

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE,  
PORTLAOISE**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. David Hayde, Financial Management Accountant  
Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

**1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2018**

On the proposal of Councillor Mulhall seconded by Councillor Mullins the minutes of the September meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2018 were confirmed as circulated.

**2. PROGRESS REPORT**

The report was noted and the Members complimented Mr John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

**3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**Notice of Motion No: 109/2018**

Councillor Pádraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council indicate the time scale for taking in charge of Cil An Oir Estate, Graiguecullen and would the Council in the meantime repair the capping on the wall and refit the small pillar that was knocked down”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that the Building Control Officer carried out an inspection of the site on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October which identified issues on site in particular the boundary wall in a state of disrepair. A planning search has identified that this estate received permission in 2003(03/534). We have not received any correspondence from the Developer. We will try to make contact with the Developer to ensure the wall is repaired and commence the taking in charge process

### **Notice of Motion No: 110/2018**

Councillor Pádraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council contact the owners of the forest in Wolfhill between the Ball Alley and Rocks Cross to cut back the trees and hedges that are overhanging the road in the interest of Health & Safety”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond will arrange to have this location inspected and a hedge cutting notice will be issued to the property owner should it be deemed necessary.

### **Notice of Motion No: 111/2018**

Councillor Pádraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:

***“That Laois County Council consider landscaping at Heather Hill Square, Graiguecullen, with particular emphasis at the front of the Estate”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that The Estate Management Section has recently completed landscaping works to the front of this estate.

### **Notice of Motion No: 112/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council arrange for the pole which is located in the middle of the narrow footpath at the top of Bracklone Street in Portarlinton be re-located in the interests of pedestrian safety as it has been causing a major obstruction for years”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. contacted the Eir area manager for Portarlinton by phone and email on the 10/10/218 requesting that this pole be relocated.

### **Notice of Motion No: 113/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council indicate when work will commence on footpath repair / replacement in Portarlinton and when a decision will be made on the allocation of funds from the Irish Public Bodies rebate to cover the costs involved”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Virgin Media has recently completed its works to node 1 and 2 in Portarlinton. A large number of footpath repairs have been incorporated into Virgin Media’s reinstatement works.

There is currently 1660m<sup>2</sup> of footpath repair works at tender stage with a closing date of the 17/10/18. These works are located on Station Road and Canal Road. It is expected that this work will commence during November 18.

It was agreed that Mr. David Hayde, Temporary Financial Accountant would check the status of the IPB Funds.

### **Notice of Motion No: 114/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois Council Council carry out a survey at the junction of Spa Street and The Square in Portarlinton to determine if a mini roundabout would facilitate better traffic flow”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that the site was examined and due to the layout of roads at this location. A mini roundabout will not be appropriate.

Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. undertook to look at alternative options with Road Design for this location.

### **Notice of Motion No: 115/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council investigate the damage to the wall and floor of the bridge at Christy Farrell’s pub in Killeen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that a work crew has recently commenced masonry repairs at this location and it is expected that the works will be completed by the end of October.

**Notice of Motion No: 116/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council advise when the bridge at Ballinagar will be replaced”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that there are currently insufficient funds in the Drainage District budget to have this access bridge over the Douglas River replaced. To progress this project it will be necessary to complete a preliminary design report and a cost estimate for any proposed replacement bridge. Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange to meet with the landowner in the coming week to establish what the design requirements are for this access bridge.

**Notice of Motion No: 117/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council investigate the damage to the footpath between the Barrow Bridge and the Sleaty Road roundabout on the Northern Relief Road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will have this location inspected and any necessary repairs completed when a work crew becomes available.

**Notice of Motion No: 118/2018**

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the taking in charge of Graiguaverne Housing estate and the Pumping Station in Ballybrittas”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Legal issues relating to the Pumping station and network are under review with Irish Water. Laois County Council is not in a position currently to proceed to taking this estate in charge until the legal issues are resolved.

Councillor Mulhall & Mullins indicated that they would pursue this matter with Developers.

**Notice of Motion No: 119/2018**

Councilor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council erect a Stop Sign at Ballyaddin Cemetery coming out on to Ballyaddin Lane and also erect a Stop Sign coming out from Coolroe onto the Farmyard Road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the road from Ballyadding Cemetery onto Ballyadding Lane is a private road and is not in the charge of the Council.

Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. to check the Coolroe location and will arrange for the Stop sign to be replaced if required.

**Notice of Motion No: 120/2018**

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland to request funding for road safety measures on the N80 at Oakvale, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. It was noted that a letter would issue to the T.I.I. in this regard.

Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. also advised that a traffic count will be carried out in at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 121/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the possibility of a CPO to be taken on the Derelict House at Main Street, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that The Planning Section and Vacant Homes Officer will look at the property in terms of its potential reuse. Cost implications will have to be considered in terms of potential funding requirements.

**Notice of Motion No: 122/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council extend the footpath on the Vicarstown road by 10 meters outside specified property”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. would arrange for this location to be inspected and a cost estimate prepared for these works. This location can be considered for inclusion in the 2019 footpath

**Notice of Motion No: 123/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council replace or where possible repair the signs on the Canal in Vicarstown”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that the damaged signs will be inspected to determine if they can be repaired or need replacing. Councillor John Ormond, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would arrange for the signs to be repaired / replaced as necessary.

**Notice of Motion No: 124/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council clean up the gullies on the end of the R431 in Crettyard as they are causing flooding”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. would arrange to have this work completed once a work crew becomes available in the next two to three weeks.

**Notice of Motion No: 125/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on Kilgorey Lane, Crettyard”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that repair works commenced here during September however due to other work commitments the works were not completed. The works will recommence once a work crew becomes available

**Notice of Motion No: 126/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:

***“That Laois County Council make safe the junction on the Ballyhide Road going up to Lower Rossmore”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange for a stop sign and stop bar to be installed here as part of the upcoming line marking works.

**5. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence since the last meeting.

**5. Time and date of next meeting:**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2018 at 2.00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**John Moran, Cathaoirleach**