

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL  
DISTRICT HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE  
15<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE 2017**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Executive Engineer, & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary, Corporate Affairs.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY 2017**

On the proposition of Councillor David Goodwin seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald the Minutes of the May meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 were confirmed as circulated.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising

**3. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW**

Mr. Dermot Leonard, Assistant Engineer, Roads Department & Mr. Darren Coss, Civil Technician Grade 1, Water Services briefed the meeting on the Speed Limit Review which is currently taking place across the County as part of the National review.

The Members were circulated with the draft bye-law proposals, illustration drawings and a schedule of submissions for the Regional and Local Roads in County Laois. Also circulated was the Schedule of Submissions and the proposed amendments to the Speed Limit Bye-Laws for the National Secondary Roads and Motorway (TII), which were previously presented to the Members on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

The Members were briefed on the process and were advised that the review would go on public display for a period of 30 days and the advertisement will be placed in the papers in late July/early August

Mr. Leonard responded to the various queries raised by the Members in relation to various locations in their Municipal District.

#### 4. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District would be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2017 at 9.30 a.m. in the Fine Gael Room.

#### 5. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

##### Notice of Motion No: 87/2017

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council upgrade the white line road markings at Ballaghmore village and the turn off to Knock at Charleville(R445)”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that road markings are currently being upgraded on the R445 Regional road on the Dublin side of Borris-In-Ossory, under the Road lining contract. If additional specific funding becomes available the next phase of road markings will include the turn off to Knock at Charleville.

##### Notice of Motion No: 88/2017

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council in light of the recent announcement by Irish Public Bodies that it is to re-distribute €2.65 million over the next 3 years to Laois County Council replace/upgrade the footpaths at Shannon Road and Fr O’Connor Crescent Mountrath”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that upon announcement by Irish Public Bodies of the precise details of the scheme, Laois County Council will then decide upon the relative apportionment for particular locations, which will be selected on a risk management based approach.

Councillor Brendan Phelan expressed concern in relation to the distribution of the monies when they become available and requested that some funds be available to alleviate rates on small businesses. Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Executive Engineer indicated that it could be further discussed when the budget is being considered later in the year.

**Notice of Motion No: 89/2017**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council replace/upgrade the footpaths at St Canice’s Terrace Borris in Ossory”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has carried repairs in St Canice’s Terrace on the sections of footpath in most need of repair. Further improvements at this location is dependent on the availability of funding

**Notice of Motion No: 90/2017**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:

***“That this Council carry out road markings on the regional road from Errill village to Listuff quarry following upgrade of works this summer as there is parts of this road with no markings at all”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that the road markings will be upgraded this year as part of the contract to strengthen the road from Errill Village for 800 metres.

**Notice of Motion No: 91/2017**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council develop a plan for the enhancement of the Square Rathdowney, with local vested interest such as Tidy towns/ Rathdowney Vision Group, with a view to upgrade Foothpaths / Kerbs/road markings /trim trees/replace damaged seats and new public lighting”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the development of such a plan is generally community led and undertaken by interested stakeholders within a community. Laois County Council will assist and input into the development of such a plan.

Councillor Brendan Phelan requested that the town of Rathdowney be upgraded over the next couple of years. Mr. Paul McLoughlin indicated that a review could possibly be carried out to establish the works which are required to be carried out.

**Notice of Motion No: 92/2017**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council review the excess land at Curraghmore Borris in Ossory as it is an eyesore at the moment with broken wooden railing and disused road signs following NRA works that were carried out some time ago”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that the Laois National Roads Project Office are aware of this matter and are liaising with both the landowner and the Kildare National Roads Office in order to finalise same.

**Notice of Motion No: 93/2017**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council in conjunction with the T.I.I. erect gateway sign and a speed radar sign on the N80 Road at Graigue, Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that Road Design is currently working on Safety Scheme at this section of N80 which will be submitted to TII for funding approval. Subject to approval from TII gateway signs will be installed.

**Notice of Motion No: 94/2017**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council provide a pedestrian crossing at Fox’s corner, Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that the area referred to by the Councillor shall be included in an application to the Department of Transport under the Road Safety Remedial Measures Programme. The area will be examined with a view to Junction Realignment, and Signing & Lining.

Councillor Bracken indicated that there is a serious issue at this location which is a very busy junction off the N80 and needs to be addressed.

**Notice of Motion No: 95/2017**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council in conjunction with the T.I.I. upgrade the public lighting on the N80 at Irishtown, Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Road Design is currently working on proposal for Safety Scheme at this section of N80. If funding is approved by TII lights will be upgraded at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 96/2017**

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council restore road markings outside Dunnes Stores in Rathdowney”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will restore the road markings indicating a turning lane to Dunnes Stores at this location

**Notice of Motion No: 97/2017**

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council improve street lighting in Borris-in-Ossory”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that all existing lights are operational. At present there is no funding available to upgrade lights in Borris-in-Ossory.

The Members requested that an audit be carried out at this location as there is a serious need for lighting in the town. Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Executive Engineer indicated that he would check the bond situation with the planning department.

**Notice of Motion No: 98/2017**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council provide traffic calming measures at Camross Village”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that there is existing road markings and signage on the approach to Camross Village provide warning to road users to slow down. The issue of speeding in the village will be raised at the Road Safety Working Together Group and referred for assistance to An Garda Síochána to assist with enforcement of the posted speed limit.

**Notice of Motion No: 99/2017**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council provide traffic calming measures at Rosenallis and also extend the speed limit sign at the GAA Field”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that a member of the Road Design department will arrange to meet the Councillor at the location to consider the relocation of the speed limit sign as part of the Speed Limit Review.

**Notice of Motion No: 100/2017**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council provide speed radar signs at the Pike of Rushall National School”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that there is existing road markings and signage on the approach to The Pike of Rushall school which provide warning to road users to slow down. The issue of speeding at the site will be raised at the Road Safety Working Together Group and referred for assistance of An Garda Síochána to enforce the speed limit.

This concluded the business of the meeting

**Signed:**

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CATHAOIRLEACH

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DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE  
AFFAIRS