

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-  
OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THE 22<sup>nd</sup> OF SEPTEMBER  
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 July Meeting of Borris-In-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2021**

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the minutes of the July meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2021 were confirmed as circulated.

**(2) Matters Arising**

Councillor Kelly sought an update on the following two Notice of Motions:

**Notice of Motion: 89/2021**

***“That Laois County Council as a matter of urgency repair the boundary fence at Moonbawn Housing Estate Mountrath”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that Estate Management has sought costings for the repair of this boundary fence. However, repair works will be determined by the availability of sufficient financial resources in this year’s budget.

Mr. Edmond Kenny, A/S.E.E. indicated that quotations are currently being sought for fencing at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 90/2021**

***“That Laois County Council as a matter of urgency repair the boundary fence dividing Arderin Housing Estate and the Delour River at Camross village”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that this matter has been referred to the technical team for inspection and recommendation.

Mr. Edmond Kenny, A/S.E.E. indicated that the Nore Ecological Survey for the repair of the basin wall is currently ongoing.

Councillor John King raised concerns regarding the footpaths at St. Fergal’s School & at Conoboro Road, Rathdowney.

Councillor Paddy Bracken acknowledged the work of Larry Gittens and M Kavanagh recently regarding the borewell in Straboe and also to Kavanaghs Pump Services.

**(3) Fix Date for Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on the **21<sup>st</sup> of October 2021**

**(4) Business Incentive Scheme**

Ms. Denise Rainey, Business Development Officer with the Business Support Unit outlined the background to the proposals for a Business Incentive Scheme for Borris-in-Ossory which will provide a grant incentive for new businesses to locate in premises that have been vacant for a period exceeding six months and to encourage diversity of retail opportunities within a designated areas. The Scheme was welcomed by all Members. Following a general discussion, the Members unanimously agreed to the adoption of the Business Incentive Scheme for Borris-in-Ossory as presented.

**(5) Notice of Motions**

**Notice of Motion No: 106/2021**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out a survey and repairs to the footpath to address subsidence issues at the Cemetery on the R435 Road in Rathdowney”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member at the site to examine the recent subsidence of the footpath.

**Notice of Motion No: 107/2021**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council place a weight restriction on the L-5597 road at Corraun between Agahaboe Cross and Kilcotton Cross to prevent Heavy Goods Vehicles from using the road as a shortcut- causing damage to the road and making it unsafe for residents”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will inspect the bridge structures on this route to determine the need to impose a weight restriction.

**Notice of Motion No: 108/2021**

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council upgrade and resurface the footpath at St. Fergal’s Church, Camross”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member at the site to inspect the footpaths.

**Notice of Motion No: 109/2021**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council include the Kilbricken Road L5661 for resurfacing in the 2022 programme”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. 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: 110/2021**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install traffic calming ramps from the primary school gate to Daybreak shop, on the Square in Durrow”***

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 assess the need of ramps at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 111/2021**

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council repair the wall on the Cork Road, Durrow from the old school house to the entrance of The Lions AFC pitch”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. 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: 112/2021**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council in conjunction with Irish Water address the lack of mains sewage in the following locations in Mountmellick:-***

- ***Manor Road/Manor Lane***
- ***Wolfe Tone Street***
- ***Garroon***
- ***Townsparks***
- ***Pond Lane***
- ***Salthouse Lane***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that the responsibility for new foul water sewerage schemes lies with Irish Water, subject to the normal planning considerations. Other avenues for new sewers include developer-led sewers and Group Sewerage Schemes, both of which are subject to the Irish Water connection processes.

Councillor Bracken expressed concern about this issue and requested that the Water Services Section liaise with Irish Water in relation to same.

**Notice of Motion No: 113/2021**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council install surface water drainage at Acragar, Mountmellick”***

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 at the site to determine the cause of the drainage issue and identify a solution.

**Notice of Motion No: 114/2021**

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council be updated as to what plans are in place for future river maintenance on the River Barrow upstream from Mountmellick”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that over the past 2 years Laois County Council have completed maintenance works on the rivers Owenass & Barrow downstream of Mountmellick. The remainder of the current 5 year Multi Annual River Drainage Programme will focus on the removal of impediments to flow from the channel of the River Barrow both upstream and downstream of Mountmellick. These works will involve the removal of overhanging branches and trees growing within the channel and the removal of dry deposited/ accumulated material within the river channel.

**Notice of Motion No: 115/2021**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council put in place traffic calming measures at the Owenass Bridge, Skerry, Rosenallis”***

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 review the signage and road markings on the approach to this bridge.

**Notice of Motion No: 116/2021**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council repair the footpath at Slieve Bloom Park, Clonaslee and extend the pat at Bellair”***

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 the site to inspect the damaged footpaths and the need for an extension to the existing footpath at Bellair.

**Notice of Motion No: 117/2021**

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council make safe Shelly’s corner at Rosenallis and also traffic calming at the village”***

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 site to inspect the road layout and review options for improving traffic movements in the village.

**Notice of Motion No: 118/2021**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council as a matter of urgency install two by school warning signs at the newly built Gaelscoil Thromaire, Mountrath”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council have surveyed the approach roads to the new school and will install the warning signage.

**Notice of Motion No: 119/2021**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out urgent repairs to the damaged bridge over the Gully River at Cuddagh South”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will attend to these bridge repairs this week.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 120/2021**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out a Topographical Survey for Mountrath Town Centre to aid in providing a planning and design report re new road layouts, cycle ways, public realm, lighting etc”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that A scope of works for a Topographical survey for the centre of Mountrath Town will be prepared in the coming weeks.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 121/2021**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council put in a public notice into all papers requesting all landowners to undergo trimming back the sides of all hedgerows on busy roads where school buses/milk trucks and patrons travelling to school on a daily basis to ensure better visibility and safety for all road users”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Arrangements have been made for public notice in newspaper and on Laois website informing landowners of their responsibilities under the Roads Act 1993

#### **Notice of Motion No: 122/2021**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council put up sign in Errill Village for St. Colmcille’s National School, Errill as the school is approximately a half mile from the village”***

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 review the current signage in the village.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 123/2021**

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council undergo drainage works at Johnstown Glebe, Rathdowney prior to installing footpath and road resurfacing as these areas are prone to flooding”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council have identified a suitable outfall for the surface water on the R433. The drainage works will be completed in the coming months.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **Disability Parking Bays**

Councillor James brought correspondence to the Member's attention that he had received from Mr. Leo Kavanagh, National Secretary of Physical Impairment Ireland (PII). The correspondence noted that Laois County Council does not have a register of its Disabled Parking Bays. It was requested that the matter would be considered by Laois County Council's Transportation SPC

(ii) **T.I.I.**

It was noted that correspondence had been received from the TII in relation to a request to meet a delegation. TII confirmed that they would meet a delegation from Laois County Council consisting of two members from each Municipal District. Councillor John King proposed Councillor Ollie Clooney be nominated to meet with the delegation and Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed that Councillor Paddy Bracken be nominated

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach

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Director of Corporate  
Affairs

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