

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 30TH
OF NOVEMBER 2020 IN THE DUNAMAISE ARTS CENTRE & THEATRE**

PRESENT:	Councillor	Catherine Fitzgerald	In The Chair
	Councillors	Willie Aird	Paddy Bracken
		John Joe Fennelly	Aidan Mullins
		Padraig Fleming	James Kelly
		Seamus McDonald	Conