 1941

Purchase of new Remington 17 Typewriter from Chartres Ltd. For £56.10.0 on basis of trade-in of old Royal Machine at £24.20.0 and £16 down and balance of £16 in 12 months.

Council Meeting – 10th May, 1941

Death from wounds of Private D. Oram and letter of sympathy to mother at Porters Retreat.

Mr. Fowler, Inspector of Public Health made a number of inspections.

Permission granted to close the office for the Patriotic Sports Day to be held on 14th May as part of the Australia-wide drive for funds for comforts for the troops.

Permits and Licences granted for 1 petrol pump – J. O'Connell; 11 petrol pumps – Alf. Charles; S.J. Collits and H.G. Daley – P.V. Driver's Licences and H.G. Daley, P.V. Licence.

Council decided to lease 2 tennis courts at Recreation Ground for 2/6 per annum for 3 years, providing club does all necessary repairs and works to gate, fence and surface.

Donation of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance.

Police Dept. advised inability to erect new Police premises owing to lack of funds, but stating new lavatory has been erected.

Additional street light to be placed in Ross Street between Queen St. and Showground.

JAPANESE SUBMARINES ENTER SYDNEY HARBOUR – 31ST MAY, 1941.

Council Meeting – 14th June, 1941

Applications to be called again for positions of Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper.

It was decided to contact Bathurst Council to endeavour to secure the services of its

Health Inspector, temporarily and periodically.

FROM SHIRE CLERK'S REPORT - March of A.I.F. Troops: On 20th and 22nd June, about 500-600 troops of the 2/26th Battalion, Qld., will be at Oberon en route to Jenolan Caves. Staying Friday night and Sunday night at Oberon, billeting at various public places. Arrive 3 p.m. March along Oberon and Ross Streets to Showground and thence to billeting areas. Proposed to erect dais in front of Gilmore Hall where C/O will take salute as troops march past. Suggested prominent public citizens be asked to attend on dais. Entertainment of troops at dance on Friday night and concert on Sunday night at Gilmore Hall. Suggested also that Civic Welcome be tendered the C/O and troops at the dance, and also that recruiting appeal be made. Further suggested that portion of Oberon Street from Ross to Fleming Street be enclosed for about half an hour during the march, and that parking arrangements be eliminated from this area for the period.

It was resolved that a Civic Welcome be tendered to the soldiers of the 2/26th Battn. On Friday night, 20th June, 1941.

Council Meeting – 12th July, 1941

Mr. C.W. Grimes of Orange, who is a retired Health Inspector, be offered £17 for 2 weeks inspection work, inclusive of all expenses.

Butcher's Shop and Cattle Slaughtering Licences issued to L.G. Cunynghame & Sons, A.F. Fitzpatrick and S.W. Bailey.

Council to contribute £2.2.0 to Tourist Association and a letter of appreciation sent for its work in the welcome to the soldiers of 2/26th Battn. on 20th June.

Council Meeting – 9th August, 1941

6 page report from Health Inspector, Mr. Grimes advising just how much is wrong in the town. Council recommended that all the necessary notices be served. Mr. Grimes to carry out a further week of inspection.

Pattersons Curse and Mint Week declared noxious throughout the State.

Civic Welcome to be tendered to Mrs. Garry, State President of the C.W.A. on 16.8.41.

Council Meeting – 13th September, 1941

Shire Clerk requested repairs to office after recent storm caused some damage to the ceiling of the office and this, together with other items in the office require attention. Russell Stevenson, Junior Clerk, given release from official duties to join R.A.A.F. A letter of congratulations be presented to him,

P.V. and P.V. Driver's Licences issued to R. Cunynghame and Leonard Williams.

Consulate General of Poland asked for contribution towards the Policy Army Comforts.

Council Meeting – 11th October, 1941

Health Inspector's Report.

Council to protest at the repeal of Ordinance 10, Postal Voting.

Shire Engineer given permission to do survey work on Bathurst and Goulburn Roads in preparedness for post-war work.

Council Meeting – 8th November, 1941

Council complained they had not been asked to a Conference in Wallerawang, attended by Bathurst, Turon, Lithgow and Blaxland Council to discuss the Fish River Water Scheme.

Building Application by T. O'Connell for galvanized iron shed in Dart Street. Approved.

Amendment of Ordinance 9 to permit grouping of candidates' names on ballot papers.

Government advised that Ordinance 10 – Postal Voting, cannot be revived.

Grant of £50 made available for construction of steps at Kanangra Walls, for access to the tops,

Govt. advised it is now proposed to advise next of kin, in the case of fatal war casualties, by direct telegram instead of through local committees.

Vacancies for personnel available for maintenance of the north-south road in the N.T.

THE LAST ELECTION TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SHIRE WAS IN 1937.

Election Matters:

Chief Polling Place: Oberon.

“A” Riding: O’Connell, Wisemans Creek, Lagoon, Essington, Foleys Creek, Norway.

“B” Riding: Duckmaloi, Hazelgrove, Kierstone, O’Connell.

“C” Riding: Paling Yards, Arkstone, Isabella, Porters Retreat, Jaunter, Shooters Hill, Gingkin, Edith, Black Springs, Jenolan Caves, Norway, Foleys Creek, Essington.

Presiding Officer (£1) and 1 Poll Clerk (15 shillings) be appointed to each polling booth and 1/0 per mile (1 way) for return of ballot boxes.

Returning Officer (Shire Clerk) - £2.2.0 for each Riding, if contested, or £5.5.0 for 3 Ridings, if contested, and Substitute Returning Officer £1.1.0 per Riding contested.

Special Council Meeting – 13th December, 1941

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Cr. H.S. McPhillamy

Deputy Shire President: Councillor J.J. Hoolihan

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole Council.

Council Meeting – 13th December, 1941

Shire Engineer – E.H. Harris – stated he may go into a Training School before transfer to the A.I.F.

Councillor G.L. Brien elected.

Shire Clerk to be appointed Salvage Officer and meeting to organize a Salvage Committee to be held on 15th December.

New site for sanitary and garbage depots to be left to Engineer and Cr. Armstrong.

Impounding Officer wages to be £2 per day and Engineer appointed Pound Keeper.

Estimates: General Rate – 3d.; Street Lighting – 1 ½ d.; Town Improvement – 1 d. on U.C.V.

P.V. & P.V. Driver’s Licence granted to L. Williams.

Conference of interested councils to meet on 18th December to discuss the water supply scheme for the district from the Fish River.

Application for permit to collect waste salvage for patriotic purposes left in Clerk’s hands.

Requisite funds made available for new Police Station and Court House at Oberon.

Council to open a subscription list for funds for construction of a new “SYDNEY” Battleship and Council head the list with a donation of £5. All Councillors, Clerk and Engineer donated either £1 or £1.1.0.

Australian Naval Relief Fund requested assistance in raising funds for dependants of the men who perished with the sinking of the “Sydney” and “Parramatta”.

F.H. Rowe, Shire Clerk, appointed Chief Warden in lieu of M. Robson.

As 1 candidate for election dropped out, it only left 2 per Riding. Government refused cancellation of elections and made Council go ahead with it, even though there were the right number of candidates (6).

1942

Council Meeting – 17th January, 1942

President reported on the Conference in Lithgow for the Fish River Water Supply Scheme. Motion finally carried asking Minister to proceed with the Scheme. It is not possible to say when the scheme could proceed, owing to present war position.

Council still had 2 revolvers in its possession and as the need for them has passed, Council may wish to sell them rather than hold them and pay the licence fee of 10/- each year.

Salvage Committee to consist of Mrs. R.R. Perkins – Red Cross; Mrs. T.S. Lee – C.W.A.; Miss Popsy Cunynghame – C.W.A. Younger Set; J. Jackson - R.S.L. and S.A. Booth – Patriotic Fund.

Several sites for new sanitary and garbage depot inspected. Recommended that 10 acres be resumed from Portion 130, Parish of Oberon. The site is situated 2 ½ miles from Oberon, between railway line and Lowes Mount Road. Area fairly heavily timbered and estimated cost of resumption, clearing, fencing and provision of water supply is £230.

Report made on outbreak of bush fire near Jenolan Caves. Letters of appreciation to Brigadier Fewtrell (Bathurst Military Camp) re. co-operation and work of troops at this bush fire, particular mention to be made of Lieutenant Oatley who was knocked out by a falling stone but proceeded with the work the next day, also letters to Messrs. Morton and Westcott of Rydal Bush Fire Brigade, to Oberon Bush Fire Brigade and A.E. Armstrong as Deputy Captain.

O'Connell Bush Fire Brigade personnel: J.M. Condon (Captain), W.G. Bestwick (Deputy Captain), J.R. Mullampy (Secretary) – approved by Council.

Well at Oberon Park to be cleaned out and if water supply is O.K. a windmill, 3,000 gal. tank and 3" pump be erected there.

Shire Engineer – E.H. Harris – resigned.

L.J. Stapleton appointed Shire Engineer.

Proprietor of Electricity Franchise in Oberon, L.A. Anstiss, to remove and reduce lighting power in Oberon streets in accordance with National Security Regulations.

Liquid Fuel Control Board instructing that substitute fuels must be arranged on Council vehicles.

Glyndwr Avenue to be leased to J. Brady as being an unnecessary road, on a yearly basis at rental of £1 p.a., lease to cancelled by either party on 1 month's notice.

Council Meeting – 14th February, 1942

A.E. Armstrong, Commanding Officer of Oberon Branch of N.S.W. Rangers asked Council if stock could be brought by the coast via Kanangra Walls Road. Ramp to be built in place of steps.

Park Well and Town Well cleaned out, but very little water available.

Discussion on making Engineer a joint appointment with Abercrombie Council.

Evacuation Committee formed comprising S.E. Mawhood (Chairman); Rev. H.G. Ingate (Vice Chairman); F.H. Rowe (Secretary); F.B. Dann (Assistant Secretary).

L.A. Anstiss appointed as Deputy Chief Warden of the Shire.

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

H.E. Kater and H.A. Cunynghame attended Council in connection with meeting called for discussion regarding formation of Committee for Protection of Soldiers' Farms. Minister for Lands to be asked for full information regarding powers, duties and liabilities of such a Committee.

Moree Council wrote re Internment of Enemy Aliens and substitute fuel exploitation.

Letter of sympathy to T.C. Hackney in loss of son at war.

Special Council Meeting – 21st February, 1942

2 slit trench type air raid shelters, each accommodating 75 persons, be sunk at suitable locations.

Council Meeting – 14th March, 1942

Miss E. Symington appointed to temporary position of stenographer clerk.

2 suitable tables to be procured for Council Meetings.

Part of Shire Engineer's Report on Air Raid Shelters, Road Signs and Charcoal.

Fish River Water Supply Scheme: Council asked Minister for Works to provide a water supply from the Fish River Water Supply Scheme and undertakes to pay £5,150 towards cost of works, and to pay £83 each year as minimum annual payment for supply of water.

There was insufficient demand to warrant the survey and disposal of building allotments at Kanangra Walls.

The matter of procuring Tiger Snake Antivenene left in hands of Clerk to discuss with Dr. Perkins, and attend to if necessary.

Council Meeting – 11th April, 1942

Theft of 11 gallons of oil, a new vycy (sic) and 2 gallon petrol tin containing 1 gallon of petrol and some bolts from the caravan at Norway occurred last week end. Police have been informed.

Air Raid Shelter/Trenches - £56, £16 more than expected.

Charcoal production (Shire Engineer's Report to this meeting gives all details). Council decided to stand over and endeavour to get all available information from Turon Shire, information to be made available to private persons interested.

Tweed Shire demanding the internment of all enemy aliens and that they be employed on national works.

C.W.A. celebrating 9th year in Oberon.

New Court House cannot be erected at present.

Council Meeting – 9th May, 1942

Board of Health advising of control of Dengue Fever.

Council agrees with Abercrombie Council in the matter of lifting of regulations relating to the masking of headlights of motor vehicles.

Donation of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 13th June, 1942

Shire Clerk and Shire Engineer asked permission to enlist for active service and were granted permission to join the Royal Australian Air Force or any other unit they so desire.

Clerk advised that it was necessary to paint the Raid Precautions Scheme 12: Painting of Kerb and Posts on footpaths and roads white in accordance with regulations

R.G.L. Baillie (solicitor) called up for R.A.A.F. and advising T.L. Blatchford will conduct his practice in his absence.

Darlington Council suggested the necessity of Director of Emergency Food Supplies the power to grant exemption from military service to storekeepers and assistance considered to be performing essential services in the retailing of foodstuffs.

Butcher's Shop and Slaughter House Licences granted to L.G. Cunynghame & Sons.

Council Meeting – 11th July, 1942

Another suggested site for the garbage and sanitary depots is on T.H. Hackney's property on eastern side of Mayfield Road, 3.9 miles from Oberon consisting of 3 gravel ridges, fairly heavily timbered and a water supply could be provided with a dam. Clearing, fencing and provision of water supply and resumption would cost approx. £200.

Butcher's Shop Licences granted to A.F. Fitzpatrick and S. Bailey & Son.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1942

Quantity of salvaged paper sent to Australian Paper Manufacturers, payment received and after expenses deducted, proceeds to be sent to various organizations concerned.

A “Pederick” Gas Producer has been fitted to recently purchase motor truck and uses charcoal.

Conference on proposal to employ a full time Impounding Officer for Oberon, Turon and Abercrombie Shires and Bathurst P.P. Board.

Council Meeting – 12th September, 1942

R.G. Stevenson and Shire Clerk rejected for active service in R.A.A.F.

President to apply immediately for exemption if Clerk or Engineer are called up.

Shellharbour Council trying to have Daylight Saving Scheme abolished.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1942

A lengthy report by the Shire Clerk on all the things he has to do, both for Council and in relation to the War Effort. It shows just how much work has to be done.

Shire Engineer appointed as Pound Keeper.

Board of Health saying Council should decide on what precautions to take about Dengue Fever.

E. Symington asked for leave of absence to take up duties with Womens Auxiliary Air Force. Request denied.

Council Meeting – 14th November, 1942

Alterations be effected to existing shed in yard at Council Chambers to provide access to the northern end and also partition between east and west end.

Notices to be served on all householders in town of Oberon to provide sufficient fire breaks at least 20 ft. wide around all

buildings in town, whether or not such 20 ft. extends beyond the boundary.

Bush Fire Advisory Council giving particulars of action by broadcasting stations in relation to bush fires, details of incendiary leaves and Japanese fire bombs.

Licences granted to R. Nicholson (Barber’s Shop) and Peters & Co. (Refreshment Rooms).

Miss E. Symington resigned from staff and agreement it be before 31st December.

Left to Engineer to approve a site for the establishment of a pea vining plant in Oberon by Gordon Edgell & Sons Ltd.

Council to write to Ministers for Agriculture and Supply regarding the shortage of sale licks for stock and expressing the view that it is only by the use of licks and drenches that sheep can be successfully run in the Oberon district.

Special Council Meeting – 12th December, 1942

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor G.L. Brien

Deputy Shire President: Councillor E. Spicer.

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole Council.

Council Meeting – 12th December, 1942

Estimates: General – 3d.; Town Improvement – 2d.; Street Lighting – 1 ½ d. on U.C.V.

Site for Pea-vining Station for Gordon Edgell & Sons next to Oberon Park and building application recommended to erect a pea vining Station on Lowes Mount Road.

Another Council (Bibbenluke) asking for State Parliaments to be abolished.

Boree Council to make representations to Federal & State Governments regarding the spread of Venereal Diseases and the necessity for action to be taken.

J. Jackson appointed sanitary contractor for
1943 @ 1/1 per service at old sanitary site
and ½ at the new one on the Lowes Mount
Road. Council set charge of 1/4d. per
service

1943

Council Meeting – 9th January, 1943

Miss E. Symington resigned 31.12.42 and went into the W.A.A.F and R.G. Stevenson into the R.A.N.

Shire Clerk to carry out duties of Health Inspector for an additional £20.

Shire Engineer appointed as Weeds Inspector.

The Shire Engineer suggested the appointment of a Storeman. Agreed.

Council Meeting – 13th February, 1943

Barber's Shop Licence granted to R. Nicholson.

First mention of 26th January as a Public Holiday.

Insufficient office accommodation held over pending ultimate control of the whole existing building.

Council Meeting – 13th March, 1943

Muriel Charles appointed as Female Clerical Assistant.

Council to purchase an Ediphone Dictating Machine, or similar, for about £130.0.0.

Civic Welcome to be extended to Mrs. R. Donaldson, Central Western Group President of the C.W.A.

J. Williams (Captain), J.T. Maloney Deputy Captain) approved for Felled Timber B.F.B.

C.R. Armstrong granted Butcher's Shop and Slaughtering Licences.

Council Meeting 10th April, 1943

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

£5 contributed to Bathurst District Hospital.

Shire Clerk and Shire Engineer to compile of list of works for Post War Reconstruction Works Programme.

Council Meeting – 8th May, 1943

Rental Charges for Memorial Hall: General use up to midnight – 12/6 plus 5/- per hour thereafter; afternoon and night – 15/-; Meetings – afternoons – 2/6, evenings 5/-. These charges subject to 20% reduction for regular users. Patriotic, Returned Soldiers and other kindred bodies are allowed the use of the hall free of charge.

A lorry driver has been taken from Council and called up by the Allied Works Council for work as a carpenter.

£2.2.0 donation to Bathurst Ambulance.

Steps to be taken to bring into operation the regulation of traffic in Oberon so as to provide for the parking of cars in the streets at an angle of 45 degrees to the kerb with the tail 2 ft. from the kerb.

Council Meeting – 12th June, 1943

Butcher's Shop Licence granted to L.G. Cunynghame & Sons.

Proposal by Lithgow Council to hold a conference of a district known as the Central West to be held in Orange. Conference to deal with Greater Local Government and Post War Reconstruction.

5 pages of report on Post War Reconstruction. There is also an 18 page attachment giving costs, etc.

Council Meeting – 10th July, 1943

A Notice Board to be placed in the town for the exhibition of public notices and the Patriotic Board is to be placed in control of the Board and also given permission to charge a fee for space thereon, but that all patriotics, such as Red Cross, C.W.A., etc.

notices and Council notices are to be free of charge.

The alternative sanitary site, situated at the south-east corner of Portion 130, Parish of Oberon, be referred to the Board of Health for approval and, if approved, have the site surveyed and dedicated.

Shire Engineer has enlisted in the A.I.F. for training school for Royal Australian Engineers. He should be away for 14 weeks with his training.

Licences granted to S. Bailey & Sons, O'Connell for Slaughter House and Butcher's Shop; A.F. Fitzpatrick, Hazelgrove – Slaughter Yards; and Cunynghame & Son, Oberon - Slaughter House.

War Loans and National Savings Campaigns advised an Honour Pennant was won by Oberon in Third Liberty Loan.

Council Meeting – 13th August, 1943

Shire Engineer, L.J. Stapleton granted leave of absence for duration of war and 12 months thereafter for the purpose of his duties with the War Services.

Mr. Fox appointed Foreman.

As a result of the above, Dept. L.G. be asked if Abercrombie Shire's Engineer, Mr. Hole, could be approached to have supervision and Mr. Fox be appointed as Foreman.

Bulk Electricity Supply for Oberon: Council communicate with Edgells to regain guarantee of sum suggested for 10 years. If Edgells sign this guarantee, meeting with Blaxland Shire suggested with a view to proceeding with the scheme. If these arrangements satisfactory, Council proceed with bulk supply scheme immediately. If above are satisfactory, Council give Mr. L. Anstiss 6 month's notice for the taking over of his undertaking, as required by the franchise.

Council Meeting – 10th September, 1943

A copy of the Report of the Conference held at Blaxland Shire Council Chambers at Wallerawang on 19th August, 1943 in connection with the proposed supply of bulk electricity to Oberon Shire is.

Lease of tennis courts to Mr. Ross and others has now lapsed. Agreement has been cancelled.

A copy of the President's Report covering such matters as the Central West Conference, Public Hospital and use of Soldier's Memorial Hall by Buffalo Lodge.

Suggested Council to endeavour to have a ceremony for turning of the first sod for the Fish River Water Supply Scheme.

Public Meeting to be held on 9th October to discuss further arrangements for transport for the coming season and the proposal for the establishment of a Public Hospital in town.

Proposed new sanitary depot site considered suitable.

Abercrombie Shire agreeing to R.T. Hole supervising engineering works during the military service of the Shire Engineer, Mr. Stapleton.

Council Meeting – 9th October, 1943

Report of Shire Clerk's visit to Sydney in September re., amongst other things, covered Public Hospital, Sod Turning Ceremony for Fish River Water Supply Scheme, Oberon Electricity Supply and Conference on Post War Local Government.

Hon. W.J. McKell, Premier, is to turn the first sod, and Hon. J.J. Cahill, Minister for Public Works, to unveil a Tablet to commemorate the ceremony.

War Agricultural Committee asking about roads to Edith, Gingkin, etc. when dam is being erected. Advised provision must be made for alternate route before road is blocked.

C.R. Armstrong asked to lease camping area near J. Whiteley's property in town.

Council Meeting – 13th November, 1943

Councillor P.B. Howell elected in place of Cr. C.R. Armstrong.

Ceremony for turning of sod for Fish River Water Scheme held on 23rd October, 1943 – cost £24.18.9.

Mr. Stanford, Headmaster of Oberon Public School, be invited to attend the next meeting of Council to discuss the matter of the proposed use of Council land as a Playground. The section of Council land to be utilized is the lower portion of the allotment of the Soldiers Memorial Hall. Council is Legal Trustee of the ground and some decision must now be arrived at as to whether this portion could be allowed to be used for the purposes set out.

Mr. Claude G. Phillips of Bathurst took up duties 11th November as Pound Keeper and Impounding Officer.

Shire Clerk informed Council that a lot of time is taken up by him in seeing people about petrol rationing applications and other interviews. He suggested that a specific time be set aside for him to see these people. Council decided he should put aside 1 day per week for these interviews.

Shire Clerk pointed out that from past and present trend of affairs in the town and district that great activities in many different avenues will take place here in the near future. He suggested that in order that a properly designed and organized plan in relation to developments, particularly of the town, that Council should consider the preparation of a Town Planning Scheme with the setting aside of various portions of the town for various purposes and for the adequate enforcement of building and health regulations. A sub-committee was formed to look into these matters.

Council does not propose going ahead with the bulk electricity supply proposal at the present time owing to difficulties encountered.

Barber's Shop Licence granted to Mrs. A. Johnston.

Meeting to be held at Lithgow on 20th November to discuss the formation of a County Council comprising Lithgow, Blaxland, Rylstone and Oberon Council's for the control of water, electricity, sewerage and noxious weeds.

Progress Association suggested a number of town improvements – Civic Block-matter being kept in mind; Public Lavatory-suggest a suitable site for erection; Swimming Pool-Shire Clerk to forward information; Fish River Water Scheme-Council draw Dept. Public Works attention to the possibility of pollution of the Fish River Water Scheme from The Reef residents who possess no means of sanitation.

Report of Public Meeting at Malachi Gilmore Hall on 9th October, 1943 to consider proposal for establishment of a Public Hospital at Oberon.

Special Council Meeting – 4th December, 1943

Meeting re proposed amalgamation of Blaxland, Oberon and Lithgow Council and other items.

Special Council Meeting – 18th December, 1943

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor G.L. Brien.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor P.B. Howell

Finance & Works Committees to be whole Council.

Council Meeting – 18th December, 1943

Estimates: General Rate – 3d; Street Lighting – 1 ½ d.; Town Improvement – 2 d. on U.C.V.

The Slit Trenches, dug under National Emergency Services Regulations, have now been filled in.

Street light at corner Fleming and Cunynghame Streets be removed and re-erected at corner Fleming and Dart Streets.

Shire Clerk, F.H. Rowe, and Foreman, H. Fox, jointly act as Building Inspectors.

Refreshment Room Licences granted to Peters & Co. and Miss N. Burton.

Railways Dept. advised that it was not practical to increased quota of trucks allotted to Oberon Station for transport of wool.

Hornsby Shire wants the abandonment of meat rationing.

Oberon Council should have control of Fish River Water Supply Scheme when project completed, and control should be vested in Council. To be discussed with Minister for Public Works and local member, C.A. Kelly.

1944

Council Meeting – 8th January, 1944

Mr. I. Stanford, School Master of Oberon Public School, attended meeting in relation to additional playing areas next to school to allow children to use the northern portion of Council Chambers allotment. It was decided to leave it as it stood and Education Department to be contacted. Council to get agreement between Council and Soldiers' Memorial Committee.

£5.5.0 was donated to Oberon Hospital Fund.

Council Meeting – 12th February, 1944

Report on Conference re County Council Amalgamation, dated 22nd January, 1944.

An access was provided to the Railway Yards from Scotia Avenue.

Refreshment Room Licences granted to Miss Nell Burton.

Council understands that Government will finance the Fish River Water Supply Scheme in the first place and that Council would then repay its quota over a period of years. Council understands the cost of work includes the reticulation of the town of Oberon. Council asked for a copy of the plan of reticulation.

Proposed new Sanitary and Garbage Depot approved by Dept. of Public Health on Portion 130, Parish of Oberon and now necessary steps be taken for resumption.

Council Meeting – 11th March, 1944

Council to request the Shire Association to group Oberon in the Turon, Abercrombie, Lyndhurst, etc. area in lieu of other coastal areas as at present arranged.

Licences granted to R. Nicholson (Barbers Shop); Peters & Co. (Refreshment Rooms)

and Ravenswood & Co. transfer from Miss N. Burton (Refreshment Rooms).

Council Meeting – 1st April, 1944

Public Lavatories to be erected on Mr. Freer's block in Ross Street and near the Church of England rear block on the Caves Road. Mr. Eric Rogers to be builder and the cost was £48.16.6 for ladies, and £61.17.0 for gents and urinal. Gents lavatory to be erected as soon as possible.

Association of Local Government Clerks drew attention to the award, pointing out that same councils, in order to preserve Town, Shire or County Clerk's seniority, have resolved that the Clerk receive a stated sum in excess of the amount received by another officer.

Council to endeavour to have a National Service Office appointed to Oberon from 1st November to 31st May in each year.

Council to accept trusteeship of instruments still in town from the bank which had at one time operated in Oberon.

Council Meeting – 6th May, 1944

Minister for Health be written to in reference for necessity for improvement to buildings at Railway Station.

C.W.A. advised their toilets had been closed and asking Council to proceed with erection of ladies' conveniences at an early date.

Annual Subscription due to Bathurst Ambulance - £2.2.0 to be donated.

Council Meeting – 17th June, 1944

Oberon District Band and Oberon District Hospital to use the Memorial Hall rent free.

Buffalo Lodge advised to discontinue serving of beer in the Memorial Hall because of damage caused during meetings (condition of floor, seats and mantel).

2 Oberon girls Thelma Batcheldor (later Thelma Young) and Ida Batcheldor (later Ida Simmons) won 1st and 3rd places, respectively in the Australasian Pea Picking Championships at Port Macquarie. Letter of congratulations sent to each girl.

Loan – Special Water Supply – Shire Clerk's Report .

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

Railway: Ask the Railway Commissioners to re-introduce the Central West Express and also for arrangements be made for it to pick up and set down passengers at Tarana on the days it runs. Also protest at the stopping of sale of railway platform tickets.

£2.2.0 to be donated to the A.R. Bluett Memorial Fund.

Premier, through local member, advised enquiries are being made in connection with the provision of a Civic Centre at Oberon in a Programme of Public Works to be carried out in the post war period.

Council to invite Lord & Lady Wakehurst (Governor) to visit Oberon early in 1945. Committee of 7 citizens be formed to make the necessary arrangements and determine the actual date of the visit.

Council Meeting – 8th July, 1944

James Whiteley to act as Chairman for the District Salvage Committee.

The following recommendations from the Clerk be referred to the Town Planning Committee:

Proclamation of Residential Districts so as to prohibit the establishment of various types of businesses and industries, etc. within that residential district.

Provision of a Business Area and for the prohibition, as far as possible, of the erection of private residences on business sites.

Brick Areas and Standards – consideration needs to be given to the existing brick area boundary, and also the need for establishing other standards of dwellings to be erected within various portions of the district.

Civic Block – if it is to be proceeded with, it appears urgent that the necessary land should be procured without further delay, as existing available and suitable allotments may soon be used for other purposes.

Housing, etc. – resumption of a number of blocks of land in the town for the purpose of housing and town planning should be given immediate and thorough attention, firstly to break the existing land lock in the town, and further to assist with the matter of town planning.

County Council and Merger Proposals.

Licences granted to Cunynghame & Son, Oberon, and S. Bailey & Son (O'Connell) (Buchers Shop and Slaughter Houses) and Mrs. Rose Hughes and Mrs. Ohrin (Refreshment Rooms).

Oberon District Hospital asked permission to cross North Street with a pipeline from the Catholic Presbytery. Tentative permission granted.

Ban on sale of railway platform tickets lifted.

Council Meeting – 12th August, 1944

Shire Clerk to confer with Dr. Perkins in an endeavour to enforce the provisions of the law relating to the intermingling with the public of infectious disease contacts.

After the County Council and Amalgamation Proposals Conference in Wallerawang this Council was unanimously opposed to amalgamation and that this Council would favourably consider the formation of a County Council for the control of water supplies within the area.

Secretary for Railways advised that the Central West Express could not stop at Tarana to pick up or set down passengers as it would unduly delay the train.

The Governor, Lord Wakehurst & Lady Wakehurst accepted invitation to visit Oberon sometime and would advise when the date was to be.

Council Meeting – 9th September, 1944

Mr. F.H. Rowe to act as joint organizing secretary for the proposed forthcoming pea picking championship at Oberon, providing that the job does not interfere with the routine work of the Council.

Mrs. R. Hughes granted a Refreshment Rooms Licence.

C.W.A. stating they would arrange a social evening for their Excellencies, Lord & Lady Wakehurst when they come to Oberon. Council advised that we have no definite date at present but when they do, a Committee will be formed to deal with the matter.

Council Meeting – 14th October, 1944

Oberon District Band Committee advised they are responsible for the instruments (with Council as Trustee) and that a statement is to be supplied monthly as to who holds the various instruments and any changes which are made during each month.

Because of the water shortage in town, J.F. Moore is to allow people to obtain water from his water supply from the Fish River at a nominal charge to cover cost of pumping.

C.G. Phillips suspended as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper and appointment of some suitable person be left in the hands of the President.

Approval given to Council to raise a loan of £5,150 being Council's contribution to the Fish River Water Supply Scheme, but there is a possibility that no loan will be approved in connection with the extension of the reticulation in town.

Request for Council's co-operation for immediate post war work in the matter of recommencing recruits for police forces and the re-opening of all Police Stations closed down owing to war time restrictions.

Council to provide a concrete footpath to access to hospital at a cost of £3.10.0.

Oberon P. & C. asking Council to arrange for existing stock route, which runs past the Public School, to be diverted to another

route through town. Council advised that steps are now being taken for an alternate route to be provided.

S.E. Mawhood granted an application for a basement in his premises.

It was decided to approach Sgt. Kelly of the Oberon Police Station and obtain his views and, if he is in favour, of making representation to have additional police stationed at Oberon permanently.

Council Meeting – 11th November, 1944

C.R. Armstrong appointed Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper @ £52 p.a. on part time basis, payable quarterly.

1 nomination received for "A" Riding (extraordinary election needed at a later date), 3 for "B" Riding (election needed) and 2 for "C" Riding (no election needed).

The proposal to form a County Council has been postponed indefinitely.

Official Opening of the Hospital to take place on 18th November, 1944.

Special Council Meeting – 9th December, 1944

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Cr. G.L. Brien

Deputy Shire President: Cr. E. Spicer

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of Whole Council.

Town Planning Committee: President, Cr. G.L. Brien, Cr. Howell, Shire Clerk and Overseer plus Messrs. S.E. Mawhood, I.W. Stanford and L.A. Anstiss.

Council Meeting – 9th December, 1944

Estimates: General – 3d.; Street Lighting - 1 ½ d.; Town Improvement – 3d. in £ on U.C.V.

Levy to be made on ratepayer for Bush Fire "Voluntary" Levy – 5/- minimum and 1/- per 100 acres on ratable lands in Shire, town

tenements be flat rate of 5/- per house or tenement.

No road into new Mozart School erected on T.C. Hackney's property and asking Council to clear the road and make it trafficable.

1945

Council Meeting – 13th January, 1945

Public Meeting called re formation of a Bowling Club at Oberon. Club to be formed and suggestions re. bowling green referred to Town Planning Committee for comment.

Cr. A.E. Armstrong added to the Town Planning Committee.

Concrete footpaths were constructed in the following locations:

In front of Mrs. Whiteleys terraces in Oberon Street, Miss Cashin's premises in Raleigh Street (shop frontage), Police Station premises owned by Mrs. S. Harrison in Oberon, frontage to residence owned by H.A. Cunynghame and occupied by C. Reeve in Oberon Street, the strip between the Commercial Bank and Howell's Shop and the strip between Howell's shop and the Malachi Gilmore Hall.

Election to fill vacancy in "A" Riding to be 24th February, 1945.

J.T. Mitchell granted a Refreshment Room Licence.

Council to ask whether or not it is proposed to build the wall of the Fish River Dam up to 100 ft. level and also what is proposed to be done regarding the locations of reticulation mains in Oberon urge work to proceed as soon as possible for erection of the service reservoir, pumping station and laying of reticulation mains.

Council Meeting – 10th February, 1945

Pound Fees for horse, ass, mule and cow – 2/6 per day; sheep – 6d. per head per week; goats – 1/- per head per week and pigs – 15/- per head per week.

14 cattle, 11 horses and 159 sheep impounded during November & December, 1944.

Government has gazetted a proposal for amalgamating Lithgow, Blaxland and Oberon Councils. 1 month given for objections. Council to lodge an objection.

Lavatories to be separated from Malachi Gilmore Hall to outside the Hall.

It was decided to make a Town Park between Dark & Oberon Streets (between Fleming & Ross Streets) for use as a children's playground, with provision for seating, tables and shelters and public lavatories. Park to be landscaped before conveniences built. This is somewhere near where Captain Cook Park now stands.

Council agreed to a Retiring Allowance for staff over 50. Long Service Leave of 3 months for every 10 years' service and pro-rata thereafter was also approved.

Licences granted to L.C.E. Williams (P.V. & P.V. Drivers); R. Nicholson and Mrs. F.A. Johnson (Barbers Shop) and Mrs. R. Hughes and Mrs. A. Ohrin (Refreshment Rooms).

Portion of land applied for by Oberon Bowling & Recreation Club be set aside from the existing Oberon Park or Recreation Ground, having a frontage to Cunynghame Street.

Council to make enquiries about a National Fitness Centre and Free Public Library.

Public Works Dept. to be asked for 3 stand pipes along the Fish River Pipe Line for the purpose of being used for bush fire prevention purposes.

Council Meeting – 10th March, 1945

New Councillor – Cr. Condon.

Discussions with Ministers about Civic Centre, etc. A Police Station, to be incorporated in the new Civic Centre was favourably received by the Police Department.

Cr. Howell offered to have seats placed in or near the main street without cost to Council. Accepted as long as Council approved the positioning of the seats.

Council Meeting – 14th April, 1945

Council staff sent to Edgells Viner Station to assist in putting through a large quantity of pea vines.

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt dies and Council stood in silence as a mark of respect.

S.E. Mawhood granted approval for the erection of a bulk store.

Mulwaree Council advised of their interest in the southern part of Oberon Shire should amalgamation take place.

It is not proposed to raise the reservoir at the present juncture as it is estimated that the depth of 55 ft. will provide sufficient storage for present requirements.

The Governor, Lord Wakehurst, and Lady Wakehurst unable to visit Oberon.

Council to ask the P.M.G. to provide a cable service between Oberon and Bathurst, due to the bad general telephone service in the Oberon district.

Council Meeting – 5th May, 1945

Council decided not to take out insurance in the case of “Highway Robbery”.

Council would like to have 10 Chemical Closets installed in various parts of the town for experimental purposes before making any further decisions on this matter. This was not agreed to at meeting of 16.6.45.

WORLD WAR II ENDED IN EUROPE WITH GERMANY’S FORMAL SURRENDER ON 7TH MAY, 1945.

Celebrations of V Day to take form of a combined service to be held in a public hall, with the co-operation of the Returned Soldiers and Churches.

R.W. Burke re-appointed Auditor.

Approval given for new Nurses Quarters at Oberon District Hospital.

Water Rate to be levied to cover the loan for the water supply.

A Civic Welcome will be accorded to Dr. Eugene Ewart a guest of the C.W.A. for 12th May.

C.R. Armstrong resigned as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper.

Letter to be sent to J.B. Chifley, Federal Treasurer and Acting Prime Minister, stating Council’s regret at the illness of Mr. Curtin and at the same time complimenting Mr. Chifley on his attaining the position of Acting Prime Minister of Australia.

Council Meeting – 16th June, 1945

Grand United Order of Oddfellows granted permission to place a small cupboard, for Regalia, in the Memorial Hall.

Donation to Bathurst District Ambulance of £2.2.0.

Council Meeting – 14th July, 1945

Prime Minister, J. Curtin dies. Local Federal Member, J.B. Chifley, elected Prime Minister. Telegram of congratulations to be forwarded. Also congratulations be forwarded on his appointment as a Privy Councillor.

Council to levy a Special Rate of ¼ d. in the £ on U.C.V. of the whole of the ratable lands within the Shire in 1946 for the purpose of provision of fire fighting equipment.

Responsibility for maintenance and control of bush fire fighting equipment be vested in Council and this equipment not be allowed to be used for other than fire fighting purposes.

Control, management and supervision with the issuing, care and maintenance, etc. of bush fire fighting equipment be left in hands of Shire Clerk and Overseer.

The matter of the Trout Hatchery being moved from Boggy Flat to near the Fish River Dam on Fish River Creek has been investigated and the proposed site appeared to be satisfactory. Council will not object to the establishment of a hatchery at this location and also it approved the closure of a

section of the Fish River for approximately ½ mile below the Fish River Dam.

Licences renewed for Butcher Shop and Slaughter Houses for L.G. Cunynghame & Son and S. Bailey and Son.

Council Meeting – 11th August, 1945

Barbers Shop Licence granted to William Herbert Burnett.

Council Meeting – 8th September, 1945

WORLD WAR II ENDED IN THE PACIFIC WITH JAPAN'S FORMAL SURRENDER ON 15TH AUGUST, 1945.

Council to make immediate application for the Shire Engineer, Mr. L.J. Stapleton, to be released from the army.

Stock Route alterations discussed.

The designation "Anniversary Day" now to be known as "Australia Day".

Oberon Shire Bush Fire Brigade matters discussed which arose out of a meeting on 11th August, 1945.

A new street light to be erected in Earl Street.

Letters of thanks to be sent to Messrs. R.C. Cotton, S.E. Mawhood, R.E. Wilson and C.A. Kelly, M.L.A. in appreciation of assistance which they gave to inquiry into amalgamation of Oberon with Blaxland and Lithgow Councils.

Council Meeting – 13th October, 1945

Ex-Councillor E. Robinson died.

Shire President, Cr. G.L. Brien and Cr. Armstrong to represent Council on Oberon Shire Bush Fire Brigade Committee.

Post War Works Programmes suggested are a Civic Centre on the corner of Ross & Queen Streets, which may incorporate Police Station, Court House, P.M.G. and Forestry Dept (which are rumoured to be building in Oberon at some time in the future) and swapping of the Police block for the Council block; and sewerage system for health and drainage reasons.

Central School – Deputation from P. & C., consisting of Dr. R.R. Perkins, Rev. W.C. Arnold and Rev. H.J.A. Emms sought support from Council in pressing for additional facilities at the school in connection with the abovementioned Scheme (Post War Works), the idea being that the Public School become a Central School and be on another site.

Another deputation was from the Football Club and Cricket Club asking Council for decent improvements to provide a good oval and sports ground suitable for football and cricket and other sports at the Recreation Ground. They also asked for a shelter shed or dressing rooms.

Another deputation was received from Oberon & District Bowling & Recreation Asscn. Asking for Council's assistance in construction of a Bowling Green on the Recreation Ground. If Council helped with finance and construction the Club would repay the Council over a period of 8 to 10 years.

Blaxland Shire and Railways Dept. stating they would be interested in the supply of bulk electricity to Oberon Shire and Jenolan Caves.

Council to arrange for 2 standpipes to be erected on the Fish River Pipe Line where it crosses M.R. 253 (Oberon-Jenolan Caves) and where it crosses the Hampton Road and the cost be met from the Bush Fire Brigade Fund.

The Agricultural Bureau called a meeting to discuss the proposed road from Blackheath through Megalong, Lowther and Hampton to Oberon.

Council approved the scale of charges of L.C.E. Williams for his car hire service as follows – town of Oberon area (1 mile radius from P.O.) 2/-; outside town area 1/- per mile each way; waiting time 6/- per hour; funerals £1 per hour flat rate within 5 miles radius; weddings £1.5.0 per hour flat rate within 5 mile radius of P.O.

Council Meeting – 17th November, 1945

Council to ask Blaxland Shire for the services of their Engineer, Mr. Coles, for 2 days a fortnight until the return of the Shire Engineer from his war service, and if this not possible, advertise for position of temporary Engineer.

Public Works Dept. advised Council that there should be a sufficient visible flow of water maintained in Fish River as far as the Duckmaloi River after completion of the Fish River Water Supply Dam.

Council advised that north-west corner of Queen & Ross Streets had been chosen for the new Court House, etc.

Council agreed to the installation of a PUBLIC Weighbridge in North Street near N. David's residence.

Minister for Lands advised Council that properties to be resumed for closer settlement purposes are Essington Park and Bunnamagoo.

Special Council Meeting – 6th December, 1945

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor E. Spicer.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor P.B. Howell

Works & Finance Committees to be Committees of Whole Council.

Council Meeting – 6th December, 1945:

Councillor G. Lindsay Brien (ex-Shire President) died November/December, 1945.

R.C.C. Cotton asked to remove the disolvenator lavatory at his premises and replace it with a pan system closet in accordance with Council's regulations.

Distribution of net proceeds of Salvage Sales to be distributed to Patriotic Fund, C.W.A. Comforts Fund, C.W.A. Younger Set Comforts Fund, Red Cross and Returned Soldiers.

Land Board Office advised Council that Hospital Commission of N.S.W. is to

acquire 5 acres within Section 48, Town of Oberon, and asking for revocation of Reserve.

Sgt. E.J.C. Hughes appointed Inspector of Slaughter Houses within the Shire of Oberon and Oberon Police Patrol District in place of Sgt. J.E. Kelly who has retired from Police.

1946

Council Meeting – 11th January, 1946

Rates for 1946 are General Rate – 3d.; Street Lighting Local Rate – 1 ½ d.; Town Improvement Local Rate – 3 d.; Water Supply Loan Rate – 3 ½ d. in £ on U.C.V.

Mr. Coles, Engineer for Blaxland Shire, not available to stand in for Shire Engineer.

L.G.E. Williams granted P.V. and P.V. Drivers Licences.

Timber Industries requested extension of water main to their factory. Water will be extended to corner of North Street and Cunynghame Street, but they must provide a pipeline from there to their premises. No indication can be given at this time as to the possible price of water or power.

No street light at corner of Dart and Dudley Streets at School corner but that one be placed at the top end of Carrington Avenue.

3 applications received for position of temporary Engineer and it was decided that Lt. G.C. Page of the A.I.F. be appointed until Shire Engineer, L.J. Stapleton, returns from Army. Mr. T.J. Lawson second choice if G.C. Page does not come. Lt. Stapleton advised he would not be returning to work for 2 or 3 months.

Application to be made to P.M.G. for installation of Public Telephone Booth on corner of North Street and Carrington Avenue.

C.W.A. asked if a Public Lavatory could be installed on their premises for the ladies.

Council Meeting – 8th February, 1946

Miss Charles, Female Clerk, moving to Sydney. An advertisement for a temporary position of Female Clerk to be made. Mr. Russell Stevenson, Male Clerk, still serving with R.A.N. and not expected to return to work about the middle of the year.

Licences granted to John Parr & Son and Florence Ada A. Johnson (Barbers Shop) and Peters & Co. (Refreshment Room).

Mr. Cotton informed that the Council has carefully considered the matter of installation of Disolvenators in town and had definitely decided not to allow them and that as he installed his without permission from Council, it must be removed.

As G.C. Page could not get a release from the Army Mr. T.J. Lawson be appointed as Temporary Engineer for a period of not less than 2 months and subject to 14 days' notice of termination when L.J. Stapleton returns from war service and resumes position.

Traffic notices be erected in the main street and Ross Street for the purposes of directing angle parking in these streets.

Council Meeting – 14th March, 1946

Council agreed to a street light in Dart Street, at a convenient location near the Central School.

Mr. F. Carter of Bathurst and Oberon appointed as Pound Keeper and Impounding Officer.

It has been found that, when the water reticulation is made to town, all town residences must be connected at the same time. Council to go into whether they pay for it or the Department of Public Works, who have still not reticulated the town.

R.C. Cotton and M.C.C. Cotton discussed with Council proposals for the formation of a Farm Forestry League and suggested they would take the necessary action to form this League and asked Council to call a Public Meeting so as to get the people interested in the matter of farm forestry and the planting of trees as a crop.

R.W. Burke re-appointed as Auditor.

Licences granted to N.E. O'Brien (Barbers Shop) and Mrs. Ann Ohrin (Refreshment Room).

Meeting suspended for the day but to resume on 18th March, 1946.

Council Meeting Resumed – 18th March, 1946

Mrs. C. Inglis appointed to position of Temporary Female Clerk.

Mr. Rowland Cunynghame appointed Caretaker of Oberon Park and Recreation Ground.

Council to prepare a scheme for the supply of bulk electricity in the Shire and same be submitted to the Electricity Authority.

Council to write to Railways Department in connection with supply of bulk electricity to Jenolan Caves.

Special Council Meeting – 2nd April, 1946

This meeting was called with Blaxland Shire to discuss the proposed supply of electricity to Oberon. Blaxland is erecting a transmission line from Wallerawang to Tarana and if this Council wishes to take electricity from Blaxland, then a heavier transmission line would need to be installed. Blaxland Shire thinks they should run the operation and distribute the electricity within the Oberon Shire as they could do it more economically.

This Council to speak to L.J. Reynolds, Consulting Engineer, re this proposal.

Council Meeting – 12th April, 1946

F. Carter commenced work as Pound Keeper and Impounding Officer on 19.3.46.

Mrs. C. Inglis resigned and R.G. Stevenson uncertain of date he is returning from the Navy. Applications to be called for Senior Clerk.

Shire Clerk to contact Town Planning Association in reference to services of a suitable Town Planner and probably costs in connection with a scheme for town planning in town.

Bush Fire Advisory Committee advised that owing to service personnel demobilizing

troops would not be available for fire fighting.

Shire Engineer, L.J. Stapleton resigned from Council.

Council Meeting – 10th May, 1946

Shire Clerk prepared a report on Council's finances mainly for a programme of bitumen surfacing work on some 34 miles of main roads. (This is a lengthy report taking up 10 pages). There is a further report (2 pages) covering the need for more administrative staff, considering the amount of work now needed since the war finished.

Forestry Commission advised Jenolan State Forest was 2nd in size in the State and it was proposed to put a further 7,000 acres under plantation. Gurnang Forest contains 3,000 acres, and after a survey, in 3 year time they propose to plant a further 23,000 acres there.

Vulcan Forest was considered to be too swampy. Lidsdale Forest to be cut down in area and Neunes (sic) Forest is not considered to be worthwhile. The Forestry Commission desire to plant 40,000 acres of trees in the Orange area, which included Oberon District.

Council formally resolved to establish Civic Centre on the corner of Ross & Queen Streets and also to put Council's Offices there. Provision of Police Station, Court House, etc. to be incorporated in Civic Centre

Arrangement be made for a combined church service to be held on 10th June, 1946 as part of the Peace Day Celebrations.

Laying of house connections from reticulation lines to boundaries of blocks will be undertaken by the Public Works Dept.

Donation to Bathurst Ambulance of £2.2.0.

Council to procure 6 rubbish receptacles in order to endeavour to keep the main street cleaner and free from rubbish, skins, etc.

Council to apply for the issue of Title Deed for the whole of the property on which the present Council Chambers, Memorial Hall and Shire Depot are situated.

Council to write to the Dept. of Road Transport and Tramways advising that a bus service, proposed by H.A. Cunynghame, between Oberon and Mt. Victoria is warranted.

9 applications received for Senior Female Clerk and the following preference was given:

1. Miss Winifred Foster, at present "A" Grade Clerk with Nepean Council; 2. Miss M. Kent, at present Assistant Shire Clerk to Yallaroi Council; and 3. Miss Jean Turnbull of North Richmond.

Council Meeting – 14th June, 1946

Council to immediately obtain bulk supply of electricity through Blaxland Shire.

Miss M. Kent of Warialda appointed to position of Senior Female Clerk. Applications to be called for junior typist.

Because of the problem of getting a Shire Engineer because of the lack of accommodation, it was decided that Council would erect a residence for a Shire Engineer.

Transfer of Hire Vehicle Licence from L.C.E. Williams to James O'Connell.

Council Meeting – 12th July, 1946

Mr. Charles Towle appointed as Town Planner (this appears to be in a consulting capacity).

Mr. R. Keith Lindsay appointed as Shire Engineer.

Miss Dorothy Morgan appointed as Typist.

Taxi Cab Licences granted to Mr. Graham.

Building Application received from the Church of England applying for permission to erect a fibro reading room on Lot 9, Section 20. Approved.

Butcher Shop and Cattle Slaughtering Licences approved for Denis T. Crowley of O'Connell and Cunynghame & Sons of Oberon.

Council granted permission for the Liberal Party to hold street meetings within the Shire boundaries during the currency of the forthcoming elections.

Cahills Dehydrators and Quick Freezers Pty. Ltd. intend to erect a processing and peeling plant at Oberon and asked for information regarding supply of electric power and light.

Council Meeting – 9th August, 1946

P. King appointed Overseer of Works as from 31st July, 1946.

President of the Oberon Town Band be notified to collect all band instruments and also Council advertise for the collection of these instruments.

Notice of appointment to position of R. Keith Lindsay as Shire Engineer returned. An endeavour will be made to find him.

Council Meeting – 13th September, 1946

A report of a meeting of the Electricity Committee of 14.8.46.

The report of L.J. Reynolds, Consulting Engineer, re. electricity franchise take-over be adopted and the Electricity Works Undertaking be taken over on 1st October, 1946.

M.J. Powell be engaged as electrician for management of the Power House.

G.H. David to be engaged as shift electrician for management of Power House.

D. Harris appointed as power house assistant.

Dr. Perkins given full authority to obtain, collate and publish an historical record in reference to Oberon District.

A deputation was received from the Oberon Tourist & Progress Association consisting of Messrs. S.E. Mawhood, R.G. May and M.C. Cotton. The Tourist and Progress Association to be advised that Council is agreeable to appoint a Town Advisory Committee to, under the instructions of Council, investigate local government matters.

Council approved to levy a general rate of 5d. in the £ on U.C.V. from 1.1.47.

Council to place matter before responsible authorities in an endeavour to get a greater proportion of Petrol Tax made available to councils for road works.

Refreshment Room Licence granted to R.J. Mason.

R.K. Lindsay, who was appointed to position of Shire Engineer, wrote to say he was not taking up the position as he has been appointed as Shire Engineer to another Council. Council to advertise the position again.

Charles Towle, Town Planner, advised Council of the necessity of establishing a suitable industrial zone in close relationship to the Railway Station.

Council to complete construction of a bowling green and club house on the Recreation Ground and that arrangements be made for a loan of £2,000 for this construction and a suitable agreement be drawn up between the Council and Bowling Club in reference to payment, etc.

Council Meeting – 11th October, 1946

R.G. Stevenson was welcomed back to Council's staff after serving with the R.A.N.

Ellis Worthley Burley of Strathfield appointed as Shire Engineer.

Applications to be called for Health Inspector.

Cahill's Dehydrators & Quick Freezers Pty. Ltd. has deferred a decision on erecting a factory at Oberon.

The following are the Oberon Town Advisory Committee – H.A. Cunynghame, S.E. Mawhood, W. Britten, R.G. May, F.B. Dann, M.C. Cotton, R.C. Cotton, J.J. Ryan, R. Buckley and J.F. Moore.

Dr. R.R. Perkins attended the meeting and set out his proposal for the compiling of a record of the history of Oberon and district. A number of copies of this history could be printed and any profits on the sale thereon could be paid to the Oberon District Hospital. Dr. Perkins stated that he had started the compilation but was unable to complete it owing to lack of time and

suggested that the Town Advisory Committee might take the matter up. This matter has been referred to the Town Advisory Committee for attention.

Public Works Dept. to be advised that the Old Caves Road has not been barricaded off, but runs into the water of the Fish River Dam and constitutes a grave danger.

Council Meeting – 8th November, 1946

Mr. E.W. Burley, newly appointed Shire Engineer, be asked to take up his duties within a fortnight and if not, C.E. Todd be appointed to the position.

Council decided to get its bulk supply of electricity from Bathurst City Council. Blaxland Shire to be advised Council does not wish to proceed with the matter of bulk electricity supply from that Council and thank it for information supplied.

Dept. of Lands advised Council that it proposes to close part of Fleming Street for the purpose of adding the lands to an area approved to be reserved for a Public Hospital.

An application made by J.F. Moore on behalf of 10 business people in town for permission for them to install and build a swimming pool in the Oberon Recreation Ground, without cost, obligation or liability upon Council, be approved. It was further agreed that Council provide water for the baths free of cost to the Club at the expense of the Town Improvement Fund.

Special Council Meeting – 13th December, 1946

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor E. Spicer.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor P.B. Howell.

Finance & Works Committees to be Committees of the Whole Council.

Other Committees:

Bush Fire: Crs. Spicer, Hoolihan, Armstrong and Jarrett and Messrs. R.E. Wilson & H.E. Kater.

Electricity: Crs. Spicer, Armstrong, Howell and Jarrett.

Water Supply: Crs. Howell and Jarrett.

Town Advisory Committee: Messrs. S.E. Mawhood, J.F. Moore, W. Britten, R.C. Cotton, M.C. Cotton, F.B. Dann, H.A. Cunynghame, R.G. May, J.J. Ryan and R. Buckley.

Council Meeting – 13th December, 1946

AS THIS MEETING WAS SO LONG, IT WAS ADJOURNED ON 13TH DECEMBER AND RE-CONVENED ON 18TH DECEMBER.

Fresh applications to be called for a Shire Engineer.

Approval for J. O'Connell to transfer his public vehicle to A.K. Madden.

1947

Council Meeting – 17th January, 1947

Denis T. Crowley has closed his slaughtering premises at O'Connell.

Bell's Butchery granted licence for new slaughter yards 5 miles from Oberon on the Lowes Mount Road and Butcher's Shop Licence for premises in Oberon Street.

All barber's shops must pay particular attention to sterilization of instruments.

All premises in town that are connected with the Town Water Supply Scheme have water meters installed.

After an inspection of proposed Civic Centre site by Police Department, Justice Department, Post Master General's Department members of Council and representatives of the Town Advisory Committee, it was resolved that the proposal for a Civic Centre in Oberon be abandoned.

Council hopes to have bulk electricity by 30th November, 1947.

Council Meeting – 14th February, 1947

R.W. Burke re-appointed as Auditor.

Water supply to be extended to Edgell's and Timber Industries but the water supply will only go to the northern extremity of North Street and the factories must supply their own pipes, etc. from that point to their premises.

Council is of the opinion that with regard to the building now occupied by the Council and Soldiers Memorial Hall, that either this Council must buy out the share of the Soldiers Memorial Committee or that Committee must buy out the Council's share of the building.

At the Central School P. & C. Association's request, the Council will attend to the matter of condemnation of the old portion of the

School when the Health Inspector commences with Council.

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1947

2 applications received for position of Shire Engineer, J.P. Reilly of Illabo Council and C.M. Price from Canberra area.

Butcher's Shop Licence granted to D. Crowley and Slaughter Yard Licence to G. Lord.

Soldiers Memorial Committee is prepared to hand over its share of the Hall building to Returned Soldiers' League if council is prepared to transfer its interest in the building the League. Council is prepared to negotiate.

P.M.G. proposes to acquire a new site for the Post Office in Oberon Street.

Public Meeting to be called to discuss proposal for providing a War Memorial for World War II.

Council to strongly support the Waradgery Council in protesting against the amalgamation of areas and to advise that this Council is very much proposed to amalgamation.

Approval given for concrete works in preparation of floor and walls for supper room under Malachi Gilmore Hall for the purpose of arranging for supper room accommodation there.

Council Meeting – 11th April, 1947

Mr. R.W. Burke – Auditor – died.

New Auditors to be Messrs. Turner & Adams, who have purchased the late Mr. Burke's practice.

Lands Department have closed a portion of Fleming Street, separating Sections 27 from 48, for the purpose of enclosing of land for Public Hospital site.

Mr. G. Lord cancelled his Slaughtering Licence at O'Connell as he is closing down.

Proposed acquisition by Forestry Commission for suitable building sites on Allotments 6 & 8, Section 19 (old Police Station site) for erection of office and residence for the forestry official of this district.

Shire Clerk is Hon. Secretary of Committee established to raise funds for a suitable memorial in connection with World War II and asking Council to appoint 2 representatives. Crs. Spicer and Armstrong appointed.

Council Meeting – 1st May, 1947

S.E. Mawhood granted permission for additions to shop premises on Lot Part 7, Section 10, Oberon Street.

Council Meeting – 13th June, 1947

In reply to Council's letter re allocation of petrol tax direct to local government bodies, the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. J.B. Chifley, advises that certain amounts are to be made available to the States for assistance in the construction and maintenance of roads through sparsely populated areas and that £500,000 is to be made available for strategic roads and further concessions cannot be granted at the present time.

Chief Secretary's Office asked Council to recommend persons for the issuing of Trout Licences and also to act as Honorary Inspector. Licences to be a flat rate of 10/- per licence per season.

Oberon P. & C. Association thanked Council for the donation of records of speeches delivered at the recent deputation by the Minister for Education.

Council prepared to buy the interest of the Memorial Committee's portion in the Memorial Hall and is willing to pay £1,500 for the Committee's portion.

Donation of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 11th July, 1947

Premises fumigated with formaldehyde gas after a scarlet fever outbreak.

Licences granted to T. Bell and E. Cunynghame (Butcher's Shop and Cattle Slaughtering) and Capsanis Bros. (Refreshment Room).

Following a deputation from the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. re sale of Memorial Hall, the Council decided to offer the League £850 for Council's interest in the Hall provided the Council retain the use of the building free of rent until it can obtain offices elsewhere and that every endeavour be made by Council to obtain such other offices with as little delay as possible. Council provide deposit of £50 and balance when building vacated.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1947

Lavatories at Malachi Gilmore Hall to be used as Public Lavatories.

J.M. Attuell granted Public Vehicle Licence for 3 buses on route from Oberon to Bathurst as long as Turon and Bathurst Council's agree, the same for R.H. Williams.

“Silent Cops” to be installed at intersections of Oberon Street with Raleigh, Ross and North Streets.

Barber's Shop Licence granted to N.E. O'Brien.

Approval granted for transfer of Taxi Cab Licence from J. Graham to Joseph Hawken.

Shire Health Inspector recommends the south eastern side of the town, between the Hampton and Caves Road, for a sewerage treatment works.

Council to relinquish its Trusteeship of that portion of land having a frontage of 81 ft. to Oberon Street and extending through to Dart Street to enable the Oberon Sub-Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. to obtain title deed thereto, but the Trusteeship of remainder of land be retained for purposes of Council's Depot.

Clerk to contact Miss E. Cunynghame with a view to purchase part of Lot 6, Section 10,

Town of Oberon or rent or lease the premises and, failing satisfactory arrangement, proceeding for resumption be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Shire President, Councillor E.M. Spicer and Councillors Howell, Armstrong and Jarrett.

Council to arrange Civic Welcome to State President (Mrs. Brooks) of the C.W.A.

Council Meeting – 12th September, 1947

Miss M.E. Kent, Senior Female Clerk, and Mr. R.G. Stevenson, B Grade Clerk have both resigned. Mr. Stevenson has been appointed Deputy Shire Clerk to Tumbarumba Shire. Miss P. Tibbits appointed to position of Female “B” Grade Clerk.

Miss E. Cunynghame of Mudgee visited re proposal to purchase her building as Shire Offices and she has stated that Council can have 3 rooms and use kitchen for 6 months with the option of renewing, that she would sell the premises to Council at a later date if Council could procure another block of land for her on which she could erect a dwelling. Shire Clerk has received communication from Miss Cunynghame saying she is not prepared and never had any intention to let part of her home for use as Shire offices. (See information under Special Meeting dated 25th September, 1947).

Secretary or President of Band be written to and steps taken to have all band instruments returned to the custody of Council.

As Tenterfield Council had received an offer of a grant from N.S.W. Forestry Commission for repair of that Shire’s roads damaged by heavily laden timber traffic, this Council to write to Tenterfield for information with regard to this grant.

Special Council Meeting – 25th September, 1947

Council to offer Miss Cunynghame the option to lease for 5 years the whole of her building or, failing this, purchase direct at re-valuation or, failing this, to resume. If leased, the necessary alterations be effected

by Council. Any necessary furniture needed for the new premises be purchased by President and Clerk.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1947

Application for Taxi Stand by J.R. Hawken approved.

Ground to be leveled next door to Hospital for tennis courts.

Special Council Meeting – 21st October, 1947

This meeting covered the capacity of the existing plant at the Oberon Power House and its inability to meet the requirements for pumping of water to the reservoir. Investigations to be made by Consulting Electrical Engineer, L.J. Reynolds.

Council Meeting – 14th November, 1947

F.H. Kelly of Oberon has agreed to assist clerically in a temporary capacity until the position of “A” Grade Clerk is filled.

Arrangement in hand for purchase of Miss Cunynghame’s residence and it is expected that occupation of these premises will be by 1st January.

Council decided not to advertise for an Engineer until a suitable residence for the Shire Engineer is available.

Barber’s Shop Licence for W.S. Oran approved.

Transfer of Butchers Shop and Cattle Slaughtering Licences be transferred from T. Bell to F.J. Norton.

Special Council Meeting – 28th November, 1947

Nothing.

**Special Council Meeting – 15th
December, 1947**

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor R. Cotton

Deputy Shire President: Councillor E.M. Spicer.

Committees:

Works: All Councillors.

Finance: Crs. Cotton, Armstrong, Spicer.

Water Supply & Sewerage: Crs. Armstrong, Moore, Aitken.

Town Planning: Crs. Aitken, Moore, Purdon.

Bush Fire Brigade: Crs. Armstrong & Spicer and Messrs. R.E. Wilson and H.E. Kater.

Electricity: Crs. Armstrong, Moore, Cotton.

No change in name of Oberon Street to Main Street.

Public Vehicle Licence granted to C.C. Campbell.

Letter of appreciation to be written to Councillor J.J. Hoolihan for his 17 years of conscientious service as a Councillor.

**Council Meeting – 15th December,
1947**

New Council Chambers premises expected to be ready for occupation by 5th January, 1948 and authority given to transfer and give possession of the old premises to the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. (Oberon Sub-Branch) on and from 31st December, 1947.

Board of Health has set up a district with headquarters in Bathurst (District includes Oberon).

Oberon, Lithgow and Blaxland Councils consider they should have a hand in the management of the Fish River Water Supply Scheme by representation on any administering or governing body.

General Fund: 5d in £ on U.C.V.

Water Supply Local Fund: 1d in £ on U.C.V. and £4.10.0 for occupied land and £2 for unoccupied land.

Street Lighting Local Rate: 1 ½ d. in £ on U.C.V.

Town Improvement Local Rate: 4d. in £.

Bush Fire Brigade Special Rate: 1/8 of 1d. in £ on U.C.V.

1948

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1948

Oberon & District Co-operative Building & Investment Society Ltd. granted permission to use Shire Offices for receipt of payment from members.

Council Offices to be open to the public only from 10 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. for payment of money, etc. (this excludes the lunch hour).

A list of clubs and associations in Oberon at this times were: Returned Soldiers League, C.W.A., Red Cross, Tourist & Progress Association, P. & C. Association, Football League, Cricket Association, A.H. & P. Association, Swimming Pool Syndicate, R.S.L. Womens' Auxiliary, Nursery & Infants Club, Junior Farmers, Buffalo Lodge, Grand United Oddfellows, Manchester Union Oddfellows, Masonic Lodge and Bowling Club.

Health Inspector to supervise the building of the Shire Engineer's residence.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1948

A grant of £1,250 from Petrol Tax Allocation to be used for works within the Shire.

Licences granted to W.S. Oran & N.E. O'Brien (Barbers Shop) and J. Capsanis (Refreshment Room).

Council Meeting – 10th March, 1948

J. Jackson, Sanitary Contractor, resigned – with the usual 3 months' notice.

Town Planning Committee requested to submit details necessary to have a Town Planning Ordinance applied to this Shire.

Public Vehicles Licence granted to J. Attuell.

Public Vehicle Drivers licence granted to R.H. Williams.

The Public Notice Board is to be moved from corner of Ross & Oberon Streets to front of Shire Office.

A Mrs. R.E. Wilson advised that the matter of the Fluonine content of Oberon Water supply has been referred to Health Inspector for investigation.

Council decided to write to Senator Armstrong, issuing an invitation to Their Majesties, and party, to visit Oberon during their stay in Australia (George VI and Queen Elizabeth).

Council Meeting – 14th April, 1948

Shire Engineer position to again be advertised and also for a Deputy Shire Clerk.

Miss Cunynghame refused to sell the property for a Council Chambers because the Government price too low. Council agreed to lease the premises for a period of 3 years at a rental of £3.11.0 per week and Council's solicitor to draw up an agreement to safeguard the Council in respect of alterations and additions carried out and necessary to be carried out in the future.

Street cleaning now to be in the hands of the Overseer and Council staff.

The question of voluntary labour to be looked into with regards to the Sports Centre and Council investigate the possibility of extending the recreation ground westwards by incorporating approximately half a chain of North Street.

Council support the application of G.V. Wright for the issue of a Taxi Plate and Licence for him to operate a taxi at Oberon.

Council Meeting – 12th May, 1948

Complaint regarding prevalence of rats at the Hospital.

Mr. A.H. Taylor of Berrigan appointed as Deputy Shire Clerk under the Returned

Soldiers Rehabilitation and Employment Act, and at the same time the Senior Female Clerk be advised her services will not be required after 30th June, 1948.

Elizabeth Millar Paterson (Shire Health Inspector) appointed as Inspector of Slaughterhouses and of cattle intended for slaughter within the Shire of Oberon.

John Begley of Oberon appointed as sanitary and garbage contractor.

£2.2.0 donated to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 9th June, 1948

K.L. Smith appointed as Shire Engineer and will commence on 1st July, 1948.

A.H. Taylor appointed as Deputy Shire Clerk and will commence on 21st June, 1948.

Steps be taken to prepare a Town Planning Scheme in the Town of Oberon and adjoining lands.

The proposals are:

The area to be planned be such lands as are within the boundary of the Town Improvement District and also within an area extending in all directions for 1 mile outside such boundary and that a map called the “Resolution Map” be prepared accordingly.

The object and purpose of the scheme be “controlling” the use of land and the purpose for which land may be used.

The proposal be notified in the Government Gazette and local newspapers advising the public that the resolution map is available for public inspection at the Shire Office and suggestions are invited and will be received for the alteration or modification of the proposal and the map, within a period of 3 months.

Council Meeting – 14th July, 1948

Health Inspector started routine meat inspections on 1st July.

Engineer’s Office be renovated by all present fittings being removed to make enough room and to give reasonable light,

purchase a set of plan drawers and providing some heating arrangement.

Engineer’s residence plans to be changed to include an additional room, a hot water service through the kitchen stove, an Esse stove in the dining room and a chemical closet.

Town Planning Committee recommended erection of a strong room, gent’s lavatory and alterations to Engineer’s Office. Granted.

Licences granted to F.J. Norton (Butcher’s Shop & Cattle Slaughtering premises); L.G. Cunynghame (Butcher’s Shop and Cattle Slaughtering premises); and R.J. Mason (Refreshment Room).

Council Meeting – 11th August, 1948

A Royalty of 1/- per 100 super feet to be paid to Council on timbers carried over their roads which would mean revenue of £3,000 p.a. and would possibly be worth £7,500 p.a.

A man to be engaged to carry out duties of Storekeeper and Water Service Operator as neither is a full time job.

Approval granted for renewal of roof on Methodist Church, as requested by Minister, Rev. H.J. Wilton.

Council Meeting – 8th September, 1948

Shire Engineer’s Report on a Katoomba–Cowra Road.

Draft proposal for Town Planning Fees.

Conference to do with Bush Fire Brigades in the Oberon Shire and a copy of these proceedings was presented. Items 1-8 on Page 19 were adopted.

A Mr. Begley was engaged to clean the main street once per week for 30/-.

Vehicle & Driver’s Licences granted to G.V. Wright.

Transfer of Taxi Cab Licences granted to J.J. Ryan.

Council Meeting – 13th October, 1948

W. McFawn appointed as Storekeeper,
Water Services Operator, etc.

Foundations and floors of dressing sheds at
the Baths have been completed and 100 ft.
of paths around baths concreted.

A deputation was received from the Oberon
Bowling Club asking for a loan of £2,000
for erection of a Bowling Club House and
completion of the Bowling Green. Loan to
be approved, subject to 5 approved Trustees
being appointed as guarantors for principal,
loan repayment and interest.

Meeting to be held at Bathurst on 29th
October with idea of formation of a Weeds
County Council.

**Council Meeting – 17th November,
1948**

G.P. Turner appointed Council's Auditor.

**Special Council Meeting – 15th
December, 1948**

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Cr. R.C. Cotton

Deputy Shire President: Cr. E.M. Spicer

Works Committee: Whole Council

Finance & Administration Committee: Crs.
Cotton, Armstrong, Spicer

Electricity Committee: Crs. Cotton,
Armstrong, Moore

Water & Sewerage Committee: Crs. Moore,
Armstrong & Aitken and Messrs. S.E.
Mawhood and D.J. Elphick.

Town Planning & Improvement Committee:
Crs. Aitken, Moore & Purdon and Messrs.
H.A. Cunynghame and J.J. Ryan.

Bush Fire Brigade Committee: Crs. Aitken,
Armstrong, Purdon & Spicer and Messrs.
H.E. Kater, R.E. Wilson and J.W. Perry.

**Council Meeting – 15th December,
1948**

Miss May McIntyre appointed as Typiste-
Clerk.

Shire Engineer occupied his residence on
12th November.

Necessary equipment for children's
playground at Recreation Ground to be
purchase.

Unless The Reef is included in the
Scavenging District, it will be an ideal place
for an outbreak of Typhoid Fever or
Dysentery.

Copy of proposed County Council
Conference.

1949

Council Meeting – 12th January, 1949

3 seats to be obtained by the Shire Engineer and placed in front of the Shire Office for use by the public.

The position of Clerical Assistant be (1) Jack Dawson or (2) Miss Fay Williams.

Recreation Ground Control: After discussion on the effective control and management of the swimming baths it was resolved the following committee be appointed to manage all matters in reference to the Recreation Ground, including the swimming baths, football and cricket oval, bowling green and other matters – 4 members of Council, J.L. Donovan, P.B. Howell, S.E. Mawhood, J.P. Howell, Dr. R.R. Perkins, Ray Buckley, R.S. Cunynghame, F. Jarrett, Mrs. T.S. Lee and Mrs. H.G. Williams.

Because of pea pickers in the area using part of the Reef for camping, and thus causing a potential health hazard, steps be taken to have a camping area proclaimed adjoining the main road near The Reef settlement and that a public lavatory be erected thereon.

In 1948 there were 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Puerperal Septicaemia compared with 3 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 Diphtheria during 1947.

Council Meeting – 9th February, 1949

Both people appointed to position of Clerical Assistant declined. Temporary relief afforded by Miss P. McIntyre (later Phemie Booth) to carry out typing duties for 2 weeks.

The new lavatory seat installed at the public toilets at the Malachi Gilmore Hall was stolen. The theft was reported to the Police and a new seat purchased.

Notice to be erected at new swimming baths that persons swimming dogs there will be prosecuted and a Mrs. Jackson be

approached re formation of a swimming club to manage the swimming pool.

R.H. Williams and W.A. Baker granted omnibus licences.

Council Meeting – 9th March, 1949

Health Inspector, Miss Elizabeth Millar Paterson, resigned and thanked Council for their open minded attitude and lack of prejudice which enabled her to gain practical experience in work which had previously been considered suitable only for males.

After a Public Meeting a Committee was appointed for the purpose of establishing a World War 2 Memorial in the form of embellishments to the Oberon Recreation Ground in the provision of Memorial Gates, Grandstand, etc.

A.H. Taylor resigned as Deputy Shire Clerk and Mr. B.J. Clay appointed in his place.

Miss W. Dunn appointed as typist-clerk.

Shire Engineer, K.L. Smith approved by Council to act as building inspector for the Building Society.

Tenders to be called for the contract operation of the Power House and Council will give successful tender right to carry out private installation work in the town.

Licences granted to N. O'Brien and W.S. Oran (Barbers Shops) and Peter's Café (Refreshment Room).

Council desires Oberon Tourist & Progress Association to arrange for the formation of a Town Fire Brigade.

Delegates to the newly formed Upper Macquarie County Council to be Councillors F.A. Purdon and A.E. Armstrong.

Public Vehicle Licences for 3 omnibuses granted to J.M. Attuel.

Council to apply for registration of a telegraphic address "Obshire" from the P.M.G.

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1949

C.R. Armstrong's lease for the Camping Area extended for 3 years to 31.3.53.

Council has decided not to proceed with construction of a bowling green and club house at present.

Mr. R. Bailey's appointment as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper cancelled and Mr. Bruce Ford appointed to the positions.

P.V. & P.V. Driver's Licence granted to G.V. Wraight.

Council Meeting – 11th May, 1949

Cr. A.E. Armstrong appointed first Chairman of Upper Macquarie County Council. Mr. F.H. Rowe appointed as County Clerk.

Ben Chifley, Prime Minister, visited Oberon.

R.C.C. Cotton resigned as Shire President.

Special Council Meeting – 11th May, 1949

Shire President: Councillor A.E. Armstrong.

Council Meeting – 8th June, 1949

Miss B. Moran new typist-clerk.

B. Ford resigned as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper.

All U.M.C.C. typing etc. be done by Council at no charge for the time being.

Letter to be forwarded to Electricity Authority of N.S.W. for their information and advice regarding the possibility of the initiation of a hydro-electric scheme in the Shire.

A.T. McIntyre of Bathurst appointed as part-time Health Inspector.

£2.2.0 donation made to Bathurst Ambulance.

Council Meeting – 13th July, 1949

Minister for Local Government advised approval of joint appointment of Mr. F.H. Rowe to the joint position of Shire Clerk to Oberon Shire Council and County Clerk to Upper Macquarie County Council for a period of 3 years.

Shire Clerk to make enquiries as to cost of a new duplicator and new typewriter and make enquiries regarding disposal of the Dictaphone.

Business people of town discussed the employment of a night watchman during the present coal crisis and suggested Council contribute 5/- per week towards wages of this night watchman if employed.

P.V. Driver's Licence granted to A.J. O'Connell.

President and Shire Clerk to confer with Police regarding the advisability of constituting a committee for emergency road transport during present coal crisis. Nothing to happen at the present time.

Council Meeting – 10th August, 1949

This meeting could not proceed at first as only 2 Councillors were present for the 9.30 meeting. By 10.15 another Councillor had turned up but they still didn't have a Quorum. Finally at 2.20 p.m. 5 Councillors were present and the meeting could commence.

Suggestions were made as to an alternative road to Bathurst to cut out Mick's Mount or Bathurst Mount as it is known and make the road through Lowes Mount and the Carlwood Road.

Clerk and Engineer report on and prepare a plan for proposed residential districts within the town in order to regulate the class of industry, etc., which may be operated within residential sections of the town.

Dept. of Railways be asked to resume the Tarana-Oberon rail service as soon as possible after coal stocks are available.

Special Council Meeting – 10th August, 1949

This Special Meeting covered proposals for revision of Riding boundaries and electricity matters.

Council Meeting – 14th September, 1949

Rail service fully restored as from 22nd August, 1949 (after coal crisis).

Premier has approved of the establishment of an Emergency Rescue Intelligence Centre at Police Headquarters in Sydney to co-ordinate and direct searches for missing vessels, aircraft, etc.

Health Inspector advised that no Small Goods Licences or Milk Vendors Registrations have been granted but he found several premises selling these articles of food. It is compulsory by law for any person who sells small goods or milk has to be licenced by Council.

Health Inspector also noticed that building contractors do not call on sanitary accommodation for their workmen. In future, when an application for permission to build is received, the builder will be required to pay for a pan service in advance, for at least 3 months.

Department of Local Government wants Council to have 4 Ridings. Council objects, saying that 3 Riding would be preferred because of community of interest.

A loan of £2,000 be obtained to build a store, workshop, etc. to adequately house plant, etc., at the Shire Depot.

Council decided that all the buildings, etc., in Oberon be numbered in accordance with the Local Government Act.

Butcher's Shop and Slaughtering Licences granted to Cunynghame & Son.

Council to advertise for an Electrical Engineer.

Advertisement to be put in papers to obtain information from residents regarding accommodation available for migrants ("New Australians").

Council to write to Miss E.E. Cunynghame renewing offer to purchase Council Chambers for £2,400.

Council Meeting – 12th October, 1949

J. Tierney appointed as Impounding Officer and Pound Keeper.

As Council now has a permanent water supply, Health Inspector recommended that the Community Watering Well be filled in as it is very dangerous to children who play about this area, there being no cover over the top of the well. Council decided that this Well be filled in.

Proposal to establish a rabbit and poultry freezing factory by A. McArthur on Section 14 bounded by Oberon, Dart, Earl and Parkes Streets. Council thought it would be better in the proposed new industrial area north of town adjacent to railway line.

Council to take steps to construct a residence for Electrical Engineer.

3 applications for Electrical Engineer be forwarded to L.J. Reynolds for his advice and recommendation.

G.P. Turner re-appointed as Auditor.

1 case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis reported from the Reef Road.

Council Meeting – 9th November, 1949

Arrangements made to carry out house numbering work in the immediate future.

Miss B. Moran resigned and Miss P. McIntyre appointed.

"Banda" Spirit Duplicator to be purchased.

Baths to be fenced and a public meeting called for purpose of forming a committee to look after baths, parks, tree planting and general beautification of town.

Surveyor Institute asked for list of suitable surveyors capable of making a survey of town for proposed new sewerage scheme.

Mr. A. McArthur given permission to establish freezing works on Section 14.

Mr. Foran appointed Impounding Officer for Black Springs area.

Miss E. Cunynghame to be advised Council willing to buy premises at a fair price, but if offer not accepted, Council will take steps to resume property.

Special Council Meeting – 14th December, 1949

Presidential Allowance: £80.

Shire President: Councillor R.C. Cotton.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor E.M. Spicer.

Committees:

Works: Whole Council

Finance & Administration: Crs. Cotton, Armstrong and Spicer.

Electricity: Crs. Cotton, Armstrong and Moore.

Water & Sewerage: Crs. Cotton, Armstrong and Moore.

Special Development: Crs. Cotton & Armstrong, Shire Clerk, Shire Engineer, Messrs. E.H.T. Swain and R.G. May.

Bush Fire: Crs. Cotton, Armstrong, Purdon & Spicer, Messrs. H.E. Kater, R.E. Wilson, J.W. Perry and D. Hart.

Council Meeting – 14th December, 1949

The Shire President, Councillor R.C. Cotton, submitted the following “that in view of the declared policy of the newly elected Government regarding rural development and migration, immediate steps be taken to ascertain all data relative to the proper and orderly development of the area of land and various resources within the confines of the Shire of Oberon, to increase its productivity, usefulness and population, and that an early report of this be made available for Council’s consideration and further action, that in the compilation of this report, regard is to be had to the following facts and recommendations. This is followed by a 1 ½ page report.

Miss E.E. Cunynghame offered to sell Council Chambers for £2,750 instead of Council’s offer of £2,400. Loan to be raised for this purpose.

H.J.H. Robertson of Walgett to be interviewed by Council on 11.1.50 for position of Electrical Engineer.

N.K. Bennett invited to visit Oberon re costs, etc. of making a survey of a proposed sewerage scheme at Oberon.

Applications for position of Draughtsman for Engineering Office be invited.

P.V. and P.V. Driver’s Licences granted to J.M. Attuel, J.J. Ryan and E.E. Ryan.

Tourist & Progress Association to be allowed to hold monthly meetings in Council Chambers subject to arrangement, as far as possible, that a member of Council’s staff is present.

Mr. Phillips, from Mulgoa Road, via Penrith willing to take on job as Pound Keeper.

1950

Council Meeting – 11th January, 1950

Land in Fleming Street purchased for Electrical Engineer's Residence.

N.K. Bennett engaged for sewerage survey.

Special Council Meeting – 2nd February, 1950:

This meeting covered the electricity loan and stores and materials discrepancies.

Council Meeting – 15th February, 1950

Deputy Shire Clerk, B.J. Clay resigns.

Council fixed the sizes of allotments for building (50 ft. frontage and 4,000 sq. ft.) and shops (not less than 4,000 sq. ft. and not less than 20 ft. frontage).

Mr. H. McNeill of Tenterfield to be interviewed for position of Electrical Engineer.

Local Government Dept. asked if Council had any advertising matter available for distribution in the U.K. to attract migrants and tourists. Referred to Tourist & Progress Association.

Oberon Hospital Board requested Council's support in construction of a morgue.

There was also a deputation to Council and this culminated in 4 pages of questions and answers which are available in the Minute Book. Some of the subjects covered were the loan for Council Chambers, local electricity supply (problems with, cost of charges, etc.), administrative expenses, cost of cottage, water problems, town improvement and rates generally.

Council Meeting – 8th March, 1950

Licences granted to J.J. Ryan (Taxi Cab), E.E. Ryan and J.J. Ryan (Taxi Driver's), E.O. Armstrong (Milk Vendor and Small Goods), Conomos Bros. (Milk Vendor, Refreshment Room and Small Goods), S.E.

Mawhood (Small Goods), W. Oran, N.E. O'Brien and Mrs. F.A.M. Johnson (Hairdressers).

A survey to be commenced immediately by the Forestry Commission.

Council to try to arrange for the mobile Anti T.B. X-Ray Mobile Unit to come to Oberon.

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church will be visiting Oberon on Friday, 31st March, 1950 and as head of the Presbyterian Church in N.S.W. would be officially welcomed by Cr. Cotton as President of the Shire.

A group of New Zealand Farmers and New Zealand Junior Farmers would also visit Oberon and official welcome would also be tendered to them.

C.R. Menzies appointed as Deputy Shire Clerk with Mr. Bowry second choice.

Council Meeting – 12th April, 1950

Licences granted to Mr. R.J. Mason (Refreshment Room, Milk Vendor and Small Goods) and Howell Bros (Small Goods).

Council Meeting – 10th May, 1950

1 case of Polio reported in Shire.

Licences for Taxi Cabs and Taxi Driver granted to G.V. Wright.

Recently erected children's playground was most satisfactory.

All Council employees to be allowed to purchase electrical household appliances through Council.

Council to top dress football oval and mark the football field, erect goal posts and construct dressing sheds.

B. Ash appointed as Electrical Engineer.

L.J. Reynolds, Consulting Electrical Engineer, to be asked what Council owes

him in connection with the construction of the bulk electricity supply line.

Council Meeting – 14th June, 1950

B. Ash not accepted by Minister for Local Government as Electrical Engineer. New applications to be called.

Council Meeting – 19th July, 1950

A letter from the Dept., of Public Works advised that the proposed site for the Oberon Treatment Works is regarded as being suitable.

A subscription of £2.2.0 to Bathurst Ambulance authorized.

Council Meeting – 16th August, 1950

President requested to attend a Ball to be held at O'Connell on 18th August, 1950 to officially turn on the electricity supply in the Village.

Timber Industries presented a cheque for £35 being first quarterly contribution towards upkeep of the Goulburn Road.

Mr. John St. John Robertson appointed to position of Electrical Engineer with Mr. F.E. Reid as alternative appointee.

Licences granted to A. & M. Cotterill (Milk Vendor and Small Goods), K.J. Riordan (Milk Vendor and Small Goods), E.L. & L.G. Cunynghame Butchers Shop and Slaughtering).

J. Begley, Sanitary Contractor, thanked Council for allowing Messrs. Curle & Smith to carry on the contract on his behalf.

Dept. Local Government advised Council it should have a full time Health Inspector. Council is agreeable as long as the Department lets them know why they can't have a part-time one.

Council Meeting – 20th September, 1950

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 11th October, 1950

The following decisions were made re the Recreation Ground – Engineer to obtain a light roller for Cricket Association's use in rolling outfield, a 3 ft. length of concrete piping to be given to the Cricket Association for the purpose of making a roller for rolling turf wicket and fill this roller with concrete if Club will provide an axle, have dressing sheds erected and existing lavatories moved to convenient position for sports oval and baths, remove goal posts to Shire Depot and repair gates to Sports Ground and keep the ground under lock and key, one key to be retained by Association and the other by Caretaker.

Council to write to Premiers Dept. pointing out that the motor bike at present used by Oberon Police Patrol is quite unsuitable for the Oberon climate and the difficult roads which have to be traversed and suggesting that a small car should be furnished.

Special Council Meeting – 7th November, 1950

This Special Meeting was called for the purpose of finance and administration matters.

Council Meeting – 8th November, 1950

Motor Bus and Motor Driver's Licences issued to J.M. Attuell and P. Attuell.

Between Pages 1635 and 1636 there is a very long newspaper report prepared by the President, Councillor R.C. Cotton, covering the years 1947 – 1950 on the activities of the Council.

A petition was received, signed by approx. 169 persons, from the Chamber of Commerce requesting an all weather road from Oberon to Sydney via Duckmaloi River. Council to write to Blaxland Shire asking for their co-operation in construction of a high level bridge over the Duckmaloi River.

**Special Council Meeting – 13th
December, 1950**

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Councillor J.J. Hoolihan.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor Freer.

Committees:

Finance & Administration: Whole Council.

Works: Whole Council.

Town Improvement: Crs. Hoolihan, Freer & Fitzpatrick.

Electricity: Crs. Hoolihan, Spicer, Freer & Fitzpatrick.

Water Supply & Sewerage: Whole Council.

Parks & Gardens: Crs. Hoolihan, Freer and Fitzpatrick.

Bush Fire Brigade: Crs. Hoolihan, Purdon, Cosgrove & Spicer with powers to co-opt not more than 3 members from the public.

Upper Macquarie County Council: Crs. Purdon and Spicer.

**Council Meeting – 13th December,
1950**

Rumours circulated during the recent election that the Shire Clerk was a Communist and Councillors were asked if any of them had started the rumour. All denied they had.

Mr. F.E. Reid of Kiama appointed as Electrical Engineer.

Council to arrange a suitable function for the switching on of bulk electricity in Oberon.

A Committee consisting of Crs. Freer and Fitzpatrick and Messrs. F.H. Rowe, K.L. Smith and C.R. Menzies to formulate some arrangements in connection with the celebration of the Commonwealth Jubilee.

Premiers Dept. considered present transport for Police in Oberon (motor bike) to be sufficient. Council to press the matter further for a 4 wheel motor vehicle with local member.

1951

Council Meeting – 10th January, 1951

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 14th February, 1951

Council have taken over the sanitary and garbage work from the contractors as from 12th February and work is being carried out by day labour.

Council Meeting – 7th March, 1951

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 11th April, 1951

Licences granted to Mrs. F.A.M. Johnson, N.E. O'Brien and W.S. Oran (Hairdressers & Barbers Shop) and Conomos Bros. (Refreshment Rooms and Milk Vendors).

6 rubbish receptacles be obtained and placed at suitable location in Oberon Street.

AT THIS STAGE THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AND MET AGAIN ON 18TH.

12 copies of the Composite Town Map compiled for sewerage purposes be procured.

Council Meeting – 8th May, 1951

Permission granted for additions to Methodist Church costing £90.

G.P. Turner re-appointed as Auditor.

Licences granted to R.J. Mason (Milk Vendor and Refreshment Rooms), K.J. O'Riordan and A. & M. Cotterill (Milk Vendors), J.J. Ryan, G.V. Wraight and J.M. Attuel (Public Vehicles), and J.J. Ryan, E.E. Ryan, G.V. Wraight & J.M. Attuel (Drivers' Licences).

Council Meeting – 13th and 14th June, 1951

Licences granted to L.G. & E.L. Cunynghame (Cattle Slaughtering and Butcher Shop) and A. & M. Cotterill, K.J. Riordon, R.J. Mason, Howell Bros., S.E. Mawhood and Conomos Bros. (Small Goods).

Information coming out of the Shire Association Conference included: for the first time in history of Conference, ladies had been included in the programme and, as a result, several very successful functions had been held; talk of councils running public libraries but such undertakings were uneconomical unless subsidized on a £ for £ basis.

BEN CHIFLEY DIES.

£2.2.0 subscription to Ambulance Transport Service granted.

Special Council Meeting - 22nd June, 1951

This dealt with the financial position of the General Fund, etc.

Council Meeting – 11th July, 1951

Mrs. A. Webb granted Small Goods and Milk Vendor's Licences.

Council to donate £5 towards the J.B. Chifley Memorial at Bathurst.

Council Meeting – 8th August, 1951

1 case of Scarlet Fever reported.

Mr. J. Allison of Grafton appointed as Cost Clerk "B" Grade.

Council Meeting – 12th September, 1951

Mr. W.A. Baker granted a Taxi Driver's Licence.

Mr. J.S. Fitzpatrick appointed as Electrical Engineer. Messrs. Pratt and Holmes allotted 2nd and 3rd place.

Council Meeting – 10th October, 1951

Lands Department advised proposal to establish a village at Black Springs and forwarded plans of same. It also asked if Council concurs in estimates for street construction and whether Council would undertake the work. Council wants the Department to fix the names of the proposed streets with the proviso that one street be called Avoca Street.

Council Meeting – 14th November, 1951

Notice of Motion to go to next meeting “in view of the unsuitable nature of the soil for absorption purposes, this Council hereby prohibits the installation of any further septic tanks or chemical closets within the Oberon Scavenging Area. This will not apply to any approvals which have hitherto been given or indicated, but the construction of which has not yet been carried out.

Transfer of Public Vehicle Licence from G.V. Wraight to T. Rick.

Drivers Licence and Goods Vehicles Licence granted to J. Lawrence.

P.W.D. to be approached to ascertain terms at which they will accept supply of electricity to the dwelling at the dam construction works.

After all the problems encountered with the swimming baths, Council directed that they be drained.

Special Council Meeting – 12th December, 1951

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Cr. J.J. Hoolihan.

Deputy Shire President: Cr. Freer.

Committees:

Finance & Administration: Whole Council

Works: Whole Council.

Town Improvement, Health & Parks: Crs. Hoolihan, Freer & Fitzpatrick

Electricity: Crs. Hoolihan, Spicer, Freer & Fitzpatrick.

Water and Sewerage: Whole Council.

Bush Fire Brigade: Crs. Hoolihan, Purdon, Spicer & Cosgrove and Messrs. H.E. Kater, J.W. Perry, A.E. Armstrong and R.N. Buckley.

Council Meeting – 12th December, 1951

Council to advise P.M.G. that closing of Oberon Post Office for lunch from 1 to 2 p.m. would be preferable to closing from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. to allow business employees some time to transact private postal business.

As a site for an electricity sub-station, Council to approach owner to ascertain terms for disposing of his land on Lot 44, Block A, Springfield Subdivision (this is the corner of Bathurst Road (O’Connell Road) and Scotia Avenue, where it still stands).

Thanks to S.E. Mawhood in appreciation of work done by him and others in cleaning out the swimming baths.

C.R. Armstrong’s lease of camping area be extended for 3 more years from 31.3.52.

1952

Council Meeting – 9th January, 1952

Investigation to be made into the question of the extension of the Council Chambers to house Council's records (and storage of them) from the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. Oberon Sub-Branch premises, used as the old Shire Offices, as the R.S.L. Club now need the use of the Strong room and Storage Room there. As the Sub-Branch will soon be paying the balance of the purchase money, it is recommended that such money be utilized to provide suitable store room, etc. for Council's permanent records.

Blackheath Branch of the A.L.P. seeks co-operation in urging that bulk handling of milk in areas west of Katoomba be a co-operative, locally controlled, in lieu of by the Milk Board.

Mr. P. Mullan appointed Electrical Mechanic from 11.1.52 and resigned by 14.2.52 meeting.

Council Meeting – 13th and 14th February, 1952

KING GEORGE VI DIES.

Mr. W.A. Bayley forwarded a copy of his book "Upland Pastures" on the Crookwell district and offered to carry out a similar work for this Council.

Licences granted to A. & M. Cotterill and A. Webb (Milk Vendors), J.P. Lawrence (Taxi Truck and Taxi Driver).

Presidential Minute tabled.

Investigation into facilities required in Public Halls in Oberon was referred to the Shire Clerk and Health Inspector in conjunction with the local police officers.

Council Meeting – 12th March, 1952

Deputy Shire Clerk, C.R. Menzies, resigned from 21st March, 1952.

Roman Catholic Church given permission to erect a new school in Queen Street at a cost of £4,320.

The sanitary carter left the job without a minute's notice so the work is nearly 2 days behind. As staff and Councillors couldn't find another carter, one of the Engineer's road staff volunteered to carry out the work.

Licences granted to R.J. Mason (Milk Vendor & Refreshment Rooms), Conomos Bros. (Milk Vendor and Refreshment Rooms), T. Rich (Taxi Cab and Taxi Drivers), J.J. Ryan (Taxi Cab and Taxi Drivers), and R.L. Hawken (Taxi Drivers).

D.W. Cormack of Temora appointed to position of Leading Hand Linesman/Mechanic on 3 months' probation and second choice is J.F. Helmrich.

Public Works Dept. may ask Council to construct an extension of power supply to 50 new cottages and the works at the Fish River Dam.

The weighbridge in North Street has fallen into disuse owing to imperfections so, as the conditions of the agreement have not been adhered to and the weighbridge forms an obstruction to the construction of concrete footpaving, etc., it was decided that the agreement be cancelled and the owners, Fodder Constructions, be notified to remove it.

Council Meeting – 9th April, 1952

Mr. John Brown, "A" Grade Clerk with Macintyre Shire Council in Inverell appointed Deputy Shire Clerk.

As there is an urgent need for approximately 33 new houses, Council to approach Housing Commission re undertaking a housing project in the town.

Hairdressers Licences issued to N.E. O'Brien, W.S. Oran and Mrs. F.A.M. Johnson.

The President attended a function at Jenolan Caves for the renaming of a cave now known as the “Chifley Cave”.

Council Meeting – 14th May, 1952

G.P. Turner re-appointed as Auditor.

The access to the Football Club Ground will be at full cost to the Club and Council will construct as long as the Club pays the full amount of £25.

Special Council Meeting – 27th May, 1952

This meeting was called to discuss the matter of purchase of a light grader.

Council Meeting – 11th June, 1952

Recreation Hall for Police Boys Club to be erected in Oberon Street at a cost of £2,550.

Licences granted to J.M. Attuel (Motor Bus) and P.D. Hogan, W.A. Baker and P. Attuel (Taxi Drivers).

Shire Clerk to investigate extending the Council Chambers for a meeting room and a storage room.

New sanitary contractor found – Mr. Douglass of Bathurst.

Taxi Licence transferred from J.J. Ryan and R.L. Hawken.

Council Meeting – 9th July, 1952

Licences granted to Cunynghame Bros (Butchers Shop and Cattle Slaughtering).

Council Meeting – 6th August, 1952

(Finishing business of meeting of 9th July as after trying to meet on 10th July, this could not be proceeded with due to lack of a Quorum):

Building Permit issued to Rev. Father J.J. Nolan for additions to the Convent in Queen Street at a cost of £1,100.

Licences granted to C.R. Wilcox (Driver’s and Motor Vehicle), A. & M. Cotterill (Small Goods) and D.R. Lord (Motor Driver’s).

Consulting Electrical Engineer (L.J. Reynolds) to draw up necessary agreement between Dept. of Tourist Activities and Council for supply of electricity to Jenolan Caves.

The 4 brass instruments on hand be loaned to Bathurst City Band until required at Oberon.

Special Council Meeting – 11th August, 1952

Called for the purpose of taking such action as may be deemed necessary and proper in connection with the Shire Engineer’s supervision and organisation of public work in the Shire and also to take such action with respect to the position of Shire Engineer as may be considered appropriate.

Council Meeting – 10th September, 1952

Shire Engineer, K.L. Smith, resigned from 1.10.52 to take up position with Illabo Council.

Mr. H.G. Fox appointed Overseer.

Small Goods Licences granted to P.B. & J.P. Howell, S.E. Mawhood and R.J. Mason.

Plan to be provided for Council Chamber at rear of present building, with provision for storage in the ceiling, and if acceptable to Committee appointed, tenders to be called for erection.

Council to undertake the necessary steps recommended by the Public Works Dept. to augment the water supply by changing over one of the 8,000 gal. per day pumps to a 12,000 gal. per day pump and to request the P.W.D. to implement the necessary alterations.

Council Meeting – 1st October, 1952

Small Goods Licence issued to Conomos Bros.

The Shire Engineer submitted a Special Report on the work done during his tenure and that of his staff. It reads, in part, as follows:

“I am about to leave Council’s employ and as there has been a considerable amount of unfair and unjust criticism leveled at me as an Engineer, and at my staff and workmen, I feel that this factual report should be placed before Council and published in full in fairness to myself, my staff and to many ratepayers of this Shire who are not aware of these facts.”.

There followed nearly 2 pages of what had been done, followed by the following comments:

“It must be remembered that the accomplishments above were carried out during a period when labour was particularly hard to get and keep. In 1948 the public works staff numbered 11 and at the present time it is 22 and to have that number there has been a total of 60 men engaged over the past 4 ¼ years. Also the past 3 years are reputed to have been 3 record wet years. I consider, therefore, that any fair minded person studying the above facts cannot but admit that much has been accomplished by the Engineer and his staff and most of the criticism has been unfounded and unjust and made without full knowledge of the facts.”

In many of the previous Shire Engineer’s Reports he had asked for an assistant of some sort, full or part time, and every time the Council would either not discuss it or said he didn’t need one, even though some of the jobs to be done were well behind schedule and thus stopped Council from getting quite a few grants from the Government). Mr. Smith was Council’s Engineer from 1.7.48 to 8.10.52.

Council to call for yet another Pound Keeper.

Mr. E. Kitchen to be interviewed for position of Shire Engineer.

Overseer to inspect swimming baths and prepare an estimate for fencing of the pool and construction of conveniences.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. M.C. Cotton, G. Richards and Dr. L. Robey from the Oberon Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. approached Council and submitted 2 proposals for the establishment of a War Memorial in Oberon. The first was a

memorial in the centre of Oberon Street and Ross Street junction – with concrete plots along Oberon Street to Fleming Street – these plots to be planted with suitable shrubs. This plan would entail central parking, with parking parallel to the kerb for long vehicles. The second suggestion was to erect a War Memorial in front of the Council Chambers. Neither of these schemes would be at any cost to Council and also the Committee would like to have the project completed by next Anzac Day (April, 1953). Council approved the first suggestion, subject to consent of D.M.R. and Sgt. In charge of local police. The alternate proposal be approved if first does not meet with the approval of the Department.

Special Council Meeting – 4th October, 1952

This meeting called to appoint a new Shire Engineer (E. Kitchen) and utility truck to be used by Overseer and Shire Engineer, Shire Engineer’s Residence repairs to fence and telephone service.

Council Meeting – 5th November, 1952

J. Allison resigned as Cost Clerk as from 14th November, 1952.

Shire Engineer, E. Kitchen, to be temporarily appointed pending appointee attaining further experience to enable certificate to be issued.

Claude Cunynghame appointed as Pound Keeper.

Exterior walls of strong room to be cement sealed and plastered to prevent fretting of brickwork and dampness.

Building Permit issued for new bank and dwelling for N.S.W. Bank at corner of Oberon and Ross Streets at a cost of £16,500.

Special Council Meeting – 9th December, 1952

Presidential Allowance: £40.

Shire President: Cr. J.J. Hoolihan.

Deputy Shire President: Cr. Freer.

Committees:

Finance & Administration: Whole Council.

Works: Whole Council.

Town Improvement, Health & Parks:

Crs. Hoolihan, Freer and Fitzpatrick.

Electricity: Crs. Hoolihan, Spicer, Freer and Fitzpatrick.

Water and Sewerage: Whole Council.

Bush Fire Brigade: Crs. Hoolihan, Purdon, Spicer, Cosgrove & Fitzpatrick. Messrs. H.E. Kater, J.W. Perry, A.C. Armstrong & R.N. Buckley.

Council Meeting – 9th December, 1952

There was a Public Meeting in the Malachi Gilmore Hall for the purpose of discussing the proposal to form a Fire Brigade within the town. The Chairman explained the purpose of the meeting was to endeavour to organize some adequate protection against fires in the town and to enlist for voluntary service those persons who were willing to train and serve in this purpose. The country areas were well organized in the matter of bush fires and the town provided the greatest risk in the area and it was essential that some concerted action be taken by the townspeople for their own protection.

1953

Council Meeting – 14th January, 1953

The Health Inspector reported that during the new year period a breakdown occurred in the water supply which could have caused the town area to be without water had the fault not been detected early. In view of this, and also the fact that there appear to have been 7 occurrences in the last 12 months, he recommended the installation of an automatic low level water alarm. Electrical Engineer thinks this could cost £90.

G.R. (Ronnie) Goodair be appointed to position of Cost Clerk for a probation period of 6 months. He commenced on 27.1.53.

Dept. Main Roads advised approval of the War Memorial – Garden Plots in Oberon Street – subject to agreement being reached regarding contributions to pavement costs and submission of details of the scheme for their approval. R.S.L. to requested to supply full details of the scheme for submission to the D.M.R.

Council Meeting – 11th February, 1953

Council agreed to the continuance of Mr. F.H. Rowe as County Clerk to the U.M.C.C. for a further 3 years.

G.P. Turner re-appointed as Auditor.

A Mr. R. Darnell of Concord West advised Council of what he considers the disgusting conditions existing at the Oberon Swimming Baths.

Police have advised that they do not favour the construction of central plots in Oberon Street and central parking owing to reduced traffic way and increased movement of pedestrians on the carriageway. The matter to be referred to the War Memorial Committee and to be considered in conjunction with representatives of the Police and R.S.L.

Licences granted to G. Osborne & W.A. Baker (Taxi Driver) and R.L. Hawken (Taxi Driver and Taxi Licence).

Due to severe lightning storms, there have been 4 interruptions to the electricity supply during the last month. No damage of any great consequence resulted.

Following a request from 8 pupils from the Oberon Central School to be permitted to attend a council meeting as part of their school curriculum it was decided that, owing to the lack of space in the Council Chambers, Council endeavour to hire the Malachi Gilmore Hall to hold the March meeting of the Council and that the pupils be invited to attend.

Lavatories at the swimming baths to be constructed as soon as possible and seat pegs for clothes and half roof be erected in Dressing Rooms at same time.

Government Insurance Office requested to submit particulars of Accident Insurance cover for Councillors.

Council Meeting – 11th March, 1953 (held in the Malachi-Gilmore Hall)

Service of Nightsoil and Garbage contractor dispensed with. Temporary continuance of services is to be by day labour.

Mr. E. Kitchen, Shire Engineer, resigned as from 20.3.53.

Church of England Tennis Club requested permission to erect 2 tennis courts on church land at corner of Ross and Queen Streets.

Programme of celebrations on 2nd June, 1953 requested by State Premier on the date of Coronation of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II to be arranged by the R.S.L., C.W.A., Red Cross, Churches and the whole Council.

President welcomed 18 members of Central School who were attending the meeting as part of their social studies. They were

accompanied by Misses Beryl Armstrong and Betty Gilmore.

P.V. Drivers Licences granted to J. Attuel and M. Hawken and P.V. Licences issued to J. Attuel.

Tenders to be invited for sanitary and garbage services contracts.

Legal proceedings to be instituted against executors of Estate J.J.G. McGirr for failure to comply with notices to effect repairs at Brighton Boarding House.

Final Notice to be served on Mrs. E.S. Whiteley requiring her to comply forthwith with previous notices served on her for provision of laundry and bathroom accommodation at her tenements.

Action to be taken to ensure that business premises discontinue the practice of sweeping shop and business refuse into the street gutters.

John L. Donovan & Co. granted grass rights for the grazing of sheet on the Recreation Ground for one year at £25.

Lord Mayor's Appeal for Flood Relief Funds for Great Britain and Holland – donations to be left at the Shire Offices for forwarding on.

Council Meeting – 8th April, 1953

As there has not been a Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign in the Shire since 1943, Dr. Robey, the Local Government Medical Officer is willing to co-operate in this matter.

War Memorial and Car Parking: Following representations made by the Police Department, the Committee decided to recommend parallel parking be adopted in the business section of Oberon Street (from Raleigh to North Streets) and vehicles over 18 ft. in length be prohibited from parking therein from when the War Memorial construction is commenced. Plots are suggested to be approx. 20 ft. x 8 ft. and spaced 70 ft. apart.

A suitable flag pole is to be obtained and erected in front of the Council Chambers.

Council Meeting – 13th May, 1953

2 cases of Scarlet Fever reported.

Mr. F.A. Purdon granted permit for a new brick church in Dart Street at a cost of £2,180.

Shires Association to take out a Master Cover of £50,000 for Public Liability Insurances and each participating Council to share in the cost of the premium.

Council wants the Deputy Shire Clerk to attend meetings and take Minutes, no girl from the office to attend meetings unless directed by Council. The Shire Clerk stated that the resolutions were contrary to the requirements of the Local Government Act.

There has been great discussion on the proposal for a new Village in the Black Springs area. Suggested names were “Village of Swatchfield”, then “Village of Black Springs”, the “Village of Vulcan”. “Village of Beaconsfield” is the favoured name.

Council Meeting – 3rd June, 1953

Licences issued to Mrs. L.M. Slattery and Conomos Bros. (Milk Vendor and Refreshment Rooms), A. Webb (Milk Vendor), W.S. Oram, N.E. O'Brien and Mrs. F.A. Johnson (Hairdressers), P.D. Hogan, D.H. Bartell and L.R. Hogan (Taxi Drivers).

Electrical Engineer now to be known as Electrical Engineer Manager.

£2.2.0 contribution to Bathurst District Ambulance Service.

Village in Black Springs now to be called “Village of Vulcan”.

Council Meeting – 8th and 9th July, 1953

J. Brown, Deputy Shire Clerk, resigns.

Rogers Meat Co. advised Council that the meat works at Orange would be used for the purpose of a Regional Killing Works for this area.

Dept. of Motor Transport investigation Council's request for a “Stop” sign at the

intersection of North Street and Carrington Avenue.

P.B. Howell received a Coronation Medal.

Mrs. N. McGrath of Bathurst requests information on the history and growth of Oberon and district for broadcasting purposes and Royal Australian Historical Society asks for particulars of historical monuments and tablets in the Shire.

Council to ask Mr. R.C. Cotton to compile some historical information from data in his possession.

Black Springs Branch of A.P.P.U. wants Oberon Police to be provided with a suitable 4 wheel vehicle in lieu of motor bike and side car as at present.

About 30 men are using the Shire Depot as their base and there is not even a single hand basin. It is suggested a hut 40 ft. x 15 ft. overall, having sleeping quarters 16 ft. x 15 ft., dining quarters 16 ft. x 15 ft. and a wash and shower room 8 ft. x 15 ft. be constructed of concrete block walls, galvanized iron roof and timber floor. Provision to be made for 2 hand basins, 1 shower, electric lighting and a small hot water system (a second hand damaged unit is available). The cost would be £200 (materials only) and the men are willing to contribute 24 man day towards construction of the building.

Taxi Driver's Licences issued to W.A.T. Robinson, F.P. Hogan and K.L. Hawken.

Mr. Laughton new sanitary and garbage contractor.

Mr. G.C. Robinson of Murwillumbah appointed as Shire Engineer and if not D.R. Paton be appointed, subject to him obtaining full Local Government Engineer's Certificate.

Turon Shire President, Councillor C.K.B. White, attended the meeting with a view to having Council back his Shire in asking for an electricity County Council.

Mr. H.R. Polson appointed as Deputy Shire Clerk with Mr. Alcock second preference.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT THIS POINT AND RECONVENED ON 9TH JULY.

Mr. Patrick Leo Foran to be given Hire Car Licence for Black Springs area.

Council Meeting – 12th August, 1953

D.R. Paton appointed as Shire Engineer in a temporary capacity until his Certificate is issued.

Special Council Meeting – 27th August, 1953

Mr. J.R. Partridge appointed as Deputy Shire Clerk, with Mr. L.S. Gibson as second choice.

This meeting also covered such things as signatories on cheques and electricity matters.

Council Meeting – 9th September, 1953

Licences granted to Cunynghame Bros (Butchers Shop and Slaughtering), J. Pannys, Mrs. L.M. Slattery, Conomos Bros., S.E. Mawhood and P.B. & J.P. Howell Bros (Small Goods).

Shire Engineer, D.R. Paton, has received his Local Government Engineer's Certificate.

Minister advised Council that an extraordinary election for vacancy caused by death of Cr. A.E. Freer need not be held.

Council Meeting – 5th October, 1953

Mrs. M. McMaugh resigned from 31st December, 1953. It is recommended that Mrs. E. Booth (Typist Clerk) be elevated to position of Senior Female Clerk.

Anti-T.B. Campaign to be carried out in Shire on 5th October, 1953.

Resolution re parallel parking from Raleigh Street to North Street in Oberon Street rescinded as Police Dept. now advises that, if the memorial plots erected are only 4 ft. (instead of 8 ft.) wide, there will be no objection to continuance of angle parking.

As a contrast to previous information on payments to Returning Officers, etc., going

back quite a number of years, the following amounts are now to be paid:

Returning Officer - £19.19.0 plus £1.1.0 for each polling booth above 5 and limited to a maximum of £30.30.0.

Substitute Returning Officer – one half of the Returning Officers.

Presiding Officers - £4.10.0.

Poll Clerks - £3.10.0 plus 1/- per mile.

4 notifications were made of Rheumatic Fever.

The local medical practitioner was of the opinion that the many cases of virus jaundice (approx. 40) in the town may have their origin in unwashed sanitary pans.

A Diphtheria immunization campaign to be carried out on 22nd October. The first injection was to 200 children and the second and last injection will be carried out on 3rd December.

Oberon District Cricket Association asked for 2 concrete wickets on the Recreation Ground. Shire Engineer to interview the Secretary of the Cricket Association and ascertain if the wickets could be provided for a sum not exceeding £35.

Oberon Golf Club asked that costs be waived for the grading of new golf course. Council agreeable to reduce the charge to actual cost of £7.10.0 as long as Club pays immediately.

Council has agreed to a Public Holiday on 12th February, 1954 being the date of the Royal Visit of the Queen to Bathurst.

Council Meeting – 11th November, 1953

14 nominations received for forthcoming elections over all Ridings. Polling places proposed are Black Springs, Duckmaloi, Edith, Emden Vale, Essington, Gingkin, Hazelgrove, Isabella, Jaunter, Jerrong, Melville Park, Norway, Oberon, O'Connell, Paling Yards, Porters Retreat, Shooters Hill, Turonville and Wisemans Creek.

Preferential Voting System to be used.

The Department of Public Health advises it has withdrawn its approval to use dish washing appliances attached to water supply.

An officer of the Housing Commission visited Oberon on 20th October and made inspections of suitable sites for the erection of 5 homes.

Mr. J.J. Hanley requested a Gold Lease at the Reef, but the Department of Mines refused.

There was an interruption to the electricity supply on 2nd November caused by uneven snow loading on conductors. It was for approximately 1 hour.

K. Laughton has resigned as sanitary and garbage contractor and has been replaced by K. Sweeney.

The swimming pool was drained and arrangements have been made for a public working bee to clean down and scrub the walls and floor of the pool before it is refilled.

D.R. Paton confirmed as Shire Engineer after passing his Certificate of Engineering.

1 concrete cricket pitch to be provided at Recreation Ground at an estimated cost of £80 with a wicket fee of 2/- per player per match.

The Shire Clerk, Fred Rowe, was warmly congratulated on the length and quality of his service having been at the Council for 20 years, since 6th November, 1933.

Special Council Meeting – 16th December, 1953

Presidential Allowance: £60.

Shire President: R.N. Buckley.

Deputy Shire President: E.L. Cunynghame.

New Councillors: R.N. Buckley, E.L. Cunynghame, C.R. Kelly, H.H. McKinnon, J.A. Nightingale. (W.T. Cosgrove only Councillor re-elected).

Committees:

Finance & Administration: Whole Council.

Electricity: Whole Council.

Works: Crs. Buckley, Cunynghame and Kelly.

Health: Crs. Buckley, Cunynghame and Kelly.

Town Improvement & Water Supply: Crs. Buckley, Cunynghame & Kelly.

Bush Fire: Whole Council + J.W. Perry, L.C. Armstrong, T. Richards & R.D. Bell.

U.M.C.C.: Crs. Nightingale and Kelly.

Council Meeting – 16th December, 1953

Miss Joan Spicer appointed as typist-clerk.

Mrs. E. Booth resigned as from 31st January, 1954.

Mrs. M. McMaugh to continue to 31st January, 1954 instead of leaving 31.12.53.

Several firms put out souvenirs for the Royal Visit and will supply same to councils for distribution to school children, at prices specified,

There were numerous interruptions to the electricity during November due to lightning.

There are now 33 street lights in town.

168 children received complete course for Diphtheria injections and 75 children received booster shots – 243 children treated. It is suggested letter of thanks be sent to Dr. Robey, the Matron and nursing staff of the hospital and H. David for allowing use of hall.

Following volunteer work the swimming pool and joints were cleaned and sealed with bitumen, then the pool was re-filled.

Tenders to be called for carrying out garbage and sanitary services for 3 years, with optional extension by mutual agreement.

Mr. A.T. McIntyre, Health Inspector, to be appointed full time from 1st January, 1954 for 2 months with position to be reviewed at end of February.

Council to approve factory registration for Mr. E.A. Anthony at 80 North Street as a Boot Repair Shop.

1954

Council Meeting – 13th January, 1954

7 infectious diseases were reported by medical practitioners during 1953, 2 Scarlet Fever and 5 Rheumatic Fever. During the past 5 years there have only been 9 cases of infectious diseases reported from within the Oberon Shire area.

Agreement for supply of electricity to Timber Industries approved under Common Seal.

At the Government's suggestion that a County Council should be formed for electricity in the Oberon, Turon, Abercrombie and Bathurst Council areas, could to object to the formation in the absence of full details of possible benefits to the area.

Special Council Meeting – 27th January, 1954

This meeting was called to iron out problems between the Shire Clerk and Electrical Engineer.

Council Meeting – 10th February, 1954

The Shire Clerk submitted a report on the December 1953 elections pointing out that only 67% of people voted, there were 14 candidates for 3 Ridings and 19 polling places. Cost is expected to be in the vicinity of £320. Because of small number of votes at some of the polling places, it is recommended that the list be reviewed and reduced for next election. It was necessary to carry out 22 counts instead of 3 counts in previous election.

Licences granted to Mrs. L.M. Slattery and Conomos Bros. (Peters Café & Webb's Shop) – Refreshment Rooms and Milk Vendors; J. Panny (Milk Vendor); J.P. Lawrence and J.M. Attuel (Taxi Vehicle and Taxi Driver).

Pool was again drained due to deteriorating condition. It was given a general cleaning and refilled with fresh water.

P.M.G. Dept. have a vacant block of land in the centre of the town. They propose to erect a new P.O. on the block as the present P.O. is inconvenient, too small and unsuitable for the business it has to transact.

Recommended that Council take necessary steps to have a sewerage scheme installed at Oberon as soon as possible. Detailed survey plans have already been prepared and scheme should be proceeded with without delay.

A Garden Fee of £3 per assessment was fixed for the year 1954 and chargeable on all ratable properties connected to the town water supply and having an outside or garden tap or such a tap as is adaptable to the watering of gardens.

Discussion took place on taxis overcharging. Proprietors to be advised their drivers have been overcharging and if it continues they could lose their licence.

Council to make representations to have The Common re-dedicated as a Reserve for Public Recreation and part of it for a Camping Area under Council's control.

Council to purchase a framed portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at a cost of £6.19.6.

N.S.W. Board of Fire Commissioners be asked to supply details of plans and specification of suitable fire station building for Oberon.

Councillor R.N. Buckley, resigned from position of Group Captain of the Oberon Shire Bush Fire Brigade and Lance Armstrong was then appointed to the position.

Council Meeting – 10th March, 1954

Licences granted to T.H. Rich, R.L. Hawkin and P.D. Hogan (Taxi and Taxi Drivers) and J.V. Yeaman.

A start has been made to prepare a master plan of the complete water reticulation of the town area which is badly needed. The complete plan will take a little time as the rough preparation plan will need to be checked by field inspection before it can be finalized.

President said whilst he was in favour of some suitable type of war memorial he expressed the view that the proposal for one in the main street was not desirable, especially from the traffic problems which would automatically arise.

President and Clerk visited schools at ceremonies at which Souvenir Medals to make the visit of The Queen to Australia has been distributed.

G.P. Turner re-appointed as Auditor.

Dept. Immigration suggested that Naturalisation Ceremonies be transferred from the Courts to the Town or Shire Halls and presided over by the respective Mayor or Shire President. Council concurred.

A.T. McIntyre to resign as Health Inspector due to ill health.

R.S. Cunynghame resigned as Caretaker of the Oberon Recreation Ground.

War Memorial Committee enclosed plan for Cenotaph Plot to be placed in front of and opposite to the Council Chambers.

Council Meeting – 14th April, 1954

A survey of the reticulation of the P.W.D. Cottage Settlement at the Fish River Dam has been completed, but commencement held up because of lack of poles due to the North Coast floods.

2 interruptions to electricity supply in Murray's Lane due to work on the line and all shires load shed by Bathurst City Council due to strike at Bunnerong Power Station.

13 cases of infectious diseases have been reported by medical practitioners during past

month. 1 Scarlet Fever and 12 of Infectious Hepatitis.

Licences issued to N.E. O'Brien, W.M. Oram and Mrs. N. Johnston (Hairdressers) and G. Osborn (Taxi Driver).

Shire President referred to necessity for fencing the swimming pool to prevent stock drowning.

Electricity, Finance and Administration Committees only to comprise Crs. Buckley, Kelly and Cunynghame.

Plans for proposed septic tank to serve 50 dam cottages received from Dept. Public Works.

Letter from Housing Commission advising of early invitation of tenders for erection of dwelling in the town.

Present Police premises unsuitable, condemned by Health Inspector and doesn't have telephone. New premises unable to be proceeded with as yet.

Council Meeting – 12th May, 1954

Mrs. F. McLardy appointed Senior Female Clerk for 1 month trial.

2 cases of Infectious Hepatitis reported, 1 from Porters Retreat and 1 from Duckmaloi.

Some of the old records have been removed from the R.S.L. but the balance cannot be removed until storage space is found for balance of records.

Application for Governor's Approval for loan of £4,500 for provision of residences for servants of Council be signed, sealed and forwarded to the Local Government Dept.

Application to be made to have the Taxi Rank moved to the south side of Oberon Street, to the west of the Malachi Gilmore Hall.

Mr. R.A. Castle to be appointed as Part Time Health Inspector as a temporary appointment until he has attained qualifications.

Shire Engineer to proceed with survey and design work for a bridge over the Little River on M.R. 256 at Porters Retreat and it be proceeded with after all negotiation with

the Duckmaloi River Bridge has been completed.

After reading correspondence advising new police station had a high priority but no funds were available, Council to press the matter further stressing urgency of the buildings being proceeded with at an early date and to particularly draw attention to the unhygienic conditions of the lock up cells.

Awning posts damaged in Oberon Street by vehicles backing into them. "Angle Parking" signs to be re-erected and have additional wording "2 ft. from Kerb".

Council Meeting – 16th June, 1954

J.R. Partridge resigns as Deputy Shire Clerk.

A septic tank serving 200 persons at Fish River Dam Project approved.

4 cases of Infectious Hepatitis and 2 cases of Rheumatic Fever reported.

Milk Vendors Licence granted to N.J.R. & K. Nelson.

After a Board of Fire Commissioners inspection on 17th May, 1954, the site adopted for the new fire station to be in North Street, western side, between Oberon Street and Scotia Avenue.

F.A. Purdon, ex Councillor died around about June, 1954.

A loan of £3,000 to be sought for the erection of a Fire Station at Oberon.

R.A. Castle decided not to take up position of Health Inspector. Council to contact Dept. of Health and advise that Council does not consider the position calls for a full time Health Inspector and would be agreeable to a joint appointment with an adjoining Shire for part-time employment of a Health Inspector by each Council.

W.J. Evans to join E.A. Evans as Sanitary and Garbage Contractor.

Council Meeting – 14th July, 1954

Health Inspector, A.T. McIntyre, although not well, is prepared to continue in the position until next Autumn, health permitting.

Council to contact Local Member to have the 5 mile gap between the Porters Retreat and Paling Yards Post Offices linked up thus making direct telephone communications between Oberon and Goulburn.

A deputation was received from the Tennis Association with the proposal for a town tennis courts at the Recreation Ground. Meeting to be arranged on 17th July on site to investigate the proposal.

Report re area known as "The Reef" Scavenging District.

Council Meeting – 11th August, 1954

P.M.G. advises of carrier-wave telephone system which will provide 1 direct channel to Bathurst and 2 direct channels to Sydney.

R.S.L. Bowling Green should be proceeded with if the necessary additional lands are available to the Club. This would mean taking some of the land from the Shire Depot.

A design for alteration and enlargement of the existing Council Chambers premises to be drawn up altering the general layout and existing building be repainted.

Engineer to draw up plans and estimates for construction of 2 tennis courts.

Special Council Meeting – 17th August, 1954

This meeting was called for the purpose of discussing various electrical matters.

Special Council Meeting – 23rd August, 1954

This meeting was called for the purpose of discussing various administration matters and delegation of powers.

Position of Deputy Shire Clerk – A. Frater of Hasting Shire, second preference N.F. Green of Ryde Council.

Council Meeting – 8th September, 1954

J.N. Burton successful in the ballot for an additional Taxi Cab Licence in Oberon.

The pan service commenced at The Reef.

The Board of Fire Commissioners approved the proposed site for the Oberon Fire Station but advised that they did not think they could provide a fire engine immediately. A man from Sydney will come up to train members of the fire brigade and then the brigade would be handed over to the Captain. The Board would take over the building when erected and ready for use and it would then pay Council the rent, lighting and rates, etc. and Council's contribution to the Fire Board would be approximately £80 per annum.

The Minister for Lands advised that 50 acres would be reserved for common usage and the remainder is under investigation for disposal. Council to put forward claim for portion of the Old Common Area to be set aside for public golf links under the Trusteeship of the Council.

Special Council Meeting – 13th September, 1954

This meeting was called for the purposes of dealing with various electrical matters and election of a representative to the newly formed Southern Mitchell County Council.

Councillor H.H. McKinnon elected to Southern Mitchell County Council.

Council Meeting – 13th October, 1954

In view of the inauguration of the County Council on 1st October, 1954 Mr. J.S. Fitzpatrick, Electrical Engineer/Manager, thanked Council for their trust and co-operation over the last 3 years. During his tenure, the number of consumers have more than doubled, the consumption has increase five fold, and the route mileage of line has increased six fold.

Small Goods Licences granted to Conomos Bros., J. Pannys, S.E. Mawhood, P.B. & J.P. Howell Bros. and K. Nelson.

D.F. McEwan appointed to position of "B" Grade Clerk in the Electricity Department with Mr. E.B. Knight second choice.

Mr. J. Bell of Lake Macquarie Council appointed as "A" Grade Clerk.

Council to write to Local Member urging him to place the matter of new police premises before the Premiers Department as a matter of urgency.

Council to write to Local Member advising him that the matter of a new Post Office should be treated as a matter of urgency as the existing building is considered to be over-crowded and unsuitable.

Mr. S.P. Linhart was granted a Certificate of Naturalisation on 16th November, 1954.

Council Meeting – 10th November, 1954

The Department of Lands wants to know if Council has any objection to the Forestry Commission acquiring portion of the site for Oberon Public Watering Place for establishment of Forestry Offices at Oberon. No objection.

P.M.G. has approved the new P.O. at Oberon and building will commence in 1956.

Special Council Meeting – 15th December, 1954

Presidential Allowance: £60.

Shire President: Councillor E.L. Cunynghame.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor H.H. McKinnon.

Committees:

All Committees except Finance & Administration be Committees of the Whole Council and Finance & Administration comprise Crs. Cunynghame, Cosgrove and Kelly.

**Council Meeting – 15th December,
1954**

A P.W.D. Cottage at Oberon Dam has been made available to Council for 3 months for staff housing.

3 cases of Infectious Hepatitis reported.

Licences issued were Plumbers (F. Byrom) and Taxi Cab and Drivers (J.N.R. Burton).

During 1954 it was noted that the Kanangra Walls Road had been designated M.R. 520 and the Hampton Road as M.R. 558. These could have been numbered for some time, but it was not noted.

**Special Council Meeting – 20th
December, 1954**

This meeting was for the 1955 Estimates.

Cr. Buckley asked to remove himself from the meeting because of remarks he had made and that he could not return until he had apologized.

1955

Council Meeting – 12th January, 1955

S.M.C.C. advised that an office of the County Council is to be opened at Oberon and that steps are being taken to resume land for a depot and erection of a house on the depot site.

Transfer of Taxi Licence from T. Rick to K. Nelson.

The Housing Commission advised that labour shortage in Oberon district is delaying progress with erection of cottages.

During 1954 27 cases of infectious diseases were notified by medical practitioners – 24 Infectious Hepatitis, 1 Scarlet Fever and 3 Rheumatic Fever.

57 Licences issued in 1954 being 2 – Refreshment Rooms; 5 - Milk Vendors; 3 – Hairdressers; 8 – Motor Vehicles; 10 – Taxi Drivers; 1 – Butchers Shop; 1 – Slaughter Yards; 2 – Water Plumbers; and 5 – Small Goods.

Festoon Lighting to be switched on over the Christmas-New Year period the same as last year.

Applications for Health Inspector to be deferred until such time as a cottage is commenced.

Plans and specifications be prepared for cottage for Health Inspector and tenders be called.

Ladies Dressing Shed and Lavatories at the Pool to be completed immediately.

As no further funds available from Government for fencing the swimming pool, Council to cash in War Saving Certificates and apply monies received towards the fencing.

Council Meeting – 9th February, 1955

Following Licences granted – Taxi Cabs and Buses (R.L. Hawken, J.N.R. Burton, K. Nelson, J.M. Attuel and J.P. Lawrence) and

Taxi Drivers (K. Nelson, J.P. Lawrence, J.N.R. Burton, R.L. Hawken and W.C. Gardener.

J. Bell appointed Deputy Shire Clerk for week the Shire Clerk on holidays.

Mrs. I.M. Harvey granted a Factory Licence for a Cake Shop.

Special Council Meeting – 14th February, 1955

This meeting covered Commonwealth Road Programmes, amongst other things.

Council Meeting – 9th March, 1955

Premier advises that a 4 bedroom cottage is to be erected for police purposes at Oberon. (NOTE: No reference is made to erection of Police Station or Court House).

Mr. W.A. Bayley advised he would compile a history of the Shire and district, if so required, for 1956 Shire Jubilee. He was asked to provide a quote. This would be £997 ½ for 2,000 copies. No action.

A suggestion that the meeting be tape recorded for future reference lapsed for want of a seconder.

J.R. Bell elevated to position of Deputy Shire Clerk.

Council Meeting – 13th April, 1955

Licences granted to Conomos Bros., John Pannys and N.J.R. & K. Nelson (Milk Vendors and Refreshment Rooms); Mrs. N. Johnson, W.M. Oran and N.E. O'Brien (Barbers Shop); and E.L. Warhurst (Taxi Cab Driver).

Tender of B. Jamieson for erection of new cottage and alteration to existing garage for Health Inspector accepted - £3,130.

30 m.p.h. speed limit signs to be erected at O'Connell.

Council Meeting – 11th May, 1955

Butter Factory Lane and Burroughs Crossing Road were dedicated as Public Roads on 25.3.55.

Proposed new Police residence is also proposed to be used as a Police Office.

2 cases of Infectious Hepatitis reported during the past month.

Council to support Baulkham Hills Council in an endeavour to have Salk Poliomyelitis Vaccine made available to councils for immunization purposes.

Application for Registration as a factory by Gordon Edgell & Sons of Oberon for a pea vining station be approved.

Council Meeting – 8th June, 1955

Council informed that the Duckmaloi River Bridge plans will be ready about 13/17th June

R.E. Esdaile, present Assistant Health Inspector of Bathurst Council and former Assistant to the Chief Health Inspector of Wide Shire Council appointed as Health Inspector.

Council Meeting – 13th July, 1955

Oberon Apex Club and Catholic Womens' Auxiliary requested Council to add fluorine to the town water supply. Any action be deferred until an official statement is issued by the Public Health Department.

Local Government Dept. asks councils to exercise their powers over control of entertainment devices at agricultural shows, so as to obviate further serious accidents.

Power lines now coming from the Snowy Mountains will give cheaper power.

Following a report from the Microbiological Laboratory of the Dept. of Public Health on samples of water taken from the water supply, the P.W.D. be urged to take necessary action to have the condition of the Oberon Water Supply improved.

The Deputy Shire Clerk reported the loss (or stealing) of the Council keys from his coat at a function held recently and it was decided

to advertise for their return and in the meantime all access locks to the Office be changed to prevent wrongful use of the keys.

Council Meeting – 10th August, 1955

Licences granted to J. Panny, S.E. Mawhood, Howell Bros., Conomos Bros. and K. Nelson (Small Goods), E.L. Cunynghame (Butchers Shop) and M.C. Stewart (Plumber, Drainer and Water Fitter).

In view of facilities required elsewhere, the P.M.G. cannot undertake the erection of a new P.O. at Oberon at this stage but work will take place as soon as circumstances permit

The R.S.L. Club asks Council support for Liquor Licence at Club.

The Stock Route through town has been reclassified as follows:

“From the eastern end of Oberon Street by way of Oberon Street to Fairfax Street thence by Fairfax Street to Queen Street, thence by Queen Street to Earl Street thence Earle Street to Curtis Street, thence by Curtis Street to North Street thence by North Street to Balfour Street, and thence by either of those roads to destination.

