

Cork City and County Archives
Bandon Board of Guardians (Ref. IE CCCA/BG/42)
Descriptive List

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Identity Statement

Reference Code:	IE CCCA/BG/42
Title:	Bandon Board of Guardians
Dates:	1839 – 1925
Level of description:	Fonds
Extent:	118 items

Context

Creator(s):

Bandon Board of Guardians

Archival History

The surviving records of the Bandon Board of Guardians were deposited in the Archives in the early 1980s.

Administrative & Biographical History

The Bandon Board of Guardians was the governing body of Bandon workhouse and poor law union. Bandon Poor Law Union was established under the Poor Law (Ireland) Act, 1838. It was one of 16 unions in the overall County Cork area. Each union was centred on a city or market town and its hinterland, and this union area sometimes ignored existing parish or county boundaries. In this central town was situated the union workhouse (usually built between 1838 and 1852) which provided relief for the unemployed and the destitute.

The first meeting of Bandon Board of Guardians took place on 4 March 1839. The Union Workhouse opened on 17 November 1841. An Order of 3 October 1849 altered the union, with parts of Bandon Union being given to Dunmanway and the newly-created Clonakilty Union, and parts from Macroom Union being added to Bandon. A Reservation Order of 12 December 1849 reserved a quarter of the accommodation on Bandon Workhouse for inmates from Clonakilty Union, pending the completion of that Union's own workhouse.

Unions were divided into electoral divisions (EDs) for electoral and rate collection purposes. Over time, larger dispensary districts and relief districts, consisting of several EDs, came into being. The Bandon Union consisted of the Dispensary Districts of Bandon, Innishannon, Templemartin, Murragh, and Kilbrittain. Each district had a medical officer and dispensary. On 29 November 1849 a new Union fever hospital opened, the fever hospital and dispensary in the town of Bandon having previously been run by a local committee. The Union had taken over these services some months prior to the opening of the hospital, as the committee was unable to continue to finance them against the backdrop of the Great Famine (1845-49).

Each workhouse was managed by a staff and officers under the charge of a workhouse master, who reported to the board. Overall responsibility rested with the union's board of guardians, some of whom were elected, and some of whom were ex-officio members appointed usually from amongst local magistrates. The board appointed its own inhouse committees, and received reports from workhouse officers and from dispensary district committees and district medical officers. It also made resolutions on internal and poor law matters and, sometimes, on wider political or social issues. Poor law services were principally financed by a poor rate levied on property owners in the union's districts, and collected by rate collectors appointed by the board. Central government also provided loans. From 1899 on, the newly-created Cork County Council collected rates and funded Cork boards of guardians based on an annual estimate and demand.

Each union was under the central supervision of the Poor Law Commissioners up to 1874 and thereafter of the Local Government Board (later Local Government Board for Ireland). These government-appointed bodies received reports from the board and its officers, appointed inspectors and auditors, sanctioned or rejected proposed expenditure, appointments, and policies, and made the final decision on major administrative issues. On 12 February 1921 the board resolved to sever its connection with the LGB and accept the authority of Dail Eireann.

The responsibilities of the guardians increasingly encompassed public health, and to medical relief for the destitute at the workhouse and 'outdoor' relief though a system of dispensary districts were added other functions including overseeing smallpox vaccinations, the boarding-out of orphan and deserted children, monitoring contagious diseases in animals, and providing labourers' cottages and improved sanitation. The workhouse buildings included an infirmary and a fever hospital. The workhouse also provided nursery care and education to child inmates, and employed school teachers. Hospital and other medical services were available to all, not just the poor, although the latter received free treatment when inmates, or through the system of tickets issued by relieving officers and medical officers.

The guardians' changing responsibilities were governed by legislation, including the Public Health (Ireland) Acts 1874 and 1878, Medical Charities Acts, Vaccination Acts, Dispensary Houses Act, the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Acts (1848-49), Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act 1878, and Labourers' Acts (1883-86). While these acts tended to increase the role of the board, the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898 saw rate collection and many of its public health functions taken over by the newly-created Cork County Council and the Bandon Rural District Council. The board continued to administer the workhouse and its hospital, and to supervise dispensary services, outdoor relief, and the boarding out of children.

On 23 June 1921 the main workhouse building and several other buildings were destroyed by a fire started by 'a party of men'. The workhouse was never to reopen, with infirm inmates maintained in the dispensary, and able-bodied inmates discharged or sent to Clonakilty Workhouse. On 2 June 1923 the National Army gave notice that it was occupying the remaining buildings, and the board and RDC moved to offices at the Green, Bandon.

The Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act 1923 led to the abolition of the workhouse system, and its replacement with the formation of the county boards of health and public assistance. The last recorded meeting of Bandon Board of Guardians took place on 19 April 1924.

Content & Structure

Scope & Content

The minutes of Bandon Board of Guardians (BG/42/A) provide one of the most extensive records of the period of the Great Famine (1845-49) as it was experienced in West Cork, one of the most severely affected regions in the country. Whereas several other west Cork unions only came into being in 1849-50, the Bandon Union was in existence from 1839 until its abolition in 1924 (only three volumes in the series are missing). Its dealings with the other unions in the region, especially at their creation and in the final years of the workhouse system, are also well documented. For instance, a quarter of places in Bandon Workhouse were reserved for Clonakilty inmates prior to completion of the Clonakilty workhouse in 1851. After Bandon workhouse was burned down in 1921, remaining inmates not discharged were transferred to Clonakilty. The ordinary minutes include statistical information on workhouse inmates and details of workhouse life and administration. From the 1850s the volumes contain minutes of proceedings under the Medical Charities Acts and, from the 1870s, the Public Health Acts, documenting the board's increasing role in health and sanitation, and the work of dispensaries and medical officers in the dispensary districts. Twentieth century minute books also document the boarding out of orphaned and deserted children. The selections from the minutes summarized or quoted in the descriptive list focus on the Famine period and on the final years of the Union. Some volumes from other years are highlighted to give a sense of the work of the board of guardians at different times throughout its existence, for example, following the passing of the Public Health Act 1878, and after the radical change affected by the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, which saw Rural District Councils come into being. One draft minute book (BG/42/AA/1: 1839-1845) is also present.

The collection also contains financial records, including general ledgers (BG/42/CA), a financial statements book (BG/42/CD), and a bank book (BG/42/CL), documenting annual accounts and daily transactions of the union, particularly in its final years.

Also present is a Master's Journal (BG/42/F/1) recording reports by the master of the workhouse, prepared for meetings of the board. In addition, there is a weekly tobacco account book (BG/42/FK), an unusual item documenting the distribution of tobacco to inmates by the master.

Unfortunately, only one indoor relief register for Bandon Union is present. A note by the master (BG/42/G/1) explains that some volumes were destroyed when the workhouse burned down, and it appears that earlier volumes which escaped the fire were subsequently lost. These lost registers, noting names and other personal information on inmates, leave an incalculable gap in the historical record, particularly in terms of family history.

The final item present is a Labourers' Acts ledger (BG/42/SA), containing information on the acquisition of sites and the construction and letting of cottages for rural labourers in the 1880s and 1890s, shedding light on the beginnings of social housing provision in the Bandon area.

Arrangement

The collection consists of a series of minutes of meetings of the board of guardians, and one rough minute book. Also present are a short series of financial ledgers and two other financial items, a master's journal and tobacco account book, and a single Labourers' Acts ledger. The arrangement of Board of Guardian records is based on that devised for Poor Law records nationally by Sean McMenemy of the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (see Appendix 2 to McMenemy's article in Irish Archives Bulletin Vol 1, No 2, October 1971).

Headings

1. Minute Books

A1- 11	Board of Guardian Minute Books	1839-1924 (108 items)
AA1	Rough Minute Book	1839-1845 (1 item)

2. Accounts

CA/1-3	Bandon Union General Ledgers	1919-1924 (3 items)
CD/1	Financial Statements – Receipts	1915-1924 (1 item)
CL/1	Bandon Union Bank Book	1922-1924 (1 item)

3. Workhouse: Administration

F/1	Master's Journal	1921-1925 (1 item)
FK/1	Weekly Tobacco Account	1920-1925 (1 item)

4. Workhouse: Inmates

G/1	Indoor Relief Register	1920-1925 (1 item)
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5. Labourers' Acts

SA/1	Labourers' Acts Ledger	1886-1896 (1 item)
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Conditions of Access & Use

Access: Open by appointment to those holding a current reader's ticket.

Language: English

Finding Aids: Summary descriptive list.

Allied Materials:

Related Material

CCCA:

Board of Guardian records for other poor law unions in West Cork (BG/43 Bantry; BG/59 Castletown; BG/83 Dunmanway; BG/65 Clonakilty; BG/115 Macroom; BG/145 Schull)
Cork County Boards of Health and Public Assistance records, 1921-66
Bandon Rural District Council records, 1919-1925 (RDC/42)
Bandon Town Commissioners Records, 1835-1918 (1650) (TC/42 [U135])
Cork County Council records, 1899- (including rates valuation books)
U137 Doherty Papers, Castlebernard Estate (Earls of Bandon)

Elsewhere:

National Archives of Ireland:

Archives of the Poor Law Commissioners
Archives of the Local Government Board for Ireland
Archives of the Department of Local Government

Archivist's Note:

Timmy O Connor
Local Government Archivist, CCCA
September 2011

List of Items and Descriptions

1. *Minute Books*

BG/42/A Bandon Board of Guardians Minute Books

Scope and Content:

A record of meetings and decisions made by the board of guardians in administering the workhouse and poor relief generally. At meetings, officers' reports and committee findings were heard, correspondence read and considered, and applications decided on. Matters arising with regard to the workhouse, staff, provisions, bills, finance, the Poor Law, the Poor Law Commissioners, the Local Government Board and the Local Government Department, and other issues, were also discussed. The minutes also include weekly statistics of admissions, discharges, and deaths in the workhouse, and of outdoor relief.

Date: 4 Mar 1839 –195 Apr 1924

Level: Series

Extent: 108 volumes

1. 4 Mar 1839 – 27 Nov 1844
The volume is indexed (index and some of the minutes very feint). Includes:

4 Mar 1839 First meeting of guardians, Lord Bernard elected chairman and bye-laws adopted.

11 May 1839 Report of the Valuation Committee, referring to the deficiencies of the earlier Grand Jury and Tithe Composition valuations, and recommending that a new valuation be conducted under the Poor Law Act 'upon a scale as minute as the portion into which each townland is subdivided, even to the smallest occupation'.

25 May 1839 Report of committee to inspect sites for the workhouse, recommending a site near Boyle street owned by the earl of Shannon and presently let ('if the earl of Shannon will be as liberal as on other occasions'), having assessed the merits and defects of five other sites (including two offered by the Duke of Devonshire and one on Gallows Hill). The report is sent to the PLC with 'the most urgent request' for an early decision 'with a view to give employment to the tradesmen and labourers of the vicinity during a very distressing summer which they have a great reason to fear'.

17 Jul 1839 Report of committee to examine valuation made by Messrs Sealy, Gash and Crawford of the townland of Brinny, expressing satisfaction with their work and recommending their appointment, with perhaps one other valuator, for the valuation of the whole union.

28 Dec 1839 Resolved, to sign and forward the deed to the Exchequer Bill Loan Commissioners; resolved, to express satisfaction at Assistant Commissioner Voules's explanation with regard to this loan; resolved, that a cheque be drawn for the amount of purchase of the workhouse site.

[Minutes are quite feint for the period February 1840 to May 1841. Site of Workhouse, the valuation and objections to it, and vaccination all discussed]

17 Nov 1841 Visiting committee appointed [to inspect workhouse] and stated dietary for inmates adopted. [18 May 1842: Report on Dietary].

24 Nov 1841 Meeting adjourned owing to the board 'being occupied in the investigation of the admission of paupers until half past 4 o'clock'.

1 Dec 1841 Resolution calling the attention of the Assistant Poor Law Commissioner to the visiting committee's report, noting 'the defective state of the roof', making 'several of the dormitories... quite uninhabitable'.

5 Jan 1842 Report of the finance committee, recommending that 'the treatment of hospital patients... be studiously adapted to the habits, the comforts and the facilities for treatment and attention of the inhabitants of the union generally'; the recommendation is made 'from the conviction that many of the benefits conferred by the hospital of this institution are not enjoyed by a large class of the ratepayers'.

19 Jan 1842 Resolved, that the guardians and the clerk collect subscriptions for the Bandon Union Agricultural Society.

26 Jan 1842 Resolved, to suspend admission of foundling infants pending direction from the PLC as to whether they should be admitted and nurses hired to rear them, or whether they should be put at nurse outside the house 'which would be much more economical'. The request is made in the context of magistrates and ratepayers having refused to present for support of parish foundlings at recent sessions. [See also 23 Feb 1842]

9 Feb 1842 Resolved, that parish wardens are asked to make a list of persons in their districts 'who are likely to become applicants'.

Response to certificate from the Master, Cork Workhouse, regarding two Bandon natives who were received and fed in Cork. The board consider his action 'wholly illegal' as it adopts 'out door relief and a law of settlement neither of which are recognised by the Poor Relief Act'.

4 May 1842 Insertion, opinion of Assistant Poor law Commissioner Voules on the use of distress and distrain for recovery of arrears of rates.

15 Jun 1842 Resolved, 'that each pauper should be known by his or her number and that each class should be subdivided and placed under the superintendence of a ward master or mistress', the latter being responsible for their 'orderly conduct' and the carrying out of regulations 'particularly as regards work and employment', and to report to the master every evening.

17 Aug 1842 Resolution regarding the delay in putting the present rate into effect owing to the 'neglect' of the PLC in not forwarding the Attorney General's opinion on the necessity of appointing a revisor, which 'delay has placed this board in serious pecuniary difficulties'. [See also, eg, 21 Sep]

28 Sep 1842 PLC letter regarding admission of a husband or wife and children where a spouse refuses to enter. They note 'in administering relief a family must be considered as a whole and mutually dependant one upon another and one part cannot be deemed to be destitute and the other not so'.

12 Oct 1842 Resolved, that it is the board's opinion that the transfer of medical charities to the PLC 'would prove destructive to the character and efficiency of the medical profession, injurious to the interests of the poor' and would involve greater public expense for less relief. [See also 30 Nov 1842]

23 Nov 1842 Resolution stating the finding that 'rumours... as regards the immorality of certain females in this house are quite unfounded'. [See 14 Dec] Resolutions regarding 'the total failure of the Poor Law as a general measure of relief' and 'the unhappily daily increasing symptoms of opposition to the collection of the rates'. Committee to draft a petition created. [See, eg, 22 Feb]

25 Jan 1843 Resolved, that 'the most stringent measures' be used to compel payment of poor rates by Mr Halyburton, a guardian, whose refusal 'prevented the rate payers in general of Kinneigh from paying'.

19 Apr 1843 Resolved, to send a memorial to Treasury 'praying exemption from the loan advanced for building the workhouse'. [See also 20 Nov 1844]

26 Apr 1843 Resolved, that the schoolmaster 'shall in no instance strip the boys for administering... punishment'.

10 May 1843 Resolutions debated regarding 'interference in the religious professions of the Protestant paupers' by the RC chaplain [see 31 Jan 1844].

19 Jul 1843 Resolution calling the PLC's attention to a report showing 'the very ineffective manner in which the walls of this house have been built' and claiming remedial costs 'should be borne by the Commissioners' architect'.

17 Aug 1843 Resolved, 'that charges of fraud and peculation against the master and matron have not been substantiated', but some 'irregularities' having been proved, that the Assistant PL Commissioner caution the parties.

