

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th OF FEBRUARY 2021 IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE**

PRESENT MS. Aisling Moran Cathaoirleach (In the Chair)
Mr. Aidan Mullins M.C.C.
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, M.C.C.
Mr. Padraig Fleming, M.C.C.
Ms. Padraig Fleming, M.C.C.
Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

**1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF
GRAIGUECULLEN / PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 9TH OF
DECEMBER 2020**

On the proposal of Councillor Ben Brennan, seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy, the minutes of the December meeting held on the 9th of December 2020 were confirmed as circulated.

2. PROGRESS REPORT

The report was noted, and the Members complimented Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer and all the team on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

3. FIX DATE FOR MEETING WITH CARLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Further to previous discussions in relation to a joint meeting with Carlow it was agreed that we would liaise with the executive in Carlow County Council to put together a draft agenda and come back to the March meeting with same with a view to having the joint meeting in the first week of April.

4. FIX DATE FOR MEETING WITH EDENDERRY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

It was agreed that an Agenda would be prepared and that a date for the meeting with Edenderry Municipal District would be agreed at the March meeting.

5. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 01/2021

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

“That Laois County Council take in charge Cathair na gCapall Estate in Portarlinton”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that this estate was built by Cluid Housing. The Taking in Charge Committee has included this estate in a list to be progressed in 2021.

Notice of Motion No: 02/2021

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council make the Kilnacourt roundabout at the bottom of Station Road and the roundabout at the junction of Station Road and Canal Road at Odlum’s Mill in Portarlinton, controlled roundabouts with crossings for pedestrians”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that both these locations have existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossings. It is recommended that the installation of 1 No. B1 type controlled pedestrian crossing at the Main St/ Kilnacourt / Bracklone St roundabout and 1 No. B1 type controlled pedestrian crossing at the Canal Road/ Station Road roundabout would greatly increase the road safety for pedestrians at these locations.

It was agreed that costings would be obtained.

Notice of Motion No: 03/2021

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update on progress by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications to deal with the legislative changes required to allow Local Authorities use CCTV cameras to detect fly tipping and illegal dumping of waste and rubbish”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that it is Laois County Council’s understanding that the Department of Environment Climate and Communications is working on a draft bill at present. The bill, when enacted, will deliver the required specific provisions which will allow Local Authority Waste Enforcement staff to use recording devices for the prevention, detection and prosecution of criminal offences that may arise from breaches of Litter Pollution or Waste Management legislation.

It was noted that the matter has been discussed at length over a number of meetings and that a letter would issue to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 04/2021

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council cut the hedges on the R430 opposite Applegreen in Graiguecullen”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for the hedges to be cut along the R430 footpath opposite the Applegreen station.

Notice of Motion No: 05/2021

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the problem with water coming out on the road on the R430 in Killeshin as it is flooding a family home along with their sheds”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will investigate the source of the flooding and follow up with the appropriate action to deal with it.

Notice of Motion No: 06/2021

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council repair the culvert in Coolane, Killeshin and erect 2 stop signs on the road from Doonane to Crettyard”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has investigated the culvert in Coolane and will carry out the necessary repairs. A crossroads ahead sign has been installed on the road from Doonane to Crettyard near Doonane Bridge. We can also arrange for stop signs to be installed at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 07/2021

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council investigate the possibility of a speed ramp for Vicarstown”

This Notice of motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section will contact the Elected Member for the exact location and traffic calming measure required.

It was agreed to meet on site in the following week.

Notice of Motion No: 08/2021

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council investigate the flooding outside property at Killone Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will investigate the flooding at this location in Killone.

It was agreed to meet Councillor McEvoy on site.

Notice of Motion No: 9/2021

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out repairs to the road verge at Charter Road Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council is planning to pipe the open drain where the verge has subsided.

Notice of Motion No: 10/2021

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding on the road at Forest Gate, Wolfhill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has now completed repair works to a collapsed drain at this location. This will resolve the flooding problem.

Notice of Motion No: 11/2021

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council raise and clear the blocked gullies on the Clogh Road from the Swan Village”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council is planning to raise the road gullies to be level with the surrounding road surface and to jet the road gullies at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 12/2021

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council relieve the blocked drain at Gracefield near the Pedigree”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has cleared the blockage in this open drain at the inlet to the piped surface water drain.

Notice of Motion No: 13/2021

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair the collapsed verge on Melbourne Lane, Luggacurren and build back up the wall on the bridge over the river”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council is currently preparing to pipe the open drain, repair the collapsed verge and carry out repairs to the wall at the bridge on Melbourne Lane. It was expected that this work would be carried out in the next few weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 14/2021

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council take measures to resolve the flooding on the N80 at Loughglass opposite St. Joseph’s Cemetery”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has identified the source of the flooding to be from private property adjacent to the N80 and has issued correspondence to the property owner to carry out works to prevent water flowing onto the public road.

Notice of Motion No: 15/2021

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council include the River Douglas in their 5-year River Maintenance Programme and also to advertise a reminder that hedge cutting season ends on the 1st of March”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will carry out a walkover survey of the river with a view to including a length of the river in the 5-year programme.

The Roads Section is currently arranging to advertise a reminder for the end of the hedge cutting season.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Mullins advised that EIR had been working in Portarlinton during the last few days.

The members were advised of the following: -

- Taking in Charge of The Orchard – Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance indicated that ‘As Constructed’ drawings have been prepared and work will commence as soon as the current Covid-19 restrictions allow;
- Taking in Charge of Cil Beag Manor – Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance indicated that the Developer has agreed to prepare ‘As Constructed’ drawings as soon as the current Covid 19 restrictions allow;

An update was required on the following;

- Access Road in Portarlinton to be named after the late Mr. Niall McElwaine
- Northern Relief Road, Carlow to be named after the late Fr. John Fingleton

6. TIME & DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 24th of March 2021 at **2.00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.** This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Aisling Moran, Cathaoirleach