Also by the above route so far as Balfour Street, thence by Balfour Street to Crete Street, thence by Crete Street to Scotia Avenue thence by Scotia Avenue easterly to North Street, thence by North Street and Lowes Mount Road to railway trucking yards or other destination.

Alternative route to trucking yards and Lowes Mount Road from eastern end of Oberon Street following the same route as set out in first paragraph, so far as Earl Street thence by Earl Street northerly to Dart Street, then by Dart Street to Ross Street, thence by Ross Street to Cunningham (sic) Street, thence by Cunningham Street to North Street, thence by North Street and Lowes Mount Road to trucking yards or other destination.

From Jenolan Caves Road by way of Dudley Street to Curtis Street.

The above route also vice versa.

All stock to be driven along such aforementioned route to the nearest point of destination, or from such place to such route at the nearest point.”

Deputy Shire Clerk, J. Bell, be nominated for position of Civil Defence Liaison Officer.

Special Council Meeting – 31st August, 1955

This meeting was called to discuss the Shire Clerk’s Annual Report on the finances and activities of the Council for 1954.

Inquiries be made of the R.S.L. regarding its intentions to proceed with the construction of a Bowling Green so that Council may decide what action is should take with regard to provision of a green.

Some form of town planning is desirable, but that adoption of the Town and Country Planning Act would be too expensive and that any planning should be carried out under the provision of the Local Government Act.

Council Meeting – 14th September, 1955

Alterations and Additions to the R.S.L. Club worth £5,880.

Licences approved to E. & M. Cashin (Small Goods) and E.L. Cunynghame (Slaughter House).

President reported that the degree of police protection at Oberon had dwindled owing to the transfer of 1 of the Constables and the absence on sick leave of another leaving only the Sergeant to carry out all the police work of the town and district and suggested a letter be forwarded to the Police Inspector at Bathurst relative to the conditions at Oberon and requesting improvement in the strength of the police force in the town.

It was decided to communicate with the Housing Commission requesting that further homes be erected at Oberon and that such homes be of higher standard than those previously erected.

Telephones installed in all Shire Staff Cottages and Council to pay rental only with the Health Inspector, Deputy Shire Clerk and Shire Engineer to pay all telephone calls.

Health Inspector to prepare a report on the definition of residential districts desired to be proclaimed in the town into various zones for commercial, industrial and residential.

R.S.L. advised that Council is unable to offer any assistance with regard to the establishment and maintenance of a library being established by the Club.

Council unable to offer any assistance with regard to establishment of Public Sale Yards in Oberon because of financial restrictions.

Special Council Meeting – 28th September, 1955

This meeting was mainly concerned with roads and roadworks.

Council Meeting – 24th October, 1955

Anti T.B. X-ray Campaign to be held in Oberon on 22nd, 23rd and 24th November.

Apex Club willing to supply labour to erect materials for completion of works at the Recreation Ground and also asking permission to plant trees on all roads leading into town.

A Mr. Ljudevic Pogacar of Jenolan Caves to be naturalized on 30th November, 1955 at Jenolan Caves House.

1 case of Infectious Hepatitis reported.

Health Inspectors Report on residential districts within the town.

Council Meeting – 28th November, 1955

Police Department advised it is not proposed to make any additional appointment to the Oberon Police strength at present.

Council recommended the purchase of 1 gallon of Dieldrin concentrate and 1 knapsack spray for the treating of sanitary pans each week.

The War Savings Certificate to the value of £250 be converted and proceeds put towards improvement at the swimming baths and Recreation Ground.

1,884 persons X-rayed by the Mobile T.B. Unit at Oberon.

A letter to be forwarded to the Government asking that the matter of dedication of the area of land on the Oberon Town Common for the use of a Golf Course be speeded up.

Special Council Meeting – 12th December, 1955

Presidential Allowance: £60.

Shire President: Councillor E.L. Cunynghame.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor R.N. Buckley.

Finance Committee: Crs. Cunynghame, Nightingale and Cosgrove.

Works Committee: Crs. Cunynghame, Nightingale, Cosgrove and Kelly.

No other annual Committee be appointed.

Council Meeting – 12th December, 1955

The matter of damage and destruction of road signs, also the loss of a quantity of petrol from one of Council's fuel dumps, be reported to the Police.

The granting of permission to the Apex Club to erect signs on roads leading into town.

1956

Council Meeting – 23rd January, 1956

Licences granted to Mrs. F.A. Johnson, N.E. O'Brien and W.S. Oran (Barbers Shop), N.J., R. & K. Nelson and C.T. & T. Conomos (Refreshment Rooms), R.L. Hawken, J. Burton, K. Nelson, T.H. Rich, K. Nelson, W.C. Gardner, J.M. Attuel (Public Vehicles) and R.L. Hawken, J.N.R. Burton, K. Nelson, T.H. Rich, W.C. Gardner, W.A. Baker, P. Attuel and J.M. Attuel (Public Vehicle Drivers).

The following changes were made to Licence Fees:-

Licence	Were	Now
Butcher Shops	10/-	£1
Smallgoods Shops	10/-	£1
Barbers Shops	10/-	£1
Public Vehicle	10/-	£1
Refreshment Room	2/6	£1
Public Vehicle Driver	10/-	5/-
Fish, Oysters, Crustaceans, etc.	Nil	6/-

Permit Fees for Street Trading now to be 10/- per day, Minor Building Applications 5/- but charitable organizations to be exempted from fees for any street trading.

Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign scheduled for 14th February and 20th March.

Only 3 cases of Infectious Hepatitis were notified in 1955 as against 18 Infectious Hepatitis, 2 Rheumatic Fever and 1 Scarlet Fever in 1954.

Shire Engineer submitted a list of additional roads which had not been numbered and a list will be distributed to Councillors so this can be discussed at the meeting.

A 3 year construction programme was submitted for the bitumen sealing of the Bathurst Road and the Goulburn Road.

The tender of Costello and Rogers in the sum of £2,695 was accepted for erection of the Fire Station.

Council Meeting – 27th February, 1956

Main Roads Dept. accepted tender of H. Mueller & Co. for £4,460.10.0 for the Duckmaloi Bridge.

1 case of Infectious Hepatitis reported.

Public Vehicle Drivers Licences granted to E.L. Warhurst and R. Nelson.

195 children received Diphtheria Immunisation (225 enrolled).

Heavy motor lorries, timber lorries, etc. on the roads during wet weather have caused considerable damage to several roads and it was considered necessary that some action be taken with regard to this matter to prevent its recurrence.

Typist, Miss J. Spicer, resigned. Mrs. G. Kennett appointed.

Councillor Nightingale resigned from the Works Committee and Finance Committee and his place was taken by Councillor Buckley on the Finance Committee and Councillor McKinnon on the Works Committee.

Applications to be called for Engineering Assistance or Assistant Engineer.

Council Meeting – 26th March, 1956

Local Government Association and Shires Association suggested that suitable 50th Anniversary Shire Jubilee Celebrations should be held in each Shire.

P.V. Licences granted to W.L. Frost and S. Bartlett, and transfer of W.L. Frost Licence to S. Bartlett.

Mr. B. Hayes from Blue Mountains Council appointed Engineering Assistant.

Engineer to engage a licenced surveyor to assist in field surveys.

Works Committee to now comprise the whole Council.

Council Meeting – 30th April, 1956

The Powers and Duties delegated to the Finance & Administration Committee, to the Shire Clerk, to the Health Committee, to the Health Inspector, to the Works Committee and to the Shire Engineer tabled.

An amended plan for additions to the R.S.L. Club worth £16,000 were approved.

Thanks to be forwarded to Dr. Robey, staff of Oberon Hospital, G.H. David, H.S. Nelson and R.J. Johnston for their help during the Diphtheria Immunisation Programme.

The President wrote a Special Report and the answers to complaints entitled “Special Report by Shire Clerk on General Activities of Council 1954-1955-1956”

Engineering Assistant, B. Hayes, to commence work on 21st May, 1956.

Advertisement to be placed in local papers inviting applications from persons desiring to obtain accommodation in Housing Commission Homes at Oberon.

Council to ask Shire Association Conference to approve the “first past the post” system for elections in the future.

Health Inspector submitted a tentative design and plan for extension of the Council Chambers and Shire Office Building by means of a second storey on the existing premises. He was asked to submit estimates of cost.

As outside staff are unable to work during wet weather because of the lack of protective clothing, it was decided to purchase an oil skin coat and hat @ £8.15.0 per man for 20 employees at a total cost of £175 (approx.).

Council Meeting – 28th May, 1956

1 case of Infectious Hepatitis reported.

New premises to be erected for Council Chambers and Shire Offices incorporating as much of the present building as possible and providing for professional offices for rental and that Architect, D. Trevor-Jones of Bathurst, be engaged to prepare necessary design and plans.

An extension of 3 months was granted to H. Mueller & Co. for completion of contract for construction of bridge over Duckmaloi River.

It was decided that Council Meetings would now be held on 2nd and 4th Mondays of month.

Council Meeting – 11th June, 1956

Mrs. G. Kennett, Typist-Clerk, resigned.

Mr. Alan Morse appointed as Auditor for 1955 and 1956. G.P. Turner was Auditor from 1947 to 1954.

Ambulance subscription of £2.2.0 approved.

District Surveyor from Orange advised Oberon Common and Public Recreation Reserve be an area of 182 acres under the control of Council for Public Recreation and also an area within the previous area of about 96 acres be for provision of a Golf Course under the control of the Council.

Tentative cost for changes to Council Chambers and Offices would be £15,000 to £20,000.

Council Meeting – 25th June, 1956

Nothing.

Council Meeting – 9th July, 1956

A book on Railways History received from the Commissioner for Railways.

Council asked if it would assist in conducting a district contest for future Empire and Olympic Games contestants under 16 years.

3 of Councils motions were carried at the Shire’s Conference being:

“That a proportion of the Royalty received by the Forestry Commission for timber removed from State Forests, Timber Reserves and Crown Lands be set aside and paid over to councils as a grant for maintenance and improvement of roads used by traffic hauling timber thereon.”

“That the issuer of Licences for Taxi Trucks be brought under the same Regulations as Licensing of Taxi Cabs.”

“That investigation be made as to the desirability of councils controlling and issuing all classes of licences, particularly within their own areas.”

At a meeting with Mr. Haviland, Under Secretary of Local Government, it was pointed out that Council was quite prepared to give Ratepayers what they desired, being an Inquiry into Council. They were told quite definitely that no Inquiry would be conducted by the Department and that it was necessary to put our house in order. Steps have already been taken in that direction. Arising out of so much unrest generally, it is understood that the Council may consist of 9 Councillors in future instead of 6. The President’s opinion is that the Motion asking for an Inquiry into Council’s affairs is the most ill-judged resolution Council has carried – amounting to a Motion of “no confidence” in ourselves.

Licences granted to Howell Bros., S.E. Mawhood, E. & M. Cashin, Conomos Bros. and John Pannys (Small Goods), E.L. Cunynghame (Butchers Shop and Cattle Slaughtering).

F.E. Christian has made application for a hire car permit, operating from the Fish River Dam, as the existing taxi service is most unsatisfactory for residents of the dam area and its unreliability is exacerbated by the fact there are no public telephones in the area. Council decided to contact the taxi cab proprietors informing them of complaints regarding service and unless there is an improvement in the service to the Dam and upon justifiable grounds for complaint, Council will take further action.

Judith Armstrong appointed to position of female typist-clerk.

The appointment of Shire Clerk to joint appointment as Shire Clerk and County Clerk to the Upper Macquarie County Council agreed to and to be reviewed in 1957.

Housing Commission advised of proposal to erect 2 additional cottages at the corner of Fleming and Curtis Streets.

A Licence Fee of £1 per month be fixed for sale of “Hot Dogs” in Oberon streets,

Public Works Dept. to take over operation of Oberon Water Supply Pumping Station from 1st January, 1956 and commence physical operation on 2nd July, 1956.

Council Meeting – 23rd July, 1956

Ministry for Conservation advised, at great length, why the Forestry Commission is unable to make grants to councils, but will give consideration to any definite proposals submitted by Council for further improvement to the Shooters Hill Road. Council to ask Commission to grant assistance by carrying out extra gravelling on the road.

Mention was made of the use by heavy vehicles in the main street and that they should be diverted.

Council Meeting – 13th August, 1956

920 parents’ consent forms received for Poliomyelitis vaccinations, with a further 100 expected before vaccination commences. Estimated costs of campaign, including Doctor’s fees, advertising and postage are approx. £30. Costs to be borne by Council.

Australian Publicity Council advises of publication entitled “Land of the Southern Cross, Australia” and seeks contribution from Council to further its objectives in international advertising of Australia.

President recommended that all recreation matters, both as regards operational, constructional and otherwise, be placed under the control and supervision of the Health Inspector.

Enquiries to be made regarding the suitability and availability of cinder ash from the Railways for use on repair work, etc., for roads, etc.

The necessity for provision of an Ambulance for Oberon area was discussed and there was talk of convening a Public Meeting to further consider this suggestion.

Because of the continuing chaotic conditions existing at the Oberon Post Office through lack of sufficient working space, a further letter, in strong terms, to be written to Federal Member for Macquarie urging speedy provision for erection of new P.O. at Oberon, as premised some time ago by P.M.G. representatives.

Council Meeting – 10th September, 1956

Because of cost, suggestion of getting ashes from Railway, was abandoned.

S.M.C.C. agrees to accept £1,400 from Council for its building.

L.G. Dept. advises that from the next ordinary election there will be 9 Councillors instead of 6.

Woolahra Council asks that elections be deferred until 15th December so they will not co-incide with the Olympic Games.

The Tourist Department asked Council if there are any places in this area where visitors to Australia during the Olympic Games could gain an idea of Australian rural life.

The Land Tax Committee sought support for protest against imposition of State Land Tax and Council agreed to support this move.

Permission granted for fibro Lodge Hall for R.A.O.B. at corner of Raleigh and Oberon Streets.

In a deputation from the C.W.A. there were many items brought to Council's attention and a couple of them were the necessity for 2 school teachers having to walk along the railway line to get into town in order to teach school because of the state of the Lowes Mount Road and the matter of

rubbish on the roadside deposited from the saw mill.

Special Urgent Committee Meeting held at A.L. Morse's Office – 12th September, 1956

Moved Cr. Cunynghame, seconded Cr. Buckley to recommend to Council that the Shire Clerk, Mr. F.H. Rowe, be suspended from office. It was further resolved that Mr. R.H. Browning, from McIntosh, McPhillamy, be instructed to draw up the Notice of Suspension enumerating therein the reasons as outlined to him by the Committee. All Councillors were present at this meeting.

Special Council Meeting – 17th September, 1956

Minutes are available in Council records.

Council Meeting – 24th September, 1956

20 wet weather outfits to be purchased from ex R.A.N. Disposal at a cost of £4.4.6.

Council Meeting – 8th October, 1956

Licences granted to R.J. Baker (P.V. Drivers), A. Teamond, O'Connell General Store (Small Goods), and J. Dennis, Fruit and Vegetable Barrow (Street Trading).

Polling Places for 1956 elections to be Oberon, Black Springs, Duckmaloi, Edith, Emden Vale, Shooters Hill, Porters Retreat, Turonville, O'Connell, Hazelgrove, Jenolan Caves, Essington, Wisemans Creek, Jerrong, Paling Yards, Isabella, Gingkin, Norway and Melville Park.

Further discussion re suspension of the Shire Clerk.

Council Meeting – 22nd October, 1956

There was a deputation from the R.S.L. asking that part of the Council's land be transferred to the R.S.L. for a bowling green. An application be made to the Dept. of Lands for the subdivision of the block.

A.J. Hall & Hall, solicitors of Sydney, to act for F.H. Rowe (Shire Clerk) in the matter of his suspension from Council and R.H. Browning, solicitor of Bathurst, be asked if he is willing to represent Council.

If the contractors for the Duckmaloi Bridge (H. Mueller & Co.) do not commence work before the expiry date of the present extension to the contract then the deposit will be forfeited and no further extension granted.

Council Meeting – 12th November, 1956

1 case of Infectious Hepatitis reported.

1 cricket pitch laid on the oval, but damaged by hail.

There are to be 7 naturalisations at a ceremony to be held at the Malachi Gilmore Hall on 27th November, 1956.

McIntosh, McPhillamy asked to act as Council's solicitors. Refused.

2 dozen brochures on careers in local government be purchased from the Shire Association for distribution to the various schools in the Shire.

Government advised, again, that it would not be practical to provide Oberon with a new Post Office building for some time but assuring the project will not be overlooked.

As milk samples forwarded for analysis were adulterated, Council to take legal action.

Council Meeting – 26th November, 1956

The Shire President's Report for the year read, in part, as follows:-

".... we have witnessed ratepayers' protest meeting (high rates, bad roads) ... one feels that if Council were first approached to ascertain the cause of the misunderstandings it would be helpful to all concerned and especially to local government in general.

A camping area is envisaged at the eastern portion of Oberon Park, adjoining the swimming pool.

This year a momentous decision has been made in the suspension of our Shire Clerk, Mr. F.H. Rowe, this action having been taken after receiving our auditors report, together with other evidence."

Jill Harris employed in temporary capacity as Junior Typist.

Infectious Diseases have shown a marked decline, viz:-

24 Infectious Hepatitis, 2 Rheumatic Fever, 1 Scarlet Fever.

3 Infectious Hepatitis.

4 Infectious Hepatitis.

From Cr. McKinnon's report on activities of Southern Mitchell County Council, as its delegate, he informed Council that this County Council covers an area of 2,944 square miles, with a population of 24,417, and a U.C.V. of £6,219,477 and has about 5,500 consumers. This County Council covers Bathurst, Abercrombie, Oberon and Turon council area. It has been going for slightly over 2 years. They have opened a District Office at Oberon and accepted a tender of £2,880 for erection of a new cottage at Oberon for occupation by District Mechanic. It is proposed to build, at Oberon, stores, workshop, garages and offices.

Having said they would not extend the contract for the Duckmaloi Bridge (Mueller) Council has now decided to extend it for a further 3 months from 28th November, 1956.

Special Council Meeting – 17th December, 1956

Presidential Allowance - £100.

Shire President: Councillor R.N. Buckley.

Deputy Shire President: Councillor L.C. Armstrong.

New Councillors: Crs. B. Webb, J. White, A. Press, M.A. Dwyer, C.R. Sheppard & L.C. Armstrong.

Committees:

Finance & Administration: Crs. Buckley, Sheppard, White and Webb.

Works: Nil.

Bush Fire: Crs. Buckley and Armstrong.

T.I., Health & Recreation: Crs. Buckley, Cunynghame, Sheppard and White.

U.M.C.C.: Crs. Armstrong and Press.

S.M.C.C.: Cr. McKinnon.

Council Meeting – 17th December, 1956

1 case Infectious Hepatitis reported.

Buildings approved were R.C. Church – Brick School additions; S.M.C.C. – Depot Shed.

5 milk vendors prosecuted for selling adulterated milk. £5 with £1 costs imposed.