

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE 18TH OF APRIL 2019**

PRESENT:

Councillor	Paddy Bracken (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor	John King
Councillor	Seamus McDonald
Councillor	James Kelly
Councillor	Brendan Phelan
Councillor	David Goodwin

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH MONTHLY MEETING OF
BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON
THE 21ST OF MARCH 2019**

On the proposition of Councillor David Goodwin seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan, the Minutes of the March held on the 21st of March 2019 were confirmed as circulated.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Paddy Bracken raised Notice of Motion No: 37/2019 in relation to the extension of the footpath from Debbicott to the Rock School, Mountmellick. It was noted that this requires a substantial level of funding and Councillor Bracken enquired if some interim measures could be carried out this year at this location. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would look at the various options.

3. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

On the proposition of Councillor John King seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the **20th of June 2019 at 9.30 a.m.**

4. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 55/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect ‘No Dumping’ signs at the Green Road, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that works are complete.

Notice of Motion No: 56/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council carry out repairs to the bridge at Rearyvalley, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the procurement of Consultants is currently underway to survey the structure, identify the most appropriate solution to repair this bridge, prepare a design and cost estimate and, pending approvals and funding, proceed to tender.

Councillor Seamus McDonald indicated that this is a serious issue as the bridge is about to crack. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. advised that a Design Team will be in place by June 2019 with a view to preparing a cost estimate for funding.

Notice of Motion No: 57/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect ‘Stop Signs’ at Derrycarrow Bridge, Camross”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that this will be addressed in the coming weeks under routine sign maintenance works.

Notice of Motion No: 58/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council remove trees from Barrow River at Blue Bridge, Clarahill, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that this work will be considered for inclusion for river maintenance work in 2019.

Councillor Goodwin expressed serious concern in relation to flooding at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 59/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair road at Brittas, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that repairs to this road have been carried out.

Notice of Motion No: 60/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair and re-surface road at Gurteen, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this road is included in the Multi Annual Road Strengthening Programme 2019 to 2021. Interim repairs will be carried out in the coming weeks.

Councillor Goodwin indicated that this is one of the main roads going to the Slieve Blooms and from a tourism point of view works need to be carried out.

Notice of Motion No: 61/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install additional footpath across the road from the local cemetery in Rathdowney to facilitate pedestrians and children from the Glebe and Clarney Hall estates travelling to school and shops in town on a daily basis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that this work has been procured and the Contractor will commence work shortly.

Notice of Motion No: 62/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair or replace road signs that are worn and damaged in the Borris-in-Ossory area”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that routine sign maintenance will continue to replace worn or damaged signs throughout the Municipal District.

The Members also requested that the sign for Ballycolla be amended to Ballacolla. Councillor Brendan Phelan also indicated that there is excess signage in Borris-in-

Ossory near the roundabout. He requested that this could be looked at during the review of the speed limits.

Notice of Motion No: 63/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair road crossings that were installed as part of Phase One works close to the Castle Arms Hotel, Darrow as it is necessary to complete these works for the enhancement of the town before summer events take place”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that these road crossings will be inspected and repaired as required. Councillor King indicated that there was an issue with wires around poles – Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. to meet Councillor King on site to look at same.

Notice of Motion No: 64/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the flooding problem from the village to Cashins Garage, Ballacolla”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that it is intended to address this problem in 2019. Surveys have been completed and the design of an appropriate solution is being prepared.

Notice of Motion No: 65/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install gully to solve flooding at property at Clonmeen”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that this will be carried out shortly.

Notice of Motion No: 66/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install a stop sign at Coole Lane, Kilbricken”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that this is complete.

Notice of Motion No: 67/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council communicate to the National Transport Authority the urgent requirement to put in place legislative measures that will address the gaps in their public service obligation (PSO) arising from the partial withdrawal of services on bus route 735 locations Borris in Ossory, Castletown and Mountrath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that the withdrawal of this bus service would result in a significant reduction in the quality of the public transport serving these towns. It is considered that a PSO obligation exists and a long-term replacement service needs to be put in place. Laois County Council will communicate to the NTA regarding the urgent provision of a long-term sustainable bus route service for these towns.

Notice of Motion No: 68/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council reinstate the line markings on the island filter at the junction of the R445 and R435 roads near Ballaghmore”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that road markings at the ghost island junction on the R445 with the L5054 at Charleville will be reinstated as necessary, subject to funding.

Councillor Kelly requested some interim measures to be carried out and if funding could be made available from the T.I.I.

Notice of Motion No: 69/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the road safety issues at the exit from Millcourt Housing Estate, Ballyfin Road, Mountrath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that a review of the safety of this entrance will be carried out and any deficiencies will be addressed.

Notice of Motion No: 70/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provide a clearway box and road markings at the entrance to Grange Hall, Harbour Street, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this will be included on the 2019 road marking programme.

Notice of Motion No: 71/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council replace the street bins at Harbour Street/Horan’s Pub and in front of the Arts Centre in Parnell Street, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that a survey of bins will be undertaken and damaged bins will be replaced.

Notice of Motion No: 72/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council prevent vehicles parking on the footpath opposite the filling station at Chapel Street, Mountmellick with the erection of bollards”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that bollards will be erected to prevent parking on the footpath at this location.

**5. BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
ACHEIVEMENTS 2014-2019**

The Members were circulated with a report on the achievements in the Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick over the period 2014-2019. The Members acknowledged the outstanding work carried out over the period and complimented all staff involved.

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services also complimented all his staff in the area involved in the delivery of services.

Councillor Phelan indicated that there is a requirement for lights on the bridge in Ballybrophy.

The Members raised the issue of staffing for the area. Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services indicated that there is ongoing recruitment campaigns which will fill any vacancies which may become vacant.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor James Kelly circulated correspondence that he had received from Durrow and Mountmellick Tidy Towns Committees regarding poster free for the Local Elections 2019. A discussion ensued wherein Councillor John King proposed that the MD should be poster free – this proposal was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken.

It was also noted that ESB would be issuing correspondence regarding a no poster policy on ESB poles around the Country.

7. BEST WISHES

Councillor Paddy Bracken, Chairperson extended good wishes to all his colleagues running in the forthcoming Local Elections.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS