

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD IN THE FINE GAEL ROOM, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS  
ON THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER 2023**

**PRESENT:**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the September meeting of Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2023**

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the minutes of the September meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 were confirmed as circulated.

**(2) Matters Arising**

The following matters were raised by Councillor James Kelly:

Notice of Motion No: 48/2023 considered at the April 2023 Municipal District:-

**“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding issues on the R435/L1517 junction at Drennan’s Public House and Green Roads Borris in Ossory”**

Notice of Motion No: 91/2023 considered at the September 2023 Municipal District:

**“That Laois County Council carry out immediate works on the L1510 road at Kilmartin & Ballintaggart Borris in Ossory to provide road safety for all”**

It was agreed that an update be sought from the Senior Executive Engineer on these matters.

### (3) Notice of Motions

#### **Notice of Motion No: 105/2023**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council apply to the Department of Transport for funding for resurfacing the R445 (formerly N7) at the Pike of Rushall under ‘Former National Roads’ as part of the 2024 investment programme for regional and local roads to be announced early next year”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that the Roads Department will include the section of the R445 (formerly N7) at the Pike of Rushall as part of Laois County Council’s application for Former National Roads funding in 2024.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 106/2023**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council address the road safety issues at Kirwan’s cross on the L-1619 at Cuddagh, Castletown as a matter of priority”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Roads Department will apply to the Department of Transport for funding under the Safety Improvement Works Programme 2024 for works at this junction.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 107/2023**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council address the road flooding issues on the L-1520 road at Newtown, Skirk, Ballybrophy”**

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 area of concern.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 108/2023**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council install traffic calming measures as a matter of urgency at Castletown National School, Elderfield, Castletown”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section in conjunction with the MD Office will review the current provision and assess what additional measures are required at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 109/2023**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council as a matter of urgency replace the pedestrian bridge over the River Gully adjacent to Ard Erin View housing estate in Camross village”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that fabrication works are scheduled to commence in November on the pedestrian bridge and it's expected that all work will be complete before the end of the year.

**Notice of Motion No: 110/2023**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council carry out remedial works at, Derrynaseera, Carmross to divert rainwater from adjacent road which is causing flooding at the two properties”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that an Engineer will inspect the existing drainage infrastructure at this site to determine the cause of the flooding issues. A level survey will be undertaken at the site to identify a possible drainage outfall to solve this issue.

Councillor Kelly requested that a residence also be included at Derrynaseera.

**Notice of Motion No: 111/2023**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council repair Old Road at Castlecuffe, Clonaslee”**

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 to inspect this bypassed road which now provides access to residential and agricultural entrances. An application to resurface the roads could be considered under a Community Involvement Scheme.

**Notice of Motion No: 112/2023**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council erect ‘Children At Play’ signs at Cush, Clonaslee”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will review this area to determine interventions needed to improve the road safety

**Notice of Motion No: 113/2023**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council erect No Dumping signs at Brogla, Clonaslee near the County Boundary”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that maintenance crews will replace the No Dumping signage at this location in the coming weeks.

The following two Notice of Motions were taken together:-

**114/2023 - Councillor John King**

**“That Laois County Council carry out drainage works on the road close to the GAA grounds in Ballacolla as a matter of urgency. Laois County Council have erected a sign stating ‘flooded area’ – this road is extremely busy at all times due to traffic from the motorway and also patrons attending local national school”**

**117/2023 - Councillor Ollie Clooney**

**“That Laois County Council install measures to alleviate flooding on the R433 outside Ballacolla towards Rathdowney”**

These Notice of Motions were seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that drainage works will be completed at this location in the new year.

**Notice of Motion No: 115/2023**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council install post and rail fencing at Dorothy’s cross Rathdowney to coincide with new footpaths and fencing that was done in the area recently - the old existing fence has served this junction for over 50 years”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that fencing works will be completed as part of the active travel measures to improve safety at the junction for pedestrians.

**Notice of Motion No: 116/2023**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council carry out a survey for Main Street, Rathdowney to design proper parking and set down areas for shopping and also keeping the footpaths free from cars to allow pedestrians and wheelchair users to move freely with no obstruction. The purpose of this survey is to allow free flow of traffic through the town and should be carried out as a matter of urgency before a serious accident occurs”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council have engaged Consultant Engineers to prepare a preliminary design in respect of Main Street, Rathdowney. The design will focus on providing improved facilities for pedestrians, dedicated short-term parking for business whilst also improving the safe flow of traffic at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 118/2023**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council clean the River Gully from Ballacolla to Dunmore Wood, as a matter of urgency”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will engage the services of a Consultant Ecologist to inspect the physical constraints to flow on the River Gully between the confluence with the River Nore and the Gully bridge at Clonoghill. The removal of blockages will be included on the 2024 river drainage maintenance schedule.

**Notice of Motion No: 119/2023**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council implement safety measures at Castlewood Cross, Rath, Durrow”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road Design office will review the existing junction and consider options for improving safety at the junction. TII have overall

responsibility for the national road and any development or improvements will require TII approval.

**Notice of Motion: 120/2023**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council address the serious flooding on the N80 at Emmett Street, Mountmellick”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road Design Office will investigate solutions to alleviate the flooding issues along the N80 on Emmett Street.

**Notice of Motion No: 121/2023**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council taking in charge of Chapel Lane off Chapel Street, Mountmellick”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will assist the local residents in commencing the application for the Statutory taking in charge process.

**Notice of Motion No: 122/2023**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That Laois County Council carry out traffic calming measures on the road from Derrycloney Bridge to Cloonagh, Mountmellick”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that The Road Design Section will undertake a speed survey along the stretch of road identified. Following analysis of the information gathered consideration as required will be given to potential measurers.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Councillor Ollie Clooney raised the matter of bus shelters in the Municipal District Area and requested that consideration to the erection of more bus shelters be prioritised as a matter of urgency.

**5. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next monthly meeting of the Municipal District would be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

It was further agreed that the 2024 Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District meetings be scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month at 9.30 a.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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Director of Services