

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN
ARAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE, ON THE 26TH OF MARCH 2018**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor	Padraig Fleming	In the Chair
	Councillors	William Aird	Paddy Bracken
		Paschal McEvoy	John King
		Catherine Fitzgerald	Brendan Phelan
		David Goodwin	Tom Mulhall
		Seamus McDonald	Noel Tuohy
		John Joe Fennelly	James Kelly
		Mary Sweeney	Aidan Mullins
		John Moran	Caroline Dwane Stanley
		Paddy Bracken	

APOLOGIES: **Councillor** Jerry Lodge Ben Brennan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Messers John Mulholland, Chief Executive, Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Ms. Angela McEvoy, A/Director of Services, Ms. Irene Delaney, Administrative Officer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

**31. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF
LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 26TH OF FEBRUARY 2018**

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan, the Minutes of the February meeting held on the 26th of February 2018 were confirmed as circulated.

32. REPORT ON CPG MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH OF FEBRUARY 2018

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor Mary Sweeney, the report on the CPG meeting held on the 19th of February 2018 was confirmed as circulated.

33. REPORT ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS HELD IN FEBRUARY 2018

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan, the reports on the Municipal District Meetings held in February 2018 were confirmed as circulated.

34. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- (i)** On the proposition of Councillor William Aird, the Members unanimously agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to the Dooley family on the recent death of Mr. Lar Dooley, 29 Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
- (ii)** On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney, the Members unanimously agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to the Malone family on the recent death of Mr. John Malone, Colt, Ballyroan, Co. Laois, father of Mr. Michael Malone, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services

- (iii) On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney, the Members unanimously agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to the Bonham family on the recent death of Mr. Tom Bonham, Lower Main Street, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois and brother of former Member of Laois County Council, Mr. John Bonham.

35. VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

On the proposition of the Cathaoirleach, Mr. Pádraig Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed to extend a vote of congratulations to Ms. Evelyn Cusack on her promotion to Head of Forecasting with Met Éireann.

36. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001

On the proposition of Councillor Willie Aird seconded by Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of freehold interest at 70 Newpark, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in the townland of Maryborough for a consideration of €300.00

37. LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR MARCH 2018

Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive briefed the meeting on this matter and the report for March was circulated. The report was unanimously agreed and noted. A number of queries were raised on the report and the Directors of Services responded to the various queries raised. A report on the recent severe weather event - Storm Emma was included in the Monthly Management Report. The Members complimented all agencies and staff of Laois County Council for the excellent work and commitment in the provision of assistance to the public over the course of the severe weather event. A report in relation to the recent official visit to New York by Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive & Mr. Pádraig Fleming, Cathaoirleach of Laois County Council was also provided to the Members.

38. NOMINATION OF MS. LOUISE KIELY-DUNNE, LAOIS TRAVELLER ACTION GROUP TO THE LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor John King, the members unanimously agreed to the nomination of Ms. Louise Kiely-Dunne, Laois Traveller Action Group to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

39. LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015/2017

The Members were circulated with the Annual Progress Report on the Litter Management Plan 2015-2017. Mr. Michael O' Hora, Senior Engineer & Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer briefed the Members on the Litter Management Plan 2015/2017 and responded to the various queries raised. It was noted that the review process is a four stage approach and will be listed for consideration and formal approval by the Members in September 2018.

40. SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS 2018/ROADWORKS SCHEME

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Roadworks Scheme 2018. On the proposition of Councillor Brendan Phelan seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the Roadworks Scheme for 2018 as presented.

41. ADOPTION OF THE ROAD SAFETY PLAN 2017-2022

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Road Safety Plan 2017-2022 which has been prepared in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána, the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed to adopt the Road Safety Plan 2017-2022.

42. APPROVAL OF ARTS ACT GRANTS

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Arts Act Grants for 2018 in the sum of €6,000. On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the Members unanimously agreed to the payment of the Arts Act Grants for 2018.

43. DRAFT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2018

The Members were circulated with the draft Training & Development Programme for 2018 and on the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor John Moran, the Members unanimously agreed to the programme for 2018.

44. CONSIDERATION OF CIVIC RECEPTION TO TIMAHOE NS MINI SCIENTISTS (AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CORPORATE POLICY GROUP ON THE 19TH OF MARCH 2018)

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed to the according of a Civic Reception to Timahoe NS Mini Scientists (as recommended by the Corporate Policy Group on the 19th of March 2018)

45. CATHAOIRLEACH'S RECEPTION TO THE LAOIS ACTIVE RETIREMENTS GROUPS (AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CORPORATE POLICY GROUP ON THE 19TH OF MARCH 2018)

The Members noted the Cathaoirleach's Reception to the Laois Active Retirements Groups (as recommended by the Corporate Policy Group on the 19th of March 2018)

46. ANNUAL REPORT 2017 OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Annual Report 2017 of the Audit Committee and the report was unanimously agreed on the proposition of Councillor John Moran and seconded by Councillor James Kelly.

47. RATIFICATION OF CONFERENCES/ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING

The Members were circulated with the list of conferences/training for ratification and forthcoming conferences/training which was ratified on the proposal of Councillor Paschal McEvoy and seconded by Councillor John King.

48. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was circulated which had been received since the last meeting of Laois County Council:

- (i) Correspondence from the Office of the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris dated the 27th of February 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 05/2018
- (ii) Correspondence from the Office of the Minister of Housing, Planning & Local Government dated the 5th of March 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 03/2018
- (iii) Correspondence from Mr. Trevor O' Callaghan, CEO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group dated the 8th of March 2018 in relation to Portlaoise General Hospital. The Members agreed that a further letter should issue to Mr. O' Callaghan regarding his attendance at a future meeting of Laois County Council.

49. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 10/2018

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council invite Bord na Mona to give a presentation to Members as to their plans for future investment in the Midlands”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Noel Tuohy. It was agreed that a letter issue to Bord na Mona in this regard.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS