

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA  
MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> OF APRIL 2022**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Ollie Clooney (In the Chair)
Councillor	Paddy Bracken
Councillor	James Kelly
Councillor	Conor Bergin
Councillor	Seamus McDonald

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor John King

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Edmond Kenny, S.E.E. & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

**(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the March Meeting of Borris-In-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2022**

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin, the minutes of the March meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2022 were confirmed as circulated.

**(2) Matters Arising**

Councillor James Kelly raised the issue of the recent Local Improvement Scheme funding announcement. Mr. Edmond Kenny, Senior Executive Engineer advised the Members that Laois County Council are currently processing the applications from 2018 under the scheme. Councillor Kelly proposed that a letter issue to the Department in this regard and this was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken requesting the Minister for additional funding to be given in respect of the schemes on hand.

### **(3) Notice of Motions**

#### **Notice of Motion No: 37/2022**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council re-surface the road at Cullahill Mountain”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member at the site to inspect and prepare costings to resurface the road.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 38/2022**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council clean and point the stonework at the old bridge in Durrow”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that a bridge inspection will be undertaken to confirm the condition of the structure. The Elected Member will be updated on the condition of the bridge following the inspection.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 39/2022**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install a bus shelter in Ballacolla Village”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Mr. Edmond Kenny, S.E.E. will contact Councillor Clooney to arrange a meeting in Ballacolla to view the location. The Council will include it as part of any future applications for bus stops.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 40/2022**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out a survey on the headstones in the old Kyle Cemetery, Ballaghmore and write up a register of all those buried there, for the benefit of local genealogy and historical research”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Heritage Office has worked with communities to provide training and assist the community to record the headstones in historic graveyards. This training could be organised for Old Kyle, and the community assisted in compiling the records for upload to the historic graves website, <https://historicgraves.com/> which already holds memorial records for many graveyards in Laois and nationwide. The entry for Old Kyle Graveyard at the Historic Graves website is at <https://historicgraves.com/graveyard/kyle-abbey/la-kyab>

**Notice of Motion No: 41/2022**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install a new section of footpath adjacent to property in Coolrain to extend the current footpaths in the village for the benefit of walkers in the area and to supplement the great work undertaken by Coolrain Tidy Towns in the village”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member in the village to inspect the exiting footpaths and to examine the need for an extension.

**Notice of Motion No: 42/2022**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out urgent road repairs on the L-15123 at Curraghmore, Borris-In-Ossory in the interests of the safety of road users”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that maintenance crews will attend to this road in the coming weeks.

***Councillor John King’s apologies were noted for the meeting and it was noted that his Notice of Motions would be tabled for consideration on the agenda for the May Meeting as follows:-***

**43/2022- Councillor John King**

***“That this Council provide street lighting on the public road at the entrance to the Glebe housing Estate and Clarney Hall Estate Rathdowney as this area is extremely busy with ongoing traffic both day and night with cattle trucks and other heavy vehicles delivering goods to town on a daily basis”***

**44/2022 – Councillor John King**

“That this Council provide an update on the application for funding to straighten the road at Middlemount Rathdowney as unfortunately this road has claimed the lives of young people over the last few years”

**45/2022– Councillor John King**

“That this Council designate a walking route starting from Brand Central Rathdowney via Ballybuggy/ Harristown Belady cemetery and return to town from Donaghmore road and also second route via Errill Road. This project is part of the Healthy Ireland programme”

**Notice of Motion No: 46/2022**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on a Cycling Strategy Plan for Mountmellick as announced by the N.T.A.”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that in Q3 2022, Laois County Council will commission a Transport Plan for Mountmellick. The Transport Plan will consider various transportation objectives for Mountmellick including the facilitation of enhanced mobility and permeability for pedestrians and cyclists. The Transport Plan, once finalised, will then inform and advise the new Mountmellick Local Area Plan.

**Notice of Motion No: 47/2022**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council provide electric charging points in O’Connell Square in Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that the Council will examine the possibility of installing EV charge points in O’Connell Square and make provision for possible future installation.

**Notice of Motion No: 48/2022**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the progress, if any, on the provision of a sewerage extension to Manor Lane, Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council recently prepared cost estimates for the installation of a public sewer in Manor Lane, however Irish Water have confirmed that there are no plans to put a public sewer at Manor road. A Group Sewerage Scheme could be considered for this area. In order to progress the option of a Group Sewerage Scheme the individual homeowners would have to make a formal application.

### **Notice of Motion No: 49/2022**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out road widening safety measures at the Rushin Road Bridge adjacent to Mountrath Livestock Mart”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has secured a grant of €50,000 to complete the required works to the Rushin Bridge. It is anticipated that these works will be completed in the summer of 2022.

### **Notice of Motion No: 50/2022**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council carry out a survey in the Borris in Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal Area to identify its most dangerous roadway bends and secure funding to install flashing warning enhancements on the already fixed chevron warning signs”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will meet the Elected Member to identify locations of concern with a view to undertaking a survey of these locations.

### **Notice of Motion No: 51/2022**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out road safety measures as a matter of urgency on the rapidly deteriorating Stoney Road, Derrynaseera, Camross”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that maintenance crews will attend to this road in the coming weeks.

### **Notice of Motion No: 52/2022**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out repairs at Rearymore, Rosenallis”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that maintenance crews will attend to this road in the coming weeks.

**Notice of Motion No: 53/2022**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council repair road at Clonaslee Pig Farm”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that maintenance crews will attend to this road in the coming weeks.

**Notice of Motion No: 54/2022**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council put in place traffic calming at the Mountmellick Road, Clonaslee and also Chapel Street”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that as part of the 2021 low cost safety improvement schemes a pedestrian crossing with flashing beacons as well as new line marking to reduce speed was installed on the Mountmellick Road outside Clonaslee. As part of the 2019 low cost safety improvement schemes a pedestrian crossing with flashing beacons as well as new line marking to reduce speed was installed on Chapel Street, Clonaslee. The Road Design Section are available to consult further with the Councillor on this matter if required.

**(4) Correspondence**

It was noted that no correspondence had been received since the last meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

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**Director of Corporate  
Affairs**