

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE
20th OF FEBRUARY 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, Ms. Orla Barrett, S.E.E., Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 17TH OF JANUARY 2019

On the proposition of Councillor John King seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan, the Minutes of the January meeting held on the 17th of January 2019 were confirmed as circulated.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

3. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the 21st of March 2019 at 9.30 a.m.

4. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 19/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the serious issue of parking at the Fire Station and Laois Kayak and Canoe Club, Swan Road, Durrrow and prepare a road design plan to prevent a serious accident occurring at this very busy junction”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that access to the Kayak and Canoe Club facilities continues to be facilitated by the Fire Station. A review of parking for Kayak and Canoe Club members will be carried out and any issues will be referred to Road Design.

A discussion ensued during which it was requested that the access be reviewed with a view to improving the situation at this location. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would investigate the matter further.

Notice of Motion No: 20/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give a date for when the promised bus shelters will be installed on the R445 at Castletown and at Patrick Street Mountrath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the delivery of bus shelters will be subject to funding. The National Transport Authority has confirmed that, while Castletown does not qualify for bus shelters under its policy, Mountrath qualifies for a bus shelter in each direction, but funding has not been made available to date.

Notice of Motion No: 21/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council as part of its Low Carbon Town Projects strategy advise when work will commence at Mountrath and Borris in Ossory with the retrofitting of existing street lights with energy saving LED’s and if additional street lights will be installed in poorly lit area’s”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that replacement of 55W SOX lamp to Energy efficient LED lights for Mountrath and Borris in Ossory will commence in June 2019. There is no additional funding at present to install new street lighting poles.

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services indicated that funding will come from our capital programme

Notices of Motion No: 22/2019 & 31/2019 were taken as follows:-

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council remove the dangerous trees at Camross Cemetery”

This motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin.

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council remove dangerous trees from cemetery in Camross as a matter of urgency”

This motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken.

The Members were advised that contract documents are currently under preparation for essential cemetery works including the provision of paths and plinths to delineate additional grave spaces in existing cemeteries and it is envisaged that on completion of the contract documentation a Cemetery Improvement Works Programme for each Municipal District will be prepared for 2019 in time for the Schedule of Municipal Works at the March meeting. The removal of any inappropriate and dangerous leylandii trees planted around the extension of Camross Cemetery can be considered for inclusion in the 2019 programme subject to sufficient funding and the members agreement. A provisional programme will be issued to the members of each MD for their recommendations, the final programme will be prepared on receipt of the members' input.

The Members expressed serious concern regarding overgrown trees. Ms. Orla Barrett, S.E. indicated that the planting of trees is prohibited in cemeteries in accordance with the by-laws.

Notice of Motion No: 23/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect ‘No Dumping Signs’ at Hillview, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that three no dumping signs have been erected in Hillview, Clonaslee

Notice of Motion No: 24/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council replace foot bridge at Clonduff, Rosenallis and also repair bridge at Rearyvalley”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that these bridges appear to have been provided as accommodation bridges by the Barrow Drainage Board. The Council will seek to repair the footbridge at Clonduff and will arrange a structural inspection and report of the bridge at Rearyvalley. Repairs to the bridge at Rearyvalley will be subject to funding.

Notice of Motion No: 25/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the continuous water damage that is being done to the library in Rathdowney as a result of water coming through the roof and ceiling and nothing seems to be done to solve this problem”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council’s Capital Indicative Programme 2019-2021 included a draft provision of €100,000 for Rathdowney Library Fabric upgrade. Interim maintenance measures will be carried out pending the future fabric and roof upgrade.

Notice of Motion No: 26/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council extend footpath at the recycling centre in Errill village in order to make area safe for patrons using this facility”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that proposals for this footpath will be costed and funding will be examined.

Notice of Motion No: 27/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install amber arrow cautionary signs at the bad bends near property at Ballymeelish, Killesmeelia as this area is becoming an accident black spot”

This Notice of motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that this will be completed shortly.

Notice of Motion No: 28/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council improve road surface at Kilbreedy, Rathdowney”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that this road is proposed for inclusion in the 2019 Roadworks Programme.

Notice of Motion No: 29/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out repairs at Lismuracha”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that repairs will be completed shortly at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 30/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council address flooding underneath the Railway Bridge at Coolowley, Errill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the Council is currently engaging with Iarnród Éireann at this location to resolve the flooding issue.

Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that interim maintenance measures are also being considered.

Notice of Motion No: 32/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council extend continuous white line from 50 km sign at Belair, Clonaslee into the village”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that this section of road will be included in the 2019 Road Marking programme.

Notice of Motion No: 33/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council mark one/two parking bays at the Post office, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this area is currently designated as a taxi rank at night and a bus stop during the day. Any changes to the designated use would require changes to the Parking Bye-Laws.

The Members expressed concern and indicated there is a requirement to review parking arrangements in the Square in order to resolve this matter.

Notice of Motion No: 34/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the road safety issues at the junction of Strahard Lane and Emo Road, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that an application for funding to address road safety issues at this location in 2019 was not successful. The Council will continue to seek funding for road safety measures at this location.

Mr. Stan Cullen, A.S.E.E. indicated that there are some minor measures which will be carried out in the interim.

Notice of Motion No: 35/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council in conjunction with TII upgrade the junction and public lighting at the Ballyfin Road/Derrycloney junction off the N80”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will be looking options to improve this junction with TII safety section. Installation of lighting will also be considered at this location. Any works will be subject to funding being approved.

Notice of Motion No: 36/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council repair the bad section of road at Harbour Street, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this work is currently being procured and will be carried out shortly.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

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

7. VOTE OF BEST WISHES

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken, Chairman of the Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District, the Members unanimously extended a vote of best wishes to Mr. Ger O' Mahony, Overseer in the Borris-in-Ossosry/Mountmellick area on his forthcoming retirement and thanked Mr. O' Mahony for all his work across the Municipal District particularly in the Mountmellick area.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
**DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS**