

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th OF JUNE 2020 IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF GRAIGUECULLEN / PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 20TH OF MAY 2020

On the proposal of Councillor T Mulhall seconded by Councillor B Brennan, the minutes of the May meeting held on the 20th of May 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 particularly in the current circumstances with Covid-19 restrictions.

3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 37/2020

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council put in place measures to make safe dangerous bend at Ballyrider on the Inch Cross to Moyanna Road"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that this location has been investigated. There are three roads meeting at this junction with the potential for high speeds approaching the bend at the junction. In order to introduce traffic calming, a solar powered flashing 'Slow / Bend Ahead' sign will be installed on the approach to the bend, travelling from Inch Cross.

Notice of Motion No: 38/2020

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council put in place pedestrian and cycle lanes on the R445 from Killinure Cross to the Wheel Inn Junction to the R419 and also look at installing them on as many roads as possible in the interest of safety"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that a potential cycle lane route along the R445 between Killinure and the R419 junction is being included in an application to the National Transport Authority (NTA) for funding under 'Covid-19 Interim Mobility Measures'.

Notice of Motion No: 39/2020

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council look at reverting back the R424 at Clonanny to a local road. This change was supposed to be temporary when Laois County Council closed the R420 to upgrade the Hopes Bridge at Killanure"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Road Design section will discuss this with elected member to identify the issue and opportunities to address it.

Notice of Motion No: 40/2020

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:

"That Laois County Council put a pedestrian crossing at the new houses (Court View) Stradbally so that residents can safely cross the street"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that having examined the location of the Court View development, it is noted that a controlled pedestrian crossing exists approx. 150m north of this development. This crossing is within close proximity to the amenities within the town of Stradbally, such as the pharmacy and grocery stores. It is not envisaged to install a second pedestrian crossing within a short distance to that of an existing crossing.

The response was not acceptable to the members.

Notice of Motion No: 41/2020

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council call on Irish Water to extend the sewerage scheme to residents on the Vicarstown Road Stradbally"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Irish Water has no current proposal to extend the waste water scheme at this location. Potential customers can contact Irish Water's Connection & Developer Services with a view to progressing a scheme in this area.

Notice of Motion No: 42/2020

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council resurface Court Square, Stradbally as it is in very poor condition."

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the cost estimate to surface all of the Court Square area is €50k. This could be considered, subject to funding, under the annual roads programme for next year and surface repairs could be carried out this year.

Notice of Motion No: 43/2020

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council install a footpath from McMahon's Builders Providers to Sli na Móna Estate on the Edenderry Road, Portarlinton"

The Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that existing kerbing and road drainage are in place at this location which would facilitate a new footpath. I will arrange to meet to determine the suitability of this location for a new footpath to be constructed.

Notice of Motion No: 44/2020

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council refresh the road markings in Portarlinton i.e. single and double yellow lines, Centre lines, stop lines, lines on pedestrian crossings, etc."

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council is arranging for road markings around the town to be refreshed over the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 45/2020

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council give an update on the issuing of the Section 8 Notice of their intention to place the derelict house in Bruach na hAbhann, Killeen on the Derelict Sites Register"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that The Council is keen to return the properties at Nos. 20, 21, 39, 40 and 41 Bruach na hAbhainn, Killeen, Maganey to use for housing purposes as soon as possible. The Council has carried out an initial assessment of the properties in their current condition and has made an offer to purchase the 5 properties. This offer was made subject to the Council carrying out a full assessment, including the interior of the properties.

Notice of Motion No: 46/2020

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council arrange for the replacement of the footpaths in St. Abban's Terrace, Coolnaugh, Killeen - these footpaths were dug up by Water Services and Irish Water in the past few years and were temporarily replaced on both occasions and need replacement as a matter of urgency as they are becoming increasingly dangerous to pedestrians and motorists"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the property owners are in the process of retrieving title deeds and will revert with a response to the Council's offer in due course. It was agreed that further clarification would be sought from Mr. Michael O' Hora, Senior Engineer in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 47/2020

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council consider re-doing road markings and hedge cutting in the Graiguecullen Area"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that The Council is arranging for road markings in the area to be refreshed over the coming weeks. Hedge cutting / verge maintenance works will be commencing at priority junctions next week.

Notice of Motion No: 48/2020

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council replace the footpaths outside Centra at Ballylinan as it is uneven and dangerous; also the footpaths on the opposite side of the road require bollards placed to clearly mark the difference in height between the road and footpath and to paint the existing bollards in the village as they are not uniform in the village and would enhance the beauty of same"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Council is arranging for the bollards in the village to be painted. Mr. Philip McVeigh, S.E.E. will investigate the condition of the footpath and bollards opposite the shop with a view to carrying out these essential works.

Notice of Motion No: 49/2020

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council fill in the culvert on the R430-R431 at Moore's Cross, Tolerton"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Council has investigated this location and identified the need to replace an existing collapsed culvert crossing. This culvert replacement work will be carried out in the next fortnight.

Notice of Motion No: 50/2020

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council install lay bys on the road at property on the N80 and property at Coolrain"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council can provide lay bys along this road at suitable locations. We can meet on site to agree suitable locations for these lay bys.

Notice of Motion No: 51/2020

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That this Council install a culvert in Bilboa"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. Philip McEvoy, S.E.E. can arrange to meet at this location to determine the extent of culvert works required.

Notice of Motion No: 52/2020

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council examine the Boley Road, Ballylinan with a view to dealing with the road edges which have sunk down as this is a very narrow road"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected the road in Boley and will carry out the required repairs to the road edges and the road surface.

Notice of Motion No: 53/2020

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council resolve the flooding on the road at Wolfhill (location identified)"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected the location of the flooding in Wolfhill and will carry out drainage works to resolve the flooding.

Notice of Motion No: 54/2020

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

"That Laois County Council trim the hedges at Arles Community Centre and other ancillary works including the cutting back of hedges on the footpaths in Arles Village where appropriate"

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council has completed the hedge cutting work at the Community Centre and the remaining hedge cutting along the N80 in Arles will be carried out shortly.

6. Time & Date/ for Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 16th of September 2020 at 2.00 p.m. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Paschal McEvoy, Cathaoirleach