

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE BUSINESS SUPPORT UNIT MEETING ROOM, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THE 29TH OF SEPTEMBER 2022

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Edmond Kenny, 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 21st of July 2022

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney the minutes of the July meeting held on the 21st of July 2022 were confirmed as circulated.

(2) Matters Arising

There was no matters arising.

(3) Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion No: 109/2022

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect a dangerous bend sign at the bend at Bordwell/Rahandrick on the L-1634, Clough”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the requested signage will be erected in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 110/2022

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

‘That Laois County Council address the flooding issues at Ringstown, Mountrath on the R423’

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that a suitable outfall for the surface water will need to be identified at the dwelling. A level survey will be undertaken on the road to identify a solution to relieve the flooding issue.

Notice of Motion No: 111/2022

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the traffic congestion/speeding issues at the entrance to the Ridge of Capard at Capard, Rosenallis on the L-2016”

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 at the site to examine the area of concern.

Notice of Motion No: 112/2022

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council take a serious look at the very poor condition and dangerous hollows on the Clonmeen Bog Road to Errill Village as a matter of urgency as this road will be very busy again due to school buses and patrons attending the National School on a daily basis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council are considering a repair strategy on the most damaged sections of this road. Repair works will be undertaken in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 113/2022

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council give an update on when works will commence at the new GAA grounds Clough Ballacolla such as new pedestrian crossing with lights and road markings. All these works are already set out as part of good planning and safety measures for this new GAA development”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised That works are due to commence shortly on the pedestrian crossing and all work will be complete before the end of September.

Notice of Motion No: 114/2022

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council erect amber arrow cautionary signs on the bad turns on the outskirts of Rathdowney town on the Johnstown Road in order to reduce the risk of serious accidents happening”

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 to review the signage along this route.

Notice of Motion No: 115/2022

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council as a matter of urgency address the flooding issues on the R440 at Paddock, Mountrath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. 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: 116/2022

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out remedial works on the road that services Mountrath Enterprise Park, Portlaoise Road, Mountrath”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Maintenance crews will attend to this road to undertake the necessary repairs.

Notice of Motion No: 117/2022

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council in light of the ever increasing costs of materials and labour for community projects, roadworks, lighting, traffic calming measures etc., provide for a 30% increase allocation in Laois County Council 2023 Councillors Discretionary Fund”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that further to discussions at a recent meeting of the Council it was noted that there are considerable cost increases across very many aspects of Council expenditure, including the public sector pay agreement, energy, materials, etc. There are very few areas that this Council can increase income to meet new demands in respect of expenditure. One such area was the Local Property Tax. This was set at the same level as 2022.

The aim of our 2023 budget will be to protect the many services provided by this Council. I regret to advise that the Discretionary Funding cannot be increased in 2023 but will be reviewed again for 2024.

Notice of Motion No: 118/2022

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provide traffic calming measures at a safety barrier on the N80 at Chapel Street/Mollrose Corner”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section will meet with Cllr Paddy Bracken to confirm the exact location of the issue and assess proposals to and submit to TII for approval.

Notice of Motion No: 119/2022

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair the road at Cloonagh/New Mills, Mountmellick – this road collapsed as a result of the heavy traffic and is in urgent need of traffic calming measures”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that a section of collapsed embankment has been repaired. Further repair works will be undertaken on this stretch of road in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 120/2022

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council clean and paint the perimeter wall of the playground at Irishtown, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Local Area staff will arrange for the wall to be power washed and repainted in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 121/2022

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council give an update on the progress, if any on the provision of bus shelters in Cullohill, Ballacolla & Shanahoe”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that The Active Travel Engineer has met with Cllr. Clooney to discuss the proposed provision of bus shelters. An application will be made to the NTA for funding to be provided for their installation.

Notice of Motion No: 122/2022

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council put safety measures in place at the Swan Cross, Durrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange a site meeting with Cllr Ollie Clooney to identify issues at this location and will propose safety improvement works as required

Notice of Motion No: 123/2022

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install a pedestrian crossing in the middle of Cullahill Village the main road linking the Community Centre, Creche and Petrol Station on one side of the road with the National School and the proposed Community Hub Centre on the opposite side of the road. I would also request that new footpaths are provided to link the pedestrian crossing with the walkway to the school. This work is necessary for all visitors to the area and locals alike.”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that The Active travel engineer met with Cllr Clooney and committed to submitting an application to the NTA to establish a project and seek funding.

Notice of Motion No: 124/2022

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update on the car park at Glenbarrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has engaged with the owner of lands immediately beside the existing car park at Glenbarrow and are in the process of signing a long term lease agreement for the site that will allow the council to commence construction. It is expected that the lease will be signed before the end of September and the council will be in a position to commence works in early October 2022.

Notice of Motion No: 125/2022

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect signs for Clonaghadoo Church at the N80 and Roskeen”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the installation and maintenance of Signs on National Secondary Routes is managed by TII. The Road Design Section will meet with Cllr Seamus McDonald to confirm the exact location of the issue and assess proposals and submit to TII for approval.

Notice of Motion No: 126/2022

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council carry out repairs to the bridge at Britas Castle at Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that a bridge inspection will be undertaken to confirm the condition of the structure. The Elected Member will be updated on the condition of the bridge following the inspection.

(4)Correspondence

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

(5) Section 38 Notice for proposed pedestrian crossing and traffic calming works on the R433 & R435, Rathdowney - briefing by Mr. Diarmuid Donohue, S.E.E., Roads Department

Mr. Diarmuid O' Donohue briefed the members on the traffic calming works on the R433 and the R435 for Rathdowney and in circulated the maps in relation to the Proposed Section 38 Notice. The proposal was agreed on the proposition of Councillor John King and seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney.

(6)Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on the **17th of October 2022 at 9.30 a.m.** in the Executive Conference Room.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Director of Corporate
Affairs