

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

C.T. June 14, 1902

The monthly meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, in the Council Chamber, the Mayor (Lieut.-Colonel P. E. Monckton) presided, and the Council present were:— Aldermen J. Druitt, J. Green, G. M. Smooker, and W. Tucker, and Councillors E. Davis, G. Davis, F. Dowden, D. Galbraith, F. A. Lane, G. Marshall, W. E. Moorey, S. Newlyn, W. J. Payn, G. Pope, and A. Whaley. The Town-clerk (Mr. John Druitt) and the Surveyor (Mr. E. I. Legg) were also in attendance.

ANTI-VANDALISM.—Ald. Druitt said he wished to draw attention to the fact that in forwarding the cheque to Lord Malmesbury for the royalty paid to his lordship for the gravel used outside the old borough, that his lordship should be asked to carefully watch that no encroachment should be made in excavating gravel by which any damage could be done to an spot of interest to the antiquarian which existed on Katterns Hill.—It was agreed to adopt Ald. Druitt's suggestion.

HOLIDAY TO THE HALL-KEEPER.—The Municipal Committee recommended that the hallkeeper should have an holiday on 27th June, if his services were not required by the Mayor.—On the proposed of Mr. Dowden seconded by Ald. Tucker it was agreed to grant the holiday. —A letter was read from the secretary of the Working Man's Institute asking that the Reading room might be opened on Bank-holidays from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m.—The Town-clerk in reply to a question said the Institute were allowed the use of the room at £14 per year to include attendance and gas.—It was agreed to open the Reading room on the Bank holiday it being understood that the deputy hall-keeper should open and shut the room.

HALL-KEEPER'S UNIFORM.—On the recommendation of the Municipal Committee it was decided to provide the Hall-keeper with a new suit of uniform, and that Messrs. Preston and Tizard be asked to supply the same.

AN IMMOVABLE COMPANY.—A letter was read from the General Manager of the L. and S.W. Railway Company, which stated that the directors regretted that they could not accede to the request of the Town Council to allow the issue of workmen's tickets by the 8.20 a.m. train to Bournemouth.—Mr. Newlyn suggested that the company should be made acquainted with the fact, that a large number of clerks and schoolchildren were compelled to wait outside their places of business and schools because the cheap train was a quarter of an hour earlier than formerly, and it inflicted a hardship on many people.—It was agreed to acknowledge the company's letter with an expression of regret.

TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND A MEMORIAL TO QUEEN VICTORIA.—A letter was read from Mr. D. T. Cowan which stated that the County Council had granted a sum of £175 as grant in aid, but by a clerical error the Finance Committee passed it as £450, the balance to be paid later if required. — The Town-clerk stated that the estimated cost would be about £1,410. The County Council had agreed to give £475. It was hoped that a like sum would be realised by subscription, a large portion of which had already been paid into the bank. This left a balance of £460 to be raised by other means. The Municipal Committee recommended the Council to ask the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £460 in connection with the improvement of the Town-hall, on the security of the rates and premises, such sum to be repaid by equal instalments of principal and interest. — Ald. Tucker proposed as an amendment that the words "Town Hall premises" should be deleted. He said they were putting a burden on the rates he did not desire, but he was averse to the buildings having any charge upon them. Ald. Druitt finding no seconder, his amendment fell through, and the committee's recommendation was adopted with one dissentient.

CORONATION SERVICE. — The Mayor said he had received an invitation from the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. Bush) for the Council to attend a special coronation service at the Priory church on the 29<sup>th</sup> inst., at three o'clock. — Ald. Druitt: Why does he not say "Parish church" it has not been a priory for three hundred years. — The Mayor went on to say that he had accepted the invitation on their behalf. — It was decided to forward a telegram to the Home Office on Coronation Day, the terms of which were read and agreed to.

WARNING TO BUILDERS.— Mr. Newlyn called attention to the byelaw which inflicted penalties on builders for commencing building operations before depositing plans. He said that in other towns the byelaw was enforced, and he thought this Council ought to do so.— The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee to bring up a report

PLANS.—The following plans were passed on the recommendation of the Sanitary Committee: The plan of two houses at Stanpit, deposited by Mr. G. Davis for Mr. H. Harding; plan of two houses in Station road, deposited by Mr. T. Tiller, jun.; plan of stabling at Riversdale, Barrack road, deposited by Messrs. Jenkins and Sons.

REFERRED BACK TO COMMITTEE.—Questions in connection with premises at the rear of High street belonging to Mr. J. H. Bridgford ; building at the rear of premises in High street owned and occupied by Mr. T. H. Barnes; and also in connection with a ventilating shaft to Soper's lane sewer.