1 Nov 1843 Resolved, in view of 'the ravages made by Small Pox in the neighbourhood of Timoleague and its vicinity introduced by itinerant inoculation', that the services of 'respectable medical practitioners' be sought.

1 May 1844 Six vaccination districts proposed [see also 8 May and 2 Oct].

28 Aug 1844 List of rates struck off the rate books [mainly properties unoccupied or valued under £4. Over 900 properties in all].

2. Missing
3. 2 Apr 1845 – 7 Jan 1846

Includes:

30 Apr 1845 Total inmates: 320 (Capacity: 900)

Resolved, that the chaplains 'be requested to confer on the selection of such books as in their judgement would be instructive and entertaining to the general class of adult paupers'.

Resolved, that 'from the number of females seeking admission into the house solely for the purpose of being confined of illegitimate children', the board consider asking parliament to alter 'the Bastard clause of the Poor Relief Bill'.

2 Jul 1845 Resolved, in light of an unfavourable report by the PLC inspector, that the master be reprimanded and that the school master and mistress and nurse tender be cautioned to pay 'implicit obedience' to the master.

Accepted, tender for 'raising on' [extending] the male and female idiot wards.

27 Aug 1845 Resolved, 'that the board do not renew the contracts for vaccination for the coming years. Carried by a majority of 18 to 3'.

8 Oct 1845 Clerk reports two notices of intention to marry.

22 Oct 1845 Resolved, 'that the guardians... make minute investigation into the extent of the potato rot in their neighbourhood'.

5 Nov 1845 Resolved, that the Western Rector's letter regarding 'the potato disease' which appeared in the Constitution be distributed throughout the union 'with a strong recommendation to the inhabitants to reconstruct their potato pits according to the instructions laid down by him'.

19 Nov 1845 Resolved, that the guardians answer stated queries regarding the potato crop and disease and 'if possible to form committees in their divisions', at the request of the Lord Lieutenant of the County.

26 Nov 1845 Resolution proposing memorialising government on the subjects of improving the sea coast and fisheries, erecting piers and harbours, and reclaiming land, all of which work boards of guardians are 'admirably calculated to carry out' and which would give 'employment to the labouring classes & thereby save many from distress and pauperism'. It is asked that the Board of Works requirement for deposit of survey expenses be waived. This resolution is to be sent to 'the several unions throughout Ireland'.

Resolution acknowledging the utility of Mr Moore's machine, but expressing the view that 'the extensive production of starch, where the damaged potatoes can be otherwise made use of, is inexpedient'.

7 Jan 1846 Total inmates: 328.

4. 14 Jan 1846 – 30 Dec 1846

Includes:

21 Jan 1846 Total inmates: 345

Resolution proposing that examination of candidates for admission should be on oath and asking the PLC whether guardians as justices of the peace may administer an oath.

Resolution calling for 'some arrangement which will enable the guardians to classify and separate prostitutes from the other inmates', following the master's statement that 'established' prostitutes have frequently been seen 'watching at the doors to inveigle & induce girls of good appearance to leave the house and go upon the town'.

4 Mar 1846 Resolutions 'to relieve the potato market from the pressure of buying therein', adopting household bread, oatmeal and Indian meal for diet and considering construction of an oven. [See 11 Mar: Master's report stating 'the Indian Corn Meal made very excellent food', and 2 Dec: new 'economical and nutritious dietary' adopted].

11 Mar 1846 Resolution 'deprecating in the strongest manner... improper interference... with the Protestant inmates' by the assistant RC chaplain.

18 Mar 1846 Resolved, to memorialize the Board of Works regarding completion of a road from Bandon 'to the deep water of the Bandon river'. [Resolutions regarding relief works and erection of piers also made]

6 May 1846 Resolution seeking the PLC's opinion on whether warrants may be issued for mothers who desert their children, the father having first deserted his wife and children. The board fear that unless mothers may legally be apprehended 'the house will be filled with children deserted in this manner'

12 Aug 1846 Resolved, that owing to 'the general and complete failure of the potato crop... particularly in the sea coast district, and the consequent alarming assemblages of unemployed labourers', the government is called on to supply immediate employment on an adequate scale.

7 Oct 1846 Board's opinion in favour of 'establishing a depot for Indian meal in the town of Bandon'. The board think it the government's duty to 'bring food at a reasonable rate within the means of the poor without any violent interference with the fair trade'. Reference is also made to the depot at Skibbereen and to the impossibility of relief committees meeting demand.

16 Dec 1846 Resolution concerning 'the fearful state of destitution in the parishes of Lislea and Abbeymahon and Donoghmore, caused by the discharge of a great number of persons off the Public Works'.

30 Dec 1846 Resolution regarding the 'crowded state', 'poor ventilation' and risk of increased 'sickness and disease' in the house, calling on the PLC's architect to visit. [Total inmates: 1032; Deaths: 13 (capacity: 900)].

5. 6 Jan 1847 – 8 Mar 1848

Includes:

17 Feb 1847 Total inmates; 1235. Deaths: 33.

Rate struck 'to meet the proposed temporary measures for the relief of the destitute, if same shall be demanded by the several relief committees likely to be appointed under the proposed government measure'. [See also 31 May] Resolved, to appoint a committee to receive estimates for sheds for additional accommodation, according to the plans of Mr Wilkinson, PLC architect. Resolved, to prepare a return of guardians' attendance to post in board room.

8 Mar 1847 Special meeting held, at which it was resolved (1) 'that as the great pressure in the workhouse is at the female side... a permanent enlargement' is required, and that sheds to accommodate 250 persons be constructed forthwith; (2) that legal provisions regarding the towns of Clonakilty and Bandon be put in force; (3) 'that the Board of Health should appoint Dr Wood the Medical Officer of the Union'; (4) that tenders be sought for a piece of land for 'a burying ground for the union paupers'.

24 Mar 1847 Resolution closing the house [to new admissions], as the medical officer's report states that the hospital is overcrowded and warns of 'dangerous consequences... if any more persons were admitted'.

31 Mar 1847 Resolution empowering the clerk 'to have earth and lime conveyed to Ballymooden burial ground to cover the coffins of paupers now improperly exposed'.

7 Apr 1847 Resolution making arrangements to meet bills owed and explaining to the PLC that the union's treasurer refuses to make any advances without the personal security of guardians. They ask the PLC to sanction an advance without such security 'when their want of funds is caused by the pressure of the times and the death and sickness of their officers' [Rate revisor (and porter and two guardians) reported dead around this time. See 17 Mar]. Resolved, guardians to estimate population, destitution, and costs in each ED.

28 Apr 1847 Resolution of the committee of Bandon Fever Hospital placing the hospital at the disposal of the board 'until the new hospital about to be built is completed'. In a resolution the board recommend that the committee apply to the Bandon Relief Committee 'with a view of carrying out the new Fever Act'. Another resolution refers to increasing fever and 'disastrous results' if there is further delay by the Board of Health in placing the Union under 9 Vic C 6. They also resolve to call government's attention to the state of graveyards, 'which are endangering the lives of all classes in the country'.

14 Jun 1847 Special Meeting passes resolution expressing 'great regret' that the PLC is to make a loan of only £1200, for the fever hospital, not the £3000 sought by the board for additional buildings. The board stress 'the utmost necessity for increasing the workhouse accommodation' and 'the utter impossibility of this board to contract a loan from any other quarter'.

17 Jun 1847 Special meeting regarding warrants for paying to the Bandon Finance Committee sums [for relief] owed by stated electoral divisions. It is stated 'there are not sufficient funds in hands of the union at present to meet said warrants', but the board resolves to strike 'additional and sufficient rates', and in the meantime asks for an advance from the Relief Commissioners.

