

*Village Communities.***No. 8.—1882.**

J. R. LONGDEN.

An Ordinance further to amend "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871."

Title.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Ordinance No. 26 of 1871, intituled "An Ordinance to facilitate the Administration of Village Communities, and to provide for the establishment of Village Tribunals": It is hereby enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Preamble.

1. This Ordinance and "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871," in this Ordinance referred to as the principal Ordinance, and "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871, Amendment Ordinance, 1880," shall be read and construed as one Ordinance.

Ordinance to be read as one with Ord. No. 26 of 1871, and No. 12 of 1880.

2. It shall be lawful for the inhabitants of any sub-division within the limits thereof to impose and levy tolls subject to the approval or disallowance thereof of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council (such approval to be notified in the *Government Gazette*), on all ferries constructed, regulated, or protected under the principal Ordinance.

Village committee may impose and levy tolls.

3. In addition to the powers of making rules conferred by the principal Ordinance and by "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871, Amendment Ordinance, 1880," the inhabitants of any sub-division shall have power to make rules—

Inhabitants may make further rules.

- (1) For the construction, repair and protection of village tribunal court-houses;
- (2) For the determining, imposing and enforcement of penalties incurred by officers appointed under section 6 of this Ordinance for neglect or breach of duty;
- (3) For the collection of tolls imposed and levied under the next preceding clause;
- (4) For the construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding twelve feet in width; provided that no inhabitant shall be required to contribute in labour or money towards any road other than a natural road, nor to give more than ten full days' labour in any year for such village roads;
- (5) For the repair, protection and maintenance of village canals.

And any rules so made shall have the same effect as if they had been made under the powers conferred by the principal Ordinance.

4. It is hereby enacted and declared that in all rules which have heretofore been made, or which hereafter shall or may be made, under the provisions of the principal Ordinance, for the enforcement of ancient customs as regards cultivation, the term 'cultivation' shall be taken and construed to include the repair, protection and maintenance of village tanks.

The term 'cultivation' in past and future rules to include repair, protection, and maintenance of village tanks.

Village Communities.

Village committee
may create offices.

5. Whenever it shall be necessary to appoint an officer to carry into effect or supervise the working of any rule lawfully made or to be made by the inhabitants of any sub-division, under the principal Ordinance or under "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871, Amendment Ordinance, 1880," it shall be lawful for the said inhabitants to create an office for such purpose within their own sub-division, by a rule to be made, subject to the approval of the Governor and the Executive Council.

Officer to be
appointed by
Government Agent
of Province.

6. As soon as any such office has been created, it shall be lawful for the Government Agent of the Province, within which such sub-division is situated, to appoint an officer thereto, and such appointment from time to time to revoke or annul and in lieu thereof to make a fresh appointment to such office, as to the Government Agent aforesaid shall seem fit or necessary.

Such officer to be
entitled to fees:
such fees to be
determined by
Governor and
Executive Council.

7. Every such officer shall, so long as he continues in office, be entitled to be paid and to receive such fees in respect of his office as may be determined by a rule to be made by such inhabitants, subject to the approval of the Governor and the Executive Council.

Such officer to be
liable to penalties.

8. Every such officer shall be liable to pay the penalties prescribed by any rules which may be passed in accordance with the powers conferred under sub-section 2 of section 3 of this Ordinance for breach of or neglect of duty in respect of his office.

Power of Governor
and Executive
Council to cancel
or vary rule
previously
approved.

9. The Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, may, at any time, and from time to time, cancel or annul any rule previously approved of by the Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, and published as provided for by the 7th section of the principal Ordinance; such cancellation or annulment shall in like manner be published in the *Government Gazette*.

Short Title.

10. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Village Communities Ordinance, 1871, Amendment Ordinance, 1882," and shall come into effect from the date of the passing thereof.

Passed in Council the Eighth day of November, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-two.

J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Clerk to the Council.

Assented to by His Excellency the Governor the Thirteenth day of November, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-two.

J. DOUGLAS,
Colonial Secretary.
