

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THE 9TH OF DECEMBER 2021

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the November Meeting of Borris-In-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 18th of November 2021

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor John King, the minutes of the November meeting held on the 18th of November 2021 were confirmed as circulated.

(2) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the November meeting of the Municipal District

(3) Schedule of Meetings for 2022 & Fix Date for Next Meeting

The Members were circulated with the schedule of meetings for 2022 and it was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the 18th of January 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

(4) Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion No: 163/2021

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council apply to The Department of Transport for funding to resurface the R445 on Main Street Mountrath which is in such a poor state of repair that it is not fit for purpose”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has applied to the Department of Transport for funding under the former national roads grant programme at the location identified. Funding allocations under this programme are expected to be communicated to Laois County Council in mid-February 2022.

Notice of Motion No: 164/2021

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council apply once again for funding from the Rural Regeneration Development Fund to help transform the Courthouse on the Main Street Borris in Ossory to its former state”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council are awaiting the result of the most recent application to the Department of Rural and Community Development in respect of this project. any further application would be premature pending the results of that process first

Notice of Motion No: 165/2021

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council allocate funding from its 2022 budget to install a pedestrian crossing on the R445 adjacent to Mountrath Community School”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange a site meeting with the elected member for requirement and location of Pedestrian crossing and prepare the proposal.

Notice of Motion No: 166/2021

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the serious road safety issues at the traffic lights on the R435 at the junction/bridge at Ballybrophy Railway Station”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange site meeting with elected member to discuss issues at this location and proposal will be prepared to rectify problem.

Notice of Motion No: 167/2021

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect a new fence between the boundary of the derelict site in the Kyle Manor estate in Borris-In-Ossory and the Rock Road residents. This estate was left unfinished a number of years ago and it is

extremely dangerous at present as the fence securing the derelict site has collapsed at the rear of a number of private households”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council are currently awaiting the return of quotations for the provision of the fence and should be in a position to provide same early in the New Year.

Notice of Motion No: 168/2021

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council urgently address the illegal dumping and littering issues on the Shannon Road in Mountrath as a matter of priority”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that The Environment Section has received several representations on illegal dumping/littering at a particular location on the Shannon Road, Mountrath.

Inspections were carried out and no evidence of illegal dumping incidents were detected. The Litter Warden carried out a survey of the Shannon Road on the 8th of December 2021 and reported that there is no evidence of illegal dumping incidents.

The Litter Warden will continue to carry out regular inspections on the Shannon Road. All communications from the public on illegal dumping are greatly appreciated

Notice of Motion No: 169/2021

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council resurface a section of the R5578 at Parknahown, Cullohill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will assess this road in the overall context of the development of a future roads programme.

Notice of Motion No: 170/2021

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council give an update on the proposed works at Cork Road, Durrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the Roads section has undertaken a topographical survey of the Cork Road in Durrow that will inform the design of the project. The next stage of the project is to progress the appointment of consultants to complete the design which

will then be brought through the Part 8 public consultation process. Once the Part 8 process is completed, the project will be delivered on the ground.

Notice of Motion No: 171/2021

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council put in place traffic calming measures at Park Cross, Ballacolla”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member at the site to examine the road layout and the options available to improve safety.

Notice of Motion No: 172/2021

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council increase car parking facilities in Quigley Park Rathdowney due to the limited area available in front of private houses”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Area Engineer will meet the Councillor on site to ascertain the extent of any issues in this location.

Notice of Motion No: 173/2021

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council make provision under road safety measures for 2022 regarding installing pedestrian crossing and lighting outside playground and school entrance at St Fergal’s College Rathdowney as the number one project for the new year. This is a serious black spot awaiting for an accident to occur”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange site meeting with elected member for requirement and location of Pedestrian crossing and prepare the proposal.

Notice of Motion No: 174/2021

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council erect two wheelchair signs at Ballyedmond Road, Rathdowney to provide safety for a wheelchair user living nearby”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member to review the signage requirements in this area.

Notice of Motion No: 175/2021

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council be updated on what future plans there are for the Council owned property which was formerly the Malthouse at Irishtown, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that The Maltings Building is important to the Heritage of Mountmellick and the Council are keen to ensure an appropriate mix of uses which can benefit the community as a whole will be considered and designed for. The Maltings building is a protected Structure and so requires the necessary Conservation expertise to inform future proposals in relation to its reuse and redevelopment. Funding options in relation to its future use will have to be explored depending on the use identified.

Notice of Motion No: 176/2021

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council replace the section of footpath from Gorragh Bridge to St. Manmans Cemetery, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member to inspect the footpaths at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 177/2021

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provide an update on the taking in charge of the following housing estates, Silverwood, Slilverglen & Silverbrook, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Silverwood, Silverglen, & Silverbrook is on our programme for Taking in Charge in 2022 however this is subject to completion of any outstanding works. CCTV indicate remedial works required to the sewer line at Silverwood– further accurate costing will be required before the remedial work may be undertaken

Notice of Motion No: 178/2021

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council make safe the road at Skerry, Rosenallis as there has been two accidents at this location recently”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the elected member at this location to examine the options available to address the safety concerns.

Notice of Motion No: 179/2021

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council put in place traffic calming at Rosenallis Road, Clonaslee and also extend the footpath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council have recently commenced the installation of a pedestrian crossing on the R422 on the Rosenallis Road in Clonaslee. This crossing will reduce traffic speeds at this location. In relation to the request for a new footpath at this location LCC will arrange to meet the Elected Member to inspect the site.

Notice of Motion No: 180/2021

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding problem at Clonduff, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will undertake a level survey at this location to identify a suitable outfall to relieve this flooding problem.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor James Kelly brought the matter of the recent advertisement for expressions of interest for advance purchase arrangements for un-commenced Residential Developments to the Members attention and same was discussed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Director of Corporate
Affairs

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