23 Jun 1847 Resolved, that as sheds containing 100 beds have been erected since the PLC order limiting admissions to 1000, the board 'feel themselves justified in admitting additional persons'. [Total inmates: 1040. Deaths: 31] Resolution expressing the view that the change in the law on charging paupers 'will be of the greatest evil in its effects', as 'in a short time all will be charged to the general union', ending 'private exertion to keep down pauperism'.

28 Jul 1847 Resolution regarding the 'very frequent' practice of 'parents sending their children into the workhouse as orphans', ordering that no children be admitted as orphans without a provisional order.
Resolution appointing relieving officers to 5 districts [see 21 Jul and 29 Sep].

25 Aug 1847 Resolutions declaring rates and thanking Captain Huband (Govt Inspector) and Messrs Swanston and Wheeler 'for the able diligent and efficient manner in which they have conducted the financial affairs of the union under the Temporary Relief Act' and supervised relief committees.
[15 Sep: balances for relief left on hand (over £1500) lodged to credit of EDs]

15 Sep 1847 Resolution expressing the view 'that it would not be desirable to alter the Bandon union under the present circumstances of the country'.
Resolution seeking PLC permission for the board to take over the Bandon Fever Hospital and dispensary relief in the town for the next three months, both institutions being without funds, and the relief committee and private subscribers being unable to keep the hospital going. [See also, eg, 13 Oct]
Note regarding 6 children sent by Dunmanway guardians 'with directions... to leave them on the ground if the guardians would not receive them'.

27 Oct 1847 Note expressing 'deepest regret' that the Relief Commission has directed all advances made by them be repaid. It is felt the PLC should have given notice 'and not allow a board of guardians who have by their acts set an example to the South of Ireland to be placed in the unpleasant position of having their treasurer refuse to pay their cheques'. It is noted that rates have been struck to meet both the advances and permanent out door relief and that 'the board has always exhibited its readiness to meet its liabilities with due regard to the capabilities of the rate payers'. Forbearance is requested.

17 Nov 1847 Resolved, that Overton Mills be taken as temporary workhouse.

2 Feb 1848 Total inmates: 1912 (admitted this week: 246; deaths: 17).
Resolutions regarding preparation of information on inmates in both houses and their localities, and on admission by tickets issued by relieving officers.

8 Mar 1848 Total inmates: 2177 [capacity: 1075 (main house), 800 (Overton)]
Resolved, to grant ten pounds to purchase 'hoops & c for the children'.

6. 15 Mar 1848 – 28 Mar 1849

Includes:

5 Apr 1848 Total inmates: 2014. Deaths: 31 [Capacity: 1875 (workhouse: 950, additional workhouse: 800 [increased to 1000 from 19 Apr], fever sheds: 125)] Resolution agreeing to bear the expense of assisting persons to emigrate from the workhouse to Australia, and asking that the Commissioners [of Colonial Lands and Emigration] send an inspector, there being over 100 persons offering [orphans and inmates between 14 and 18 years old]. It is also asked that a proportion be taken from each electoral division. [See 15 Mar & 14 Jun]

19 Jul 1848 Reports on inquests, including the case of a boy 'reported to have received ill treatment from the father and stepmother'. The verdict concluded 'the deceased died by the visitation of God'.

9 Aug 1848 Four children discharged, their fathers having applied for them. Resolved, that the relieving officer of Innishannon visit the tenants evicted today from land at Ballymountain, the property of Mr Rowland.

16 Aug 1848 Resolved, that guardians seek subscriptions in their EDs to retain the services of Mr Gerard, Practical Agricultural Instructor, at the request of Bandon Union Agricultural Society. [See also 4 Oct]

23 Aug 1848 Resolution asking the PLC whether persons may be paid for maintaining the boilers at relief depots. It is thought 'judicious on account of the greatest loss of the potato crop not to dismantle these establishments'.

6 Sep 1848 Resolutions regarding two foundling children, and whether they may be put at nurse under the Vestry Act or otherwise paid for [the physician having opined 'it would be dangerous to the children's lives to attempt to bring them up by hand' (ie, in the workhouse). See 25 Apr and 12 Sep 1849].

13 Sep 1848 Resolution calling for a pier at Burren, which would shorten the route for supplying fish and would create employment for fishermen in Lislea and Abbeymahon, 'the most destitute part of the Bandon union' [See 29 Nov] Resolution lodging £598 11s 11d with the Paymaster of Civil Services, but begging the Treasury 'will not insist on more at present', funds remaining on hand being required for the workhouse until the new rate. [See, eg, 6 Sep]

13 Oct 1848 Special meeting to consider the alteration or division of the union, the alteration of EDs [see 4 Oct], the acquisition of additional land, and other matters including appointment of vaccinators. On the main point, the board would not object to some EDs around Clonakilty being separated 'but most strongly protest against being sacrificed to the desire of forming a union for Skull', deeming it too poor to support a workhouse. [See, eg, 8 Nov]

25 Oct 1848 Resolution forming two committees of health, to consist of guardians, church wardens, and principal resident clergymen. It is further resolved that putting the Vaccination Act into effect in Ballymoodan and

Kilbrogan EDs be taken into consideration [see also 18 Oct and 8 Nov]
Resolved, that the board advertise for a store or building in Clonakilty to establish an auxiliary workhouse for 500 or 600 people. [See 29 Nov, 13 Dec]

1 Nov 1848 Clerk's report on a visit to Overton workhouse, stating 'I found from two to 300 children in one small room, which was intensely heated. The children were under no control whatever... and they appeared like so many mad children'. He also notes 'the large number of children coming from Overton affected with fits'. He further reports the nuisance created by the boys' privy emptying into the river which supplies the neighbourhood.

29 Nov 1848 New permanent fever hospital now open [capacity: 110]

20 Dec 1848 Resolution drawing the Admiralty's attention to the 'alarming number of wrecks which have lately taken place on the coast of their union, which they believe to be owing to the defective state of the lighthouses'.

10 Jan 1849 Doctor's report expressing the opinion that the house could hold 500 paupers in excess of the 3010 accommodated on Saturday last 'particularly as the additional accommodation at Overton is in preparation'. Also present is a PLC letter suggesting that nearly 600 inmates could be discharged and given out door relief. The board 'do not consider it necessary to commence out door relief in this union', and point out that the PLC's not dividing the union led them to secure more buildings. [See also 28 Feb]

17 Jan 1849 Resolution directing relieving officers to make an inspection of paupers from their district and to report to the board, and to communicate to the landlord of each ploughland the names and numbers of paupers and the tenant they lived under. [31 Jan: PLC consider this 'objectionable']

28 Feb 1849 Total inmates: 3266. Deaths: 42. Fever: 18. [Capacity: 3185]
Resolved, 'that as it appears a wholesale system of plunder of the property of the union seems to be now going on in the workhouse', that a committee be appointed to make a full account of all property. [This follows a PLC letter referring to inmates being charged for absconding from work and for drunkenness, and claims of persons 'having sold stirabout out of the kitchen'].

7 Mar 1849 Petition to parliamentarians expressing dismay at a proposal to impose a rate on all of Ireland to support paupers 'in certain distressed districts'. The board think the measure 'is but the first step in a system which will make the whole land of Ireland permanently liable for the pauperism of particular districts in it'.

21 Mar 1849 PLC letter asking why the relief list was not made up for the last six weeks. It is explained 'that the admissions and discharges daily were so great as to occupy the whole time of the assistant master, who required the constant use of the books'. The lists are now up to date.

24 Mar 1849 Resolutions calling on the Town Commissioners of Bandon to carry out street cleaning and other preparations against Cholera (in response to Central Board of Health orders). [See 21 Mar: Cholera committees formed]

7. 4 Apr 1849 – 27 Mar 1850

Indexed. Inside the front cover is a table noting relieving officers' districts, net annual value, and extent. Includes:

4 Apr 1849 Total inmates: 3289. Deaths: 43 [capacity: 3185]
Doctor's report and RC chaplain's letter regarding overcrowded infirmaries.

18 Apr 1849 Resolved, that owing to the 'exhausted state' of union funds, the board do not feel 'justified in incurring the expense of the large outfit required by the commissioners for paupers selected for emigration' [to Australia].
PLC letter noting 215 deaths in the 5 weeks to 31 March and suggesting out door relief be considered. [Overcrowding and relief recurring subjects.]

25 Apr 1849 Protest received 'signed numerously by the inhabitants of the town' against premises let [for use as a cholera hospital. See 16 May and 30 May: Bandon Fever Hospital Committee agree to take in cholera patients].

2 May 1849 Total inmates: 4034 [previous week: 3760]. [30 May: Report]

16 May 1849 Letter read reporting first case of cholera in Bandon. [A table shows requirements of dispensary physicians for attending cholera cases.]

6 Jun 1849 Visiting committee report regarding arrangements for accommodating cholera patients and removing other inmates, especially children, from contact with the disease. [The medical officer reports 21 cases this week, and physicians report cases in several districts. The board resolves to seek Board of Health advice in the matter of physicians in the Clonakilty area having refused the terms offered for attending cholera cases].

20 Jun 1849 Workhouse cholera cases: 53 (17 cured, 11 died); Overton Hospital cases: 26 (5 cured, 3 died); cholera shed cases: 107 (4 cured, 63 died). Also, two fatal cases reported in Ballinspittle Dispensary District.
Resolution regarding assessing rates [for relief] in baronies in more than one union, the board fearing that unless an 'equitable plan' is adopted 'great injustice' will be done, as those unions [Skibbereen and Dunmanway] where 'the larger part of the advances were spent' are 'now seeking to throw a most unfair proportion of the repayment on this by reducing their valuation'.
Resolution seeking credit of £1500 or £2000, the amount of rate uncollected being nearly £3000, over half of which is owed 'by three electoral divisions in the union the most distressed'. They plan to strike another rate after Harvest.

4 Jul 1849 'Total of cholera cases up to 3 July 1849 since first appearance of the disease': Workhouse: 84 (died:25); Overton: 91 (died: 35)
PLC letter stating they are not ready to declare the new union at Clonakilty.
Medical officer's report stating that having examined the dietary 'I am fully persuaded that the cause of the mortality does not lie therein. The physical state of the people coming into the workhouse is the true cause... their system having no power of recuperation' [in dysentery cases].

1 Aug 1849 Master's report that he found the fever hospital 'in an unbearably

filthy state, and calculated to produce disease'. Nurses fined.

Cholera cases: Workhouse: none: Overton: 121 (60 cured, 46 died, 10 remaining). Dr Ormston reports 16 cases in the fever hospital this week, of whom 4 remain, and that he treated 3 cases in their own homes.

22 Aug 1849 Medical officer's report stating that he would be able to close the cholera hospital at Overton on the 25th, and that Dr Ormston's cholera hospital is to be closed on Saturday. [Total inmates: 2311 (deaths: 17)]
Resolution directing relieving officers to conduct a census of the union so that paupers may be accurately charged according to the amended Poor Law Act.
Resolved, to appoint committee to investigate all union expenditure.
Resolution requesting an enquiry into cases of paupers being charged to Kinneigh ED despite having been discharged. [Later minutes: claims for other EDs and discrepancies in recording numbers of inmates. See note for 3 Oct]

12 Sep 1849 PLC letter regarding the emigration of 60 female orphans.
15 children discharged to their parents and others [a recurring item].

26 Sep 1849 Resolutions recommending names and arrangements for new electoral divisions to the Poor Law Boundary Commissioners.

3 Oct 1849 PLC letter regarding instalments due on loans from the Public Works Loan Commissioners and other loans. £3062 is currently owed.
Resolved, to dismiss the master and assistant master, and to reprimand the clerk, on foot of Major Bolton's report on anomalies regarding Kinneigh ED.
Resolved, that the porter be dismissed, on foot of the mistress's complaint that she 'found a female pauper in his room'.

10 Oct 1849 'Order altering union – dated 3rd October 1849'. [Areas given to Clonakilty and Dunmanway unions, and some added from Macroom]

14 Nov 1849 Resolutions regarding the difficulties caused by Clonakilty paupers remaining in Bandon, urging the building of a workhouse in Clonakilty, and arranging the registration of Clonakilty inmates.

12 Dec 1849 Reservation order limiting a quarter of accommodation in Bandon workhouse the use of Clonakilty union, that union to pay maintenance for its paupers and a quarter of establishment and other charges.

3 Jan 1850 Adjourned meeting of guardians of Bandon and Clonakilty unions pursuant to resolutions of 26 Dec 1849 regarding the re-registry of paupers in line with the altered unions and EDs.

13 Mar 1850 Total inmates: 2098 (Deaths: 2)
Report of committee 'appointed to consider the general working of the establishment', recommending reductions in officers' salaries but advising against 'frequent alterations'. They also note 'the present system of one pauper superintending the work of others, they find to be in some instances worse than useless'. They also recommend the growing of flax 'to be dressed and worked up by the female paupers and every exertion being made to render the workhouse self-supporting'.

8. 3 Apr 1850 – 27 Nov 1850
9. 4 Dec 1850 – 25 Jun 1851
10. 2 Jul 1851 – 29 Sep 1852
11. 6 Oct 1852 – 30 Mar 1853
12. 6 Apr 1853 – 5 Oct 1853
13. 12 Oct 1853 – 5 Apr 1854
14. 12 Apr 1854 – 26 Sep 1854
15. 4 Oct 1854 – 4 Apr 1855
16. 11 Apr 1855 – 3 Oct 1855
17. Missing
18. 9 Apr 1856 – 1 Oct 1856
19. 8 Oct 1856 – 1 Apr 1857
20. 8 Apr 1857 – 30 Sep 1857
21. 7 Oct 1857 – 31 Mar 1858
22. 7 Apr 1858 – 6 Oct 1858
23. 13 Oct 1858 – 30 Mar 1859
24. 6 Apr 1859 – 5 Oct 1859
25. 12 Oct 1859 – 4 Apr 1860
26. 4 Apr 1860 – 3 Oct 1860
27. 10 Oct 1860 – 3 Apr 1861
28. 10 Apr 1861 – 2 Oct 1861
29. 9 Oct 1861 – 13 Oct 1862
30. 8 Oct 1862 – 1 Apr 1863
31. 8 Apr 1863 – 30 Mar 1864
32. 6 Apr 1864 – 29 Mar 1865
33. 5 Apr 1865 – 4 Apr 1866
34. 11 Apr 1866 – 27 Mar 1867
35. 3 Apr 1867 – 1 Apr 1868
37. 7 Apr 1869 – 30 Mar 1870
38. 6 Apr 1870 – 29 Mar 1871
39. 5 Apr 1871 – 3 Apr 1872
40. 10 Apr 1872 – 2 Apr 1873
41. 9 Apr 1873 – 1 Apr 1874
42. 8 Apr 1874 – 31 Mar 1875
43. 7 Apr 1875 – 5 Apr 1876
44. 12 Apr 1876 – 4 Apr 1877
45. 11 Apr 1877 – 3 Apr 1878

46. 10 Apr 1878 – 2 Apr 1879

Ordinary minutes are followed by supplemental sheets for proceedings under the Medical Charities Act and proceedings as a sanitary authority. From 4 December minutes of proceedings under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act 1878 are inserted after Medical Charities Minutes. Includes:

10 Apr 1878 Total inmates: 230

Medical Charities: election of Committees of Management of Dispensary Districts (Bandon, Innishannon, Templemartin, Murragh, and Kilbrittain).

1 May 1878 Resolution in support of Arthur Moore's parliamentary bill for orphan and destitute children in industrial schools.

8 May 1878 LGB letter regarding to board's proposal to pay consulting sanitary officers by fee instead of salary. It is explained that no case requiring the advice of the current officer has occurred since his appointment and that 'we think it hard on the ratepayers to pay where no duty is performed'.

12 Jun 1878 Report of committee appointed to inquire into the water supply at the north side of Bandon. It is advised that wells be sunk lower.

3 Jul 1878 Clerk directed to bring the state of the fish market under the notice of the constabulary, the Town Commissioners having called attention to it.

17 Jul 1878 Committee report on sanitary nuisances in Bandon, noting 'there were two sickly and delicate children in a room adjoining a dung pit and pig sty from which there was a poisonous effluvia'.

7 Aug 1878 Master reports two women 'for striving to overhear the confession of a patient in the hospital to Revd J Lyons RCC'.

23 Oct 1878 Master's report regarding the final decision of an inmate who although protestant expressed a wish to become a catholic but subsequently changed his mind. [30 Oct: master censured for his conduct in the case].

6 Nov 1878 'Other Expenses' Account notes half-yearly salary for the inspector of lodging houses and maintenance costs for three blind children and one deaf and dumb child in other institutions.

1 Jan 1879 Motion voted on rescinding the appointment of the inspector and valuer under the Contagious Diseases Act. Notice of motion given that the Lord Lieutenant be requested to amalgamate Bandon, Clonakilty, Dunmanway and Macroom unions for the purposes of the act, with one veterinary inspector. [See, eg, 15 Jan]

26 Mar 1879 Petition praying for the earlier closing of public houses on Saturday evenings signed by the chairman on behalf of the board.
Veterinary Dept letter received regarding a reported case of pleuro-pneumonia, noting that an infected place should have been declared.

47.	9 Apr 1879 – 31 Mar 1880
48.	7 Apr 1880 – 6 Apr 1881
49.	13 Apr 1881 – 5 Apr 1882
50.	12 Apr 1882 – 4 Apr 1883
51.	11 Apr 1883 – 2 Apr 1884
52.	9 Apr 1884 – 1 Apr 1885
53.	8 Apr 1885 – 31 Mar 1886
54.	7 Apr 1886 – 30 Mar 1887
55.	6 Apr 1887 – 29 Mar 1888
56.	4 Apr 1888 – 27 Mar 1889
57.	3 Apr 1889 – 2 Apr 1890
58.	9 Apr 1890 – 1 Apr 1891
59.	8 Apr 1891 – 30 Mar 1892
60.	6 Apr 1892 – 29 Mar 1893
61.	5 Apr 1893 – 28 Mar 1894
62.	4 Apr 1894 – 10 Apr 1895
63.	17 Apr 1895 – 8 Apr 1896
64.	15 Apr 1896 – 7 Apr 1897
65.	14 Apr 1896 – 29 Sep 1897
66.	6 Oct 1897 – 30 Mar 1898
67.	6 Apr 1898 – 29 Mar 1899
68.	15 Apr 1899 – 8 Jul 1899
69.	8 Jul 1899 – 27 Sep 1899
70.	4 Oct 1899 – 4 Apr 1900

Ordinary minutes include pages for statistical and financial minutes, and are followed by sheets for proceedings under the Medical Charities Acts. Includes:

4 Oct 1899 Total inmates: 175. Out door relief cases: 358. Quarterly report of children over three months who have not been vaccinated notes 103 cases in the Bandon Dispensary District. Midwife appointed to Innishannon District.

11 Oct 1899 Inserted, certificates by the Public Analyst relating to samples of drugs submitted by dispensaries. [Other insertions, 28 Mar, 4 Apr 1900]

18 Oct 1899 Master's report stating that there are 10 orphan and deserted children in the house. [See, eg, 1 Nov: reports on boarded out children]

25 Oct 1899 Eviction notices handed in by relieving officers marked 'read'.

1 Nov 1899 Resolved, 'that the names of all persons on the out door relief list be printed and published generally'. [See 15 and 29 Nov]

6 Dec 1899 Resolved, that a Bandon man bitten by a dog found to have rabies 'be sent to the Pasteur Hospital in Paris for treatment'. [See, eg, 14 Mar]
Read, resolution from a public meeting of inhabitants of Ballydehob regarding County Council accommodation 'for the treatment of the imbecile poor'.

20 Dec 1899 Medical officer's report regarding two cases of Diphtheria.

17 Jan 1900 LGB letter regarding the dietary proposed to be adopted by the board, noting that a fixed scale is 'unsuitable for infants' and recommending the adoption of the dietary suggested by the LGB. [A recurring subject]

14 Feb 1900 LGB order dated 30 Jan 1900 under the Local Government (Transitory Provisions) No 2 Order 1898 'adjusting certain balances' in the final account of the union 'as constituted before the Local Government Ireland Act 1898 came into operation'.

LGB letter regarding a proposed payment to the clerk for preparing lists of local government female electors.

21 Feb 1900 Resolved, to congratulate the Irish Parliamentary Party on having 'sunk their differences and united their ranks for the good of our country'.

4 Apr 1900 Visiting Committee report, finding the house 'in a very satisfactory state and no complaints were made to us by the inmates'. Master's report stating that on 31 Mar Lady Bandon 'entertained the children of the school and hospital at Castle Bernard'. Thanks voted by board.

- 71. 11 Apr 1900 – 29 Sep 1900
- 72. 6 Oct 1900 – 6 Apr 1901
- 73. 13 Apr 1901 – 5 Oct 1901
- 74. 12 Oct 1901 – 5 Apr 1902
- 75. 12 Apr 1902 – 27 Sep 1902
- 76. 4 Oct 1902 – 4 Apr 1903
- 77. 11 Apr 1903 – 3 Oct 1903
- 78. 10 Oct 1903 – 2 Apr 1904
- 79. 9 Apr 1904 – 1 Oct 1904
- 80. 8 Oct 1904 – 1 Apr 1905
- 81. 8 Apr 1905 – 7 Oct 1905
- 82. 14 Oct 1905 – 7 Apr 1906
- 83. 14 Apr 1906 – 6 Oct 1906
- 84. 13 Oct 1906 – 6 Apr 1907
- 85. 20 Apr 1907 – 19 Oct 1907
- 86. 26 Oct 1907 – 2 May 1908
- 87. 9 May 1908 – 14 Nov 1909
- 88. 21 Nov 1908 – 22 May 1909
- 89. 7 Jun 1909 – 11 Dec 1909
- 90. 18 Dec 1909 – 25 Jun 1910
- 91. 2 Jul 1910 – 14 Jan 1911
- 92. 21 Jan 1911 – 5 Aug 1911
- 93. 12 Aug 1911 – 24 Feb 1912
- 94. 2 Mar 1912 – 14 Sep 1912
- 95. 21 Sep 1912 – 5 Apr 1913
- 96. 12 Apr 1913 – 25 Oct 1913
- 97. 1 Nov 1913 – 11 Apr 1914

98. 18 Apr 1914 – 24 Oct 1914

Indexed. Includes:

18 Apr 1914 Total inmates: 150. Out door relief cases: 268.

9 May 1914 LGB letter requesting 'strict compliance' with the vaccination acts in the case of defaulters (in each Dispensary District: Bandon: 26; Innishannon: 26; Kilbrittain: 4; Murragh: 18; Templemartin: 25).

23 May 1914 LGB letters regarding temporary employments in the workhouse; analyses of dispensary drugs forms inserted. [Recurring items].

20 Jun 1914 New workhouse master appointed by election [see later minutes]; Wardens elected to the electoral divisions of each Dispensary District.

4 Jul 1914 Master's and Relieving Officer's reports of boarded out orphans having returned to the workhouse. [See also 1 Aug]
Extract from auditor's report, including the statement 'closer supervision over the expenditure on outdoor relief is necessary, the figures show a decided upward tendency'. [274 out door relief cases this week]
Letter from the medical officer, Templemartin, explaining 'the exorbitancy of the medical and surgical appliances lists' recently submitted.

15 Aug 1914 LGB circular regarding the cabinet committee set up to advise on 'any distress that may arise in consequence of the War', requesting that representative local committees be formed 'to consider the needs of the localities and coordinate the distribution of such relief as may be required'.

29 Aug 1914 Meeting adjourned to mark the death of Pope Pius X.

12 Sep 1914 Letter from Irish National Volunteers, Bandon Branch, applying for the use of a room in Bandon Dispensary 'during the coming winter for drilling and other purposes'. Granted, subject to LGB sanction.

26 Sep 1914 Letter from a Templemartin dispensary patient complaining that the doctor charged him twice for tending an injury and subsequently refused to accept a relieving officer's ticket for dressing it again.

24 Oct 1914 Letter from the Sisters of Charity stating that they are opening a home for crippled boys next spring, and inviting applications.

99. 31 Oct 1914 – 8 May 1915
100. 15 May 1915 – 20 Nov 1915
101. 27 Nov 1915 – 3 Jun 1916
102. 9 Jun 1916 – 16 Dec 1916
103. 23 Dec 1916 – 14 Jul 1917
104. 21 Jul 1917 – 9 Feb 1918
105. 16 Feb 1918 – 7 Sep 1918
106. Missing
107. 12 Apr 1919 – 1 Nov 1919

108. 8 Nov 1919 – 5 Jun 1920
109. 12 Jun 1920 – 25 Sep 1920

Partially indexed. A 'Record of Attendance & Voting' form precedes ordinary minutes. Supplemental sheets are present for proceedings under the Medical Charities Acts and proceedings in relation to the boarding out or hiring out of children under the Infant Life Protection Act. Includes:

19 Jun 1920 Total inmates: 95. Out door relief cases: 257
Record of persons appointed wardens for each electoral division of each Dispensary District.
Bill received from Ratharoon School for school requisites supplied to a boarded out child.

3 Jul 1920 LGB letter referring to the District Inspector's report on the workhouse school, which notes only three children are on the rolls.
Resolution expressing 'abhorrence' at the sentencing of James Larkin, General Secretary of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, to 5 to 10 years' imprisonment in New York.
Letter from the medical officer, Bandon, 'on behalf of the medical profession', demanding stated scale of fees for medical assistance.
Letter from Rev AJ Roberts stating that the select vestry are willing to let two rooms under Ballinadee School for a dispensary depot.

31 Jul 1920 Master's report stating that a 'party of military' visited the house on the night of 22 Jun 'and having found nothing incriminating they took their departure'.
LGB circular referring to 'certain local authorities in Ireland repudiating the authority of the Imperial Parliament' and pointing out that no loans or grants will be made to any authority not 'prepared to conform to the rules and orders of the LG Board as heretofore'. [See 14 Aug: 'It was ordered that the letter be placed in the waste-paper-basket'.]

28 Aug 1920 Letter from WT Cosgrave requesting that a conciliation board on matters arising between employers and employed by appointed.
Letter from the Department of Labour, Dail Eireann, requesting the board 'to do their utmost to procure suitable work for men who have resigned from the RIC'.
Letter from the inmates requesting extra butter and potatoes per day.

11 Sep 1920 Resolution of the board and Bandon RDC adjourning their meeting 'as a protest against the action of the English Government in murdering our fellow countrymen in Irish and English prisons. A further resolution extends sympathy 'to our colleague Mr MI Fitzgerald on the death of his son Leut Timothy Fitzgerald who offered up his young life for the cause of Ireland'.

25 Sep 1920 Resolved, 'that Mr Ellis [LGB auditor] be not allowed audit the books of the union'. [See also, eg, 18 Dec 1920]

110.

9 Oct 1920 – 4 Nov 1922

Partially indexed. Includes:

16 Oct 1920 Special meeting 'to consider the financial state of the union'.

20 Nov 1920 Letter from Major Knowles asking if the board has any objection to the erection of a permanent memorial in Kilbrogan RC burial ground 'over the grave of every soldier, sailor, airman etc who died during the War'. No objection made.

15 Jan 1921 Reply to LGB letter stating 'the board have decided that vaccination be optional with parents'.

12 Feb 1921 Resolved, that the board 'sever our connection with the English Local Government Board, and renew our allegiance to Dail Eireann, the only constituted authority in the country'. [See 18 Dec 1920, 15 Jan & 12 Mar 1921]

12 Mar 1921 Letter from Dunmanway Union requesting that fever patients may be admitted to Bandon's fever hospital, owing to the military occupation of hospital accommodation at Dunmanway workhouse.

9 Apr 1921 Resolved, 'that the master be directed to discharge all the able bodied males in the hospital immediately'. [Inmates: 112; Out door: 250]

7 May 1921 Resolved, that out door relief be discontinued in the four districts, the board to consider any fresh applications.

2 Jul 1921 Master's report regarding the burning of Bandon workhouse and fever hospital on 23 Jun (by 'a large party of men'). Hospital patients are to be moved to Bandon dispensary. Male inmates are in the boardroom and No 1 dormitory, female inmates in the separation ward.
LG Dept letter regarding the case of Dr James Crowley, medical officer, Murragh Dispensary District, 'who has been ordered out of the county'.

14 Jul 1921 Special meeting regarding accommodation of inmates after the fire. Able-bodied inmates are to be transferred, if willing, to Clonakilty Union, or granted outdoor relief. Children are to be boarded out.

27 Aug 1921 Resolution calling the LG Dept's attention to the fact that the quarterly instalment from Cork County Council has not been paid (£3673-10), meaning salaries and suppliers have not been paid and outdoor relief halted.

5 Nov 1921 Resolution, in response to a County Council letter regarding amalgamation of unions, recommending the reconstruction of Bandon fever hospital for use as a district hospital, and other arrangements. [See also, eg, 15 Dec 1923]

2 Jan 1922 Resolved, at a special meeting, 'that this board take no action on

the question of the Treaty now under consideration by Dail Eireann’.

28 Jan 1922 Clerk’s report stating that he applied to the Commanding Officer, Essex Regiment, Kinsale, for the minute book removed on 26 Feb 1921, but received a reply denying the book had been taken.

LG Inspector’s letter urging the boarding out of inmates and children. [11 Feb: an orphan boy sent to Danesfort Industrial School, Upton, on the advice of the medical officer and as arranged for by Rev Denis Scanlan CC].

28 Feb 1922 Resolution condemning the wording [of the workhouse abolition scheme], noting ‘those who set out to relieve “God’s Poor” subsequently describe some of them as Workhouse Rats’.

Report of the Conciliation Board regarding reduction of officials’ bonuses.

25 Mar 1922 Resolution expressing horror at killings and ‘sacrilegious attacks’ on Catholics and churches in Belfast by ‘hordes of Orange Savages’.

8 Apr 1922 Letter from Michael O’Reilly, expressing surprise at reading that his tender for provisions ‘was not considered on the ground that he was not employing Trade Union Labour’.

20 May 1922 Official reports that ‘an officer and some men of the IRA from the Military Barracks asked me during the week for a small quantity of broken slates, which I gave them’. Approved.

Resolved, that the Commission inquiring into war damage be asked to sit at Bandon, ‘seeing the destruction of property locally is so great’, and to save witnesses from expense in travelling to Dublin or Cork.

3 Jun 1922 Letter received from the Superioress, Sacred Heart Home, Blackrock, Cork, agreeing to take an unmarried mother and her child from the workhouse, if she will supply doctor’s certificates, ‘is willing to remain at least twelve months, and conform to the simple rules of our institution’. [29 Jul: Bessborough Home recognized ‘as an Extern Institution for the treatment of unmarried mothers of one child, and of children up to three years’.]

15 Jul 1922 Resolution of Cork Harbour Commissioners adopted, calling for an armistice and national conference, and inviting public bodies to a Cork conference, to address ‘the appalling prospect of a prolonged civil war’.

Letter from Dorothy Stopford, medical officer, Kilbrittain, asking for an extension of leave as she has found ‘I would be more useful here [Dublin], so stayed on in the crisis, and have been at work night & day, mostly under fire’.

29 Jul 1922 Clerk reports that all inmates (16 male and 3 female) were boarded out on 21 July.

26 Aug 1922 Resolution of regret and adjournment on the deaths of Michael Collins, Arthur Griffith, and Harry Boland.

4 Nov 1922 LG Dept letter calling for ‘urgent action’ to deal with the large numbers of unvaccinated children in the county, owing to the near-epidemic of smallpox in England and Wales.

111. 18 Nov 1922 – 19 Apr 1924

Partially indexed. Some rough notes inserted inside back cover. Includes:

18 Nov 1922 Clerk's report stating that there are 24 patients in the dispensary hospital and no inmates in the workhouse. He advises, in the case of staff being dispensed with, that the master be retained to be responsible for stock.

24 Nov 1922 Special meeting, resolution passed condemning the continued imprisonment of Mary McSwiney TD and the recent executions in Dublin.

27 Jan 1923 Inmates: 25. Out door relief: 331 persons.

Letter from clerk, Clonakilty Union, applying for £24 13s 4d, maintenance for Bandon inmates for the period to 30 Sep, and explaining the average cost.

10 Feb 1923 LG Dept circular regarding the 'alarming' increase in home help (outdoor relief), insisting that the acts be strictly followed [see 17 Feb, 29 Dec. See also 10 Mar: applications for relief from tenants of labourers' cottages]. Complaint by a hired-out orphan 'that her employer refused to allow her attend Divine Worship on several occasions' and has not given her wages or clothes since she entered his service, on 18 Dec 1920.

24 Mar 1923 Resolution welcoming the Pope's special envoy to Ireland and pointing out that during 'similar upheaval' in the USA, 'a tacit understanding prevailed between the combatants not to enforce the extreme penalty', which 'historic fact' they place before 'those in Authority' as a 'noble precedent'.

2 Jun 1923 Clerk's report stating that the workhouse premises is to be taken over by the military, who will instead give to the board houses at the Green, Bandon. [See also, eg, 6 Oct]

14 Jul 1923 Resolution of Youghal Board of Guardians adopted, calling for establishment of Catholic church holidays in place of English bank holidays. Relieving Officer's report of a deserted child. Case referred to Civic Guards.

22 Sep 1923 Noted, in reply to LG Dept letter, that 'Bandon Workhouse was not occupied by British Troops'.

6 Oct 1923 Solicitor's letter stating that the Shaw Commission is prepared to award £1325 10s for destruction of the workhouse. Accepted.

3 Nov 1923 Resolved, on foot of deputation, that the board cease to function, apart from financial business and outdoor relief, 'until the prisoners at present on hunger strike in Irish jails and camps are released'. [Rescinded, 1 Dec]

26 Jan 1924 Resolution condemning 'the outrage perpetrated at St Peter's Protestant Church', which the board attributes to 'mental degenerates'.

9 Feb 1924 Letter from TJ Murphy [TD], noting that Bandon is to have a cottage hospital under the draft amalgamation scheme. The board resolves to point out 'the absolute necessity' for a general hospital.

BG/42/AA/1 Bandon Board of Guardians Rough Minute Book**Scope and Content:**

Draft record of meetings and decisions made by the board of guardians. The volume includes draft minutes for the period December 1844 to March 1845, supplying a gap in the set of official minutes.

Date: 4 Mar 1839 – 2 Apr 1845

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

2. Accounts

BG/42/CA General Ledgers**Scope and Content:**

Volumes recording debits, and noting 'corresponding credits and particulars', for each financial half-year, under the following headings: Repayment of Relief; Rents of Dispensary Residences; Sales of Farm Produce; Sales of Offal and Old Stores, and Other Receipts; Provisions and Necessaries (followed by abstract of provisions receipt and consumption account); Clothing and Bedding; Workhouse Burials; Workhouse Farm; Extern Institutions; Emigration; Registration; Examination of Lunatics; Interned Aliens; Medical Charities; Superannuation. There are also details of accounts, including the following: Salaries; Loans; Union Fund and County Accounts; and General Balance. Also present are statements of insurances and of the names of officers giving fidelity bonds, auditor's notes, treasurer's account and reconciliation, unpaid bills, and clerk's petty disbursements.

Date: 31 Mar 1919 – 30 Apr 1924

Level: Series

Extent: 3 volumes

1. 31 Mar 1919 – 31 Mar 1921
2. 30 Mar 1921 – 31 Mar 1923
3. 31 Mar 1923 – 30 Apr 1924

BG/42/CD/1 Bandon Union Financial Statements - Receipts**Scope and Content:**

Record of monthly financial statements of receipts, for each half-year. The printed statement forms (called 'Form 1 (article 9)') contain the following headings: date when lodged with Treasurer, From whom received, particulars of receipt, total amount received, and classification of receipts. The last field is broken down into the following classes: County Council money supplied on demand of Guardians, repayment of relief, rents of dispensary residences, farm account – sale of produce, sales of offal, old stores and other receipts, loans received. Each form notes the total amount of receipts for the month and the ledger folio to which amounts are posted. At the end of each statement is a certificate of the clerk of the Union and a certificate of confirmation by Guardians, certifying, respectively, that statements are correct and accounted for, and that they have been examined and confirmed.

Date: 24 Aug 1915 – 30 May 1924

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

BG/42/CL/1 Bandon Union Bank Book**Scope and Content:**

Record of credits and debits, maintained by the clerk. Credits consist mainly of funding from Cork County Council. Debits are mainly wages. Note, 7 Jun 1924: 'Balance of a/c transferred to credit of Cork Co Co @ Head Office under authority of ministry of Local Government'. Initialled [by auditor] 2 Jul 1925.

Date: 31 May 1922 – 7 Jun 1924

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

3. Workhouse: Administration

BG/42/F/1 Master's Journal

Scope and Content:

Record of reports and information submitted by the master of the workhouse to the board on each board day. These include recurring items, such as food and goods required, utensils and clothing condemned, and exercise of children. It also includes reports of matters arising, including disciplinary matters, involving staff, inmates, and suppliers.

Date: 15 Jan 1921 – 29 Jun 1925

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

BG/42/FK/1 Weekly Tobacco Account

Scope and Content:

Record noting name of pauper, number in register, age, ounces of tobacco issued per week, total for the half year, and amount on hand.

Date: Half Years ending 30 Sep 1920 – 31 Mar 1925

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

4. *Workhouse: Inmates*

BG/42/G/1 Bandon Union Indoor Relief Register

Scope and Content:

Volume recording and registering the admission, residence, and discharge of inmates to the workhouse. Noted are register number, name, sex, age, religious denomination, occupation, address, observations, and date of discharge or death. The volume is indexed. A note on the flyleaf reads: 'Several registers written previously to this one were burned in the workhouse fire on the morning of June 23rd 1921. Other registers of the "Forties, Fifties and Sixties" escaped as they happened to be stowed away down in the lobby outside the boardroom at the lodge. T Forde, Master, 1 Oct 1924'. The earlier volumes referred to were not transferred to Archives and have not been located.

Date: 14 Mar 1920 – 31 Mar 1925

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume

5. *Labourers' Acts*

BG/42/SA/1 Labourers' Acts Ledger

Scope and Content:

Ledger consisting of sheets recording details of acquisition of sites, erection of labourers' cottages, and lettings to tenants under the Labourers' Acts. At the top of each sheet is noted from whom the site was acquired and in what townland, the scheme number, the date of provisional order, the site as given in the provisional order, number of Ordnance Sheet, and the area of the site. There follow tables recording particulars of the award and payment of compensation to owner and occupier of site, contract for erection of cottage and payments, contract for fencing of plot and payments, miscellaneous expenditure, and particulars of letting of cottage (names of tenants).

Date: 27 Nov 1886 – 24 Jan 1896

Level: Item

Extent: 1 volume