RESIDENT ENGINEER APPOINTED.—The Sewerage Committee recommended that Mr. E. I. Legg should be appointed resident engineer as suggested by Mr. Lomax at a remuneration of one per cent. on the accepted contract, Mr. Lomax' fee to be reduced to four per cent. The Committee also recommended that Mr. Legg should have a clerk to assist in the surveyor's office.—On the proposal of the Mayor seconded by Ald. Tucker, it was agreed to adopt the committee's recommendation.

THE BEMISTER MEMORIAL.—The Roads Committee recommended that the lamp should be lighted all the year round and all night long, with the exception of the nights of full moon, and the Gas Company had been asked on what terms they would supply the light, but no reply had come to hand. —Mr. Marshall, in moving the committee's recommendation for adoption, said he was surprised that there had been no reply to the committee's letter, especially as the secretary of the Company was now staying in the town.—Ald. Tucker seconded, and the recommendation was agreed to.—The Mayor proposed that the thanks of the Council should be forwarded to the Bemister family for the exceedingly useful, ornamental and handsome structure which they had so generously erected as a memorial to a townsman who had taken such a great interest in the welfare of the borough for so many years.— Mr. Marshall seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously.

TENDERS FOR GRAVEL THROWING.—Two tenders were received for throwing gravel at Katterns hill, but they were both considered too high, and the matter was referred to committee.

TRAMWAY MATTERS.—The Town-clerk read a letter from the secretary of the Tramway Company which stated that the terminus of tramway 2a, and the loop would be in the identical position shown on the plans. The company would shortly commence construction of the tramways. The Roads Committee had merely forwarded the letter to the Council. The Town-clerk went on to say that so far as he understood the terminus would be opposite the Capital and Counties Bank, and the loop will be near the junction of Millhams street and High Street.—Ald. Tucker said he thought the Council should make one more effort, and point out to the Company that as they could not commence a section without completing it, the Company instead of putting the loop in the narrow part of the street should place it a short distance nearer the Town Hall in the wider part of the street.—Mr. Moorey proposed that in the letter acknowledging the secretary's letter, the Town-clerk should express their regret at the company's decision, and further that they were of opinion that the

least the company could have done would have been to have met the Council's wishes in the matter, and ask the company to reconsider their decision. He felt very strongly that the company had not treated the Council in such a manner as they should have done. The desire of the Council, who represented the ratepayers, had been expressed, not only to the company, but to one of the directors who interviewed the Council, and practically agreed that the loop line should be in the position agreed upon by the Council. So far everything was going on satisfactorily until the last moment when the Council were told that everything must go back to the original position, which was the very worst place that could be devised, because the traffic there was very congested. He thought the Council would not be doing their duty unless they vigorously protested against the actions of the Company.—Mr. Pope seconded.—Mr. Newlyn said he understood that the Company were prepared to continue the line to Purewell, but the difficulty was that the County Council objected to the tram lines going over the bridges. He thought the Council would be helping the town, the company, and the public generally, if they could in some way induce the County Council to come to terms with the Company on the ground of public convenience, and the Council ought to do their best to help the Company so that the whole of the tramway system could be constructed.—Mr. Moorey consented to add the following suggestion of Ald. Tucker :— "That in the event of there being insuperable difficulties in the way of the Company adopting the site outside the residence of Dr. Hartford as the terminus, the Company be asked to place the loop line in the broader part of High street and not below it." —Ald. Druitt said he wished to know where in the broader part of the street the loop line was to be placed? Was it to be immediately in front of the Town Hall? He thought that most of them would object to that. Was it to be put immediately in front of the shops and his house? He should object to that. He entirely agreed with Mr. Newlyn that it was a very great pity that the County Council should have thrown away that very ample opportunity they had to improve the bridge. After all the money that had been spent on it, the result had been the obtaining an additional two inches to the carriage way.—Ald. Druitt (continuing) said he had been told that the bridge required strengthening.—A voice: No, no. It is not the same bridge.—Mr. Pope said Ald. Druitt was quite right, it wants concreting at the bottom.—Ald. Druitt resuming, said there was a very favourable opportunity for making a permanent and great improvement to the bridge and the opportunity was muddled.—Mr. Moorey's proposal was then carried.—Mr. Newlyn proposed that the Town-clerk should add to his letter that the Town Council desired to express an opinion that in the interest of the town the whole of the tramway scheme should be carried out and also that the Town Council were prepared to help the Company in any way they could in negotiations with the County Council.

—Mr. Marshall seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.—The Town-clerk stated that the notices to treat had been served upon the owner of property at Bargates required for road widening for the tramways, but as the time had expired no claim had been sent in, doubtless owing to the illness of the solicitor for the owner. He thought that probably a claim might yet be sent in.