

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

C.T. January 17, 1903

The monthly meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday under the presidency of the Mayor (Councillor F. A. Lane). There were also present: Aldermen J. Druitt, G. M. Smooker and W. Tucker, Councillors F. W. Bemister, J. Budden, W. E. Burt, F. Dowden, D. Galbraith, G. Marshall, Lieut.-Col. P. E. Monckton, W. E. Moorey, and S. Newlyn, G. Pope and A. Whaley. The absent member was Alderman J. Green, who sent a letter of apology for absence through illness. The Town-clerk (Mr. John Druitt) and the Surveyor (Mr. E. I. Legg) were also in attendance.

A DEPUTY MAYOR.—The Mayor said he wished before the business commenced to draw attention to one or two matters. In the first place he wished to propose that it be recorded on the minutes that he had appointed Lieut.-Col. Monckton as Deputy-Mayor to act in his should he be away from home. —Ald. Druitt said he did not see the necessity for such appointment. They had conducted the Council for twenty years without a deputy-Mayor, but if it was necessary he would propose Col. Monckton, as he would fill the office most fittingly.—Mr. Burt said he thought it was not worth while to propose any resolution, as there was no need to set a precedent.—The Mayor said he had acted on the advice of the Town clerk, and Col. Monckton had consented to act.—The Council consented to the appointment being recorded on the minutes, and Col. Monckton said he would do all he could to help the Council in everything.

THE VISIT OF PRINCESS LOUISE.—The Mayor said the other matter he wished to refer to was the visit of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Argyll to the neighbourhood. Seeing that some of the Bournemouth papers had mapped out a programme for Christchurch, he thought an explanation was needed. He had received an intimation of the visit from Lord Malmesbury, and had consulted with his lordship as to giving her Royal Highness a public reception in the town. His lordship had undertaken to make enquiries as to the wishes of his royal visitor. His worship had since received a letter from his lordship to the effect that as the visit to Heron Court was strictly private, her Royal Highness wished that no public function should take place. So that whatever the Council may have wished to do publicly must fall through.

TRAMWAYS.—The Mayor said there was another matter, and that had to do with the Tramways. The sub-committee which had been appointed to interview the Bournemouth Council wished to consult the members of the Council as to future action, and he would like the members to remain for a short time at the close of the meeting.

THE LATE MR. R. D. SHARP.—A letter was read from the relatives of the late Mr. Sharp, thanking the Council for the vote of condolence passed at the last meeting.—The letter was directed to be copied into the minutes.

COMPLAINTS.—A letter was read from Mr. G. G. Lander, asking the Council to do something to avoid the water from the road running into his yard and buildings. Also from Mr. Charles Brown complaining of the slanting state of the pavement in front of his shop, which was a source of danger to pedestrians—Both letters were referred to the Roads Committee,

FIRE BRIGADE.—A letter was read from Mr. W. H. Campling resigning his post as a member of the Fire Brigade, stating that he had been a member of the Brigade, and asking for a testimonial. —On the proposition of Ald. Druitt, seconded by Mr. Bemister, it was agreed to forward the testimonial.

BARRACK ROAD SEWER.—A letter was read by the Town-clerk from Mr. Tom Tiller stating that he noticed that the sewer was being re-laid in Barrack road, and that the

Council should extend it and sewer his property, and that he could hear of no excuse why the sewer should not be extended. —The letter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.—The Surveyor reported that the sewer was choked and was subsequently re-laid.—On the recommendation of the Sanitary Committee, the action of the committee and surveyor was approved as it was a matter of urgency.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.—The Finance Committee recommended that the certificate under seal should be granted to the Town Clerk for the Registration of Voters for the Parliamentary borough, the cost of which was £238 6s. This was apportioned to the several parishes, the expense to Christchurch borough being about nineteen guineas.—The certificate was granted and duly sealed.

BOROUGH RATE.—An order was directed to be made upon the overseers for a sum of £100 for the Borough Fund, to be paid in two instalments, one in April and one in October.

TENDERS FOR ERECTION OF TECHNICAL SCHOOL. —Tenders for the erection of the new Technical School at the rear of the Town Hall, and for additions to the present hall were read as follows: -Jenkins and Son, £1,885; Messrs. Hoare and Son, £1,791 10s.; Messrs. Jones and Seward, £1,645; Mr. T. Tiller, £1,565; Mr. F. Jenkins, £1,410.—Mr. Dowden proposed that the tender of Mr. F. Jenkins be accepted, and his proposed sureties—Messrs. H. C. Galton and F. Stainer—be approved. —This was seconded by Alderman Tucker, and agreed to unanimously.

FINANCE, &c.—A further resolution that Messrs. Druiitt and Druiitt be instructed to negotiate the loans for these buildings, and prepare the necessary documents in connection with the agreement with the County Council was also agreed to.

PLANS.—The plans of a dwelling-house in Avon road, deposited by Messrs. Saunders and Co., and one in Barrack road, deposited by Mr. T. Tiller, were approved and passed.

ROAD WIDENING AT BARGATES.—The Town Clerk read some correspondence which had passed with the Poole and District Electric Traction Company with regard to the delay in respect to sealing the appointment of Mr. A. Godwin Pratt, as valuer, in connection with Mrs. Bowditch's property at Bargates for road widening. The last letter from the secretary of the Company stated that the matter would be considered at a meeting of the directors, which would be held on the 20th inst., On the proposal of the Mayor, it was agreed to refer the consideration of the matter to the committee meeting at the close of the meeting that morning, and the committee to have power to act.—Mr. Burt said that he hoped, not only would the question be considered at the directors' meeting, but that some definite action would be taken to seal the appointment.

MEDICAL OFFICER.—The Mayor proposed, and Alderman Tucker seconded, that Dr. R. Lloyed Legate should be re-appointed medical officer of health for the Borough for one year from the 1st of February, upon the same terms as before, and it was so agreed.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.—The Mayor then gave notice that at the next meeting of the Council he would propose that Mr. E. I. Legg should be reappointed for another year as inspector of nuisances upon the same terms as formerly.

The Council then went into committee, and did not resume.