

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE 17th OF SEPTEMBER 2020**

PRESENT:

Councillor	John King
Councillor	Paddy Bracken
Councillor	Seamus McDonald (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor	James Kelly
Councillor	Ollie Clooney
Councillor	Conor Bergin

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 MINUTES OF THE JUNE MONTHLY MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 18TH OF JUNE 2020

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin, the Minutes of the June meeting held on the 18th of June 2020 were confirmed as circulated.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 18TH OF JUNE 2020

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor John King, the Minutes of the A.G.M. held on the 18th of June 2020 were confirmed as circulated.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Kelly referred to Notice of Motion No: 50/2020 in relation to the repair of internal footpaths and resurfacing at the entrance of the Local Cemetery in Rathdowney. It was agreed that the Engineer with responsibility for the Cemeteries would be requested to meet Councillor Kelly on site.

A discussion ensued during which Members enquired regarding works in privately owned cemeteries and Laois County Council owned cemeteries.

Mr. Brennan, Director of Services indicated that a full of same would be available at the next meeting of the Municipal District. Councillor James Kelly proposed that funding be sought for the works to be carried out in both Rathdowney & Castletown Cemeteries. This proposal was seconded by Councillor John King.

Councillor Paddy Bracken raised the issue of the purchase of a pump in the event of flooding during the winter period.

Notice of Motion No: 55/2020

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council erect new safety signs and barriers before the Conoboro bridge Rathdowney, on the Ballacolla road, to indicate the danger at this busy junction”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the existing signage on the approach roads to the bridge will be reviewed. The signage will be improved where found to be inadequate.

Notice of Motion No: 56/2020

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install new kerbing around the green area at the junction known as Bannons cross Errill, to coincide with the village plan of works which is being done by Errill Tidy Towns Committee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that the layout of the junction will be assessed with a particular focus on visibility for road users wishing to exit the junction. The turning radius for HGVs will also be considered. Once this review is complete the Councillor will be advised of the outcome.

Notice of Motion No: 57/2020

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council include in its road programme for 2021 the Coolowley Tullaccommon road to Killesmeestia, as this road can be no longer patched”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. 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: 58/2020

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resurface Brockra Lane, Ballyfin as a matter of urgency due to extremely poor road conditions”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. 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: 59/2020

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the serious speeding issues on the R434 at Aghaboe, Clough by installing new traffic calming measures”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange a site meeting with elected member to identify exact location and issue. Once issues are identified Road Design section will prepare traffic calming proposals.

Notice of Motion No: 60/2020 & 61/2020 were taken together as follows:

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the parking issues on the L-20103 at Glenbarrow, Rosenallis”

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update regarding discussions to purchase land to extend the car park at Glenbarrow”

These Notice of Motions were seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that an environmental screening report was recently commissioned by Laois County Council to determine the feasibility of developing nearby Coillte lands into an overflow car park. Once this report is complete the Councillor will be advised of the outcome.

The Members indicated that there is a requirement for car parking at this location as due to large crowds using the tourist attraction. There are difficulties for the residents there as there is only 34 spaces available and when these become full cars are left abandoned and on occasion residents are barricaded into their homes.

The Members referred to similar locations around the country that have private car parks. It was noted also that there is a current application for a car park at this location. Mr. Edmond Kenny, A/Senior Executive Engineer again referred to discussions with Coillte regarding the securing of land for an overflow car park and Members would be advised of the outcome.

Notice of Motion No: 62/2020

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council reduce dangerous tree near property at Garrymore, Geashill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that a meeting will be arranged on site with the Councillor to examine the issue at this site.

Notice of Motion No: 63/2020

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council put in place traffic calming on the Rosenallis Road at Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section will arrange a site meeting with Elected member to identify exact location and safety issue.

Notice of Motion No: 64/2020

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council provide funding to repair the following bridges – Deerpark, The Knocks, Esker & Clonurk in Ballyfin, Blackwater Bridge in Derrycloney & Skerry, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that the bridges identified will be visited by the Laois County Council staff and cleared of vegetation for further inspection.

Notice of Motion No: 65/2020

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the surface water issue at Derryguile, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that a meeting will be arranged on site with the Councillor to examine the issue at this site.

Notice of Motion No: 66/2020

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the storm/surface water issues between Brockview Housing estate & Davitt Court housing estate in Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that a network survey will be undertaken in both estates to determine the line and level of the existing systems. Once the cause of the issue is ascertained the Councillor will be advised.

Notice of Motion No: 67/2020

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install a charging point for Electric cars in Durrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council is in process of appointing contractor for installation and maintenance of Electric vehicle charging points in County Laois. In Phase one Electric Vehicle Charging points will be installed in Portlaoise funded by URDF. LCC plans to roll out Phase 2 of the provision of charge points next year to other towns in the county subject to funding being available.

Notice of Motion No: 68/2020

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“ That this Council put in place a Traffic Island on the Cork Road at the entrance to Sean Doire Estate”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Road Design Section will arrange a site meeting with Elected member to identify exact location and safety issue.

Notice of Motion No: 69/2020

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out an inspection at Coolderry lane L56361 Ballacolla with the view to improving same”

The 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: 70/2020

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council secures funding and provides space for the provision of Smart Cycle Stops in the towns and villages of our Municipal, that are in close proximity to the Sliabh Bloom Cycle Way.”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that Laois County Council recently sought funding for a series of minor improvements along the Slieve Bloom Cycle track for the purposes of rest, relaxation, recharging and bicycle repair while enjoying all that the Slieve Bloom Mountains and cycle/walking tracks have to offer. The Councillor will be advised on the outcome of this funding application.

Notice of Motion No: 71/2020

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install a pedestrian crossing at the Square Mountrath to improve road safety for all.”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that a crossing point for pedestrians in Market Square will be installed to improve accessibility for users of all ages and abilities.

Notice of Motion No: 72/2020

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out road resurfacing from the Rushin Road to Paddock National School Mountrath as a matter of urgency.”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that re-surfacing works are scheduled in the coming weeks between Mountrath and Paddock on the R440.

3. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that next meeting would be held on the 15th of October 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS

