

Cork City and County Archives

Descriptive List

Identity Statement Area

Reference Code: IE CCCA/RDC163

Title: Youghal Rural District Council

Dates: 1899-1925

Level of description: Fonds / Item

Extent and medium: 20 volumes, 4 files

Context:

Creator:

Youghal Rural District Council

Archival History

The records were originally maintained by the Waterford County Archives Service, where they were listed in 1999 by Joanne Rothwell, County Archivist. Ms Rothwell facilitated the subsequent transfer of the records to Cork Archives Institute (now Cork City and County Archives), in recognition of their status as Cork-related records.

Administrative History

Rural District Councils were established under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898. This Act removed the fiscal powers of the County Grand Juries in respect of roads and public works, transferring them to the new County Councils and RDCs. The Act also reorganised the functions of the Boards of Guardians. The RDCs became responsible for the sanitary functions of the Boards of Guardians in designated rural districts and also became responsible for the provision of housing in rural areas. The RDCs were not in existence for an extensive period of time. Under the Free State Government local government in Ireland was reorganised in an attempt to reduce the number of diverse authorities responsible for services. Under the Local Government Act, 1925, the RDCs were themselves abolished and their duties were transferred to the County Councils.

Chairmen of RDCs sat on County Councils, which approved estimates of expenditure and performed other functions in respect of RDCs. Despite Youghal and its surrounding district having always been part of County Cork, Youghal RDC, for administrative purposes, came within the scope of Waterford County Council. Following the abolition of RDCs, Youghal and the surrounding district came under Cork County Council.

Content and Structure

Scope and Content

The collection consists primarily of minute books recording meetings of Youghal Rural District Council (UDC163/1-16). Also present are minutes of quarterly meetings with the County Surveyor (UDC163/17-18), sanitary sub-officer reports (UDC163/19), one rent collection book (UDC163/20), and a number of files of letters relating to meetings and the work of the Council (UDC163/21-24).

The minute books record proceedings at meetings and the names of councillors present. They include reports by the Clerk on the execution of orders, and financial minutes. These latter document burial ground expenses, receipts, and burial fees, and labourers' cottages rents, monthly abstracts of cottage rent collection, and a summary of the Treasurer's accounts. The minutes also record orders of the Local Government Board and letters sent to and received from that body. Minutes of meetings held as a Sanitary Authority under the Public Health Acts are recorded separately within volumes. These minutes include reports from the Medical Officers of Health, and note sanitary work performed, returns of duties performed by sanitary sub-officers, accounts of expenses under the sanitary acts, and related correspondence. Distinct minutes are also kept of meetings of the Council as a Sanitary Authority under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, 1883-1896, and under the Burial Grounds (Ireland) Act, 1856. Minutes are signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. The minutes for 1925 are typewritten, and were inserted into the last volume (UDC163/16). The final minutes recorded are those for 15 June 1925.

The records provide evidence of the exercise of democratic local government and of the services provided by the Rural District Council. Detailed social and economic information is provided in relation to the provision of sanitary and public health services as well as the provision of labourers' cottages. Also included are the sensitive reports of Medical Health Officers. These in particular document the role of RDCs in reducing the occurrence of disease and poor health among the population of Ireland.

System of Arrangement

A: (1-16)	Minute Books, 1899-1925
B: (17-18)	Minutes of Quarterly Meetings with the County Surveyor, 1901-24
C: (19)	Sanitary Sub-Officer Report Book, 1901-16
D: (20)	Labourers' Acts Rent Collection Book, 1899-1925
E: (21-24)	Letters relating to meetings and the work of the Council, 1903-21

Allied Materials

CCCA: BG163	Records of Youghal Poor Law Union, 1848-1924
CC/CO/M	Minutes of Cork County Council, 1899-1993
SCBH/BPA	Boards of Health and Public Assistance, South Cork Health District, minutes, 1925-43
YTR	Records of Youghal Corporation, 1375-1841
U138	Youghal Town Commissioners and Urban District Council, [c1900-60]
HC	Hodnett Youghal. Legal papers including many UDC and RDC documents

Conditions of Access and Use

Open by appointment to those holding a current reader's ticket. The reports of the Medical Health Officers regarding supervision and investigation of sanitation in the local area can contain information of a private nature. Researchers are, therefore, requested to respect the privacy of individuals mentioned in the Minute Books and take care in ensuring that no breach of privacy occurs in producing material from study of the Minute Books.

Language: English

Finding Aids: Descriptive List

Archivists Note / Date of Description

Joanne Rothwell,
Waterford County Archivist, 1999.

Timmy O Connor,
Local Government Archivist,
Cork City and County Archives, 2010.

Accruals

None expected.

List of Items**A: Minute Books 1899-1925 (16 Items)**

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 31 August 1899 – 22 November 1900 | 520pp |
| 2 | 6 December 1900 – 7 February 1902 | <p><u>Includes:</u> a notice of the dates fixed by Waterford County Council for the holding of Quarterly Meetings by District Councils issued by R.G. Paul, Secretary to the County Council (13 June 1901). A resolution finding fault with the County Council for the manner in which the Rural District Council's resolution against the Agricultural and Technical Schemes was received and discussed. Particular note was made of the use of the word 'fools' by P.F. Walsh and stating that '...if the County Council persist in striking another Rate for Youghal No. 2 District Council they will be acting against the wishes of 99 per cent of the ratepayers (p. 103).</p> |
| | | 416pp |
| 3 | 20 February 1902 – 10 September 1903 | 556pp |
| 4 | 8 October 1903 – 27 October 1905 | 556pp |
| 5 | 16 November 1905 – 9 January 1908 | c. 587pp |
| 6 | 7 February 1908 – 30 July 1909 | c. 397pp |
| 7 | 9 September 1909 – 2 February 1911 | 616pp |
| 8 | 9 March 1911 – 12 September 1912 | c. 593pp |

Leaders of the warring parties to meet and arrange a truce; give orders to cease fire, and settle existing differences by negotiation and thereby permit the Country to settle down to Peace and prosperity.' (p.575). 608pp

- 15 2 February 1923 – 8 August 1924 Includes: a typescript copy letter from the Rural District Council Delegates – James Brophy, Kilkenny; H. Colohan, TD, Naas; J. Culleton, Wexford; AW Cullen, County Council, Dublin; P Connolly, Chairman of the County Council and Rural District Council, Dublin, J Dunphy, IDA and J Kennedy, Limerick issued to the Clerk of each Rural District Council. States that following a meeting with Minister for Local Government they are convinced that the Government intends to abolish the Rural District Councils and requesting a Special Meeting be summoned to discuss this matter. States that each county should be organised to form resistance to this intention. Requests that a delegate be nominated from each Rural District Council to attend the meeting (p.333).
c. 543pp
- 16 12 March 1925 – 15 June 1925 Includes: a resolution stating the thanks of the Council to the Chairman '...for the impartial manner in which he had conducted the business of the Council, and to the Officials for the manner in which they had discharged their duties and the assistance they had given the Council at all times (15 June 1925).
c. 100pp

B: Quarterly Minute Books (2 items)

UDC163/17-18 Volumes of minutes detailing the proceedings of the Quarterly Meetings of Youghal Rural District Council.
Records the names of the councillors present at each meeting. Contains the reports and proposals of the County Surveyor and the proposals and resolutions of the Council. Includes printed lists of works undertaken by the Council and schedules of works to be tendered. Signed by the Chairman and the Clerk of the Rural District Council.

- 17 1 February 1901 – 14 July 1911 320pp

18 28 July 1911 – 31 October 1924 c. 400pp

C: Reports of Sanitary Sub-Officer (1 item)

19 8 January 1901 – 9 February 1916 Volume of reports for the Rural District Council of Youghal No. 2 from Patrick Shaughnessy, Sanitary Sub-Officer. Details the number of orders or notices to abate nuisances, make connecting drains or perform other sanitary work served. Records the number of prosecutions for Neglect of Orders of Notices, the number of convictions for neglect of Orders or Notices and the amount of fines imposed by order of Justices. Details the number of houses, rooms or premises limewashed, the number of dwellings disinfected, the persons using the disinfecting chamber, the number of articles of clothing disinfected and the value of clothing and bedding destroyed by order of the Sanitary Authority and the witness to the destruction of this clothing. 176pp

D: Rent Collection Ledger (1 item)

20 30 September 1899 – 31 March 1925 Labourers Acts Rent Collection Book for the Rural District Council of Youghal. Details the rents collected by Justin Condon, rent collector. Records in columns the townland, name of tenant, weekly rent, arrears due at the close of the half year, total rent accrued during the half year, total both sides' accounts, received by collection during each month of the half year and the half year and observations. States total amount of money collected in the hands of the collector at the close of the preceding month (or half year), the total amount of rent to be accounted for, the total lodgements made during the month (or half year) and the total amount in the hands of the collector at the close of the month (or half year). Stamped as examined by RJ Baker, Local Government Auditor. 86ff

E: Letters /Files (4 items)

21 6 November 1900 – [1918] File containing letters sent to Frank R. Ronayne, Clerk of Youghal Rural District Council relating to the work of the Council. Includes a letter from 'Edward Dwyer' requesting a cheque for his fees in regard to Clashmore Sewerage (1

- December 1903). 13 items
- 22 [1918] Letter from Frank R. Ronayne, Clerk of Youghal Rural District Council to all members of the Council requesting attendance at a meeting on 'Thursday 29th instant at the usual place and time'. 1p
- 23 8 November 1903 – 4 May 1915 File containing letters to the Chairman and members of Youghal Rural District Council. Includes a letter from [J] Aston, Honorary Secretary, The Central Council for the Organization of Recruiting in Ireland requesting that a recruiting committee be appointed for the district. 4 items
- 24 10 November 1921 File containing notices of meetings from R. Flavin, Clerk of Youghal No. 2 Rural District Council and notices of resignation from members of the Council. 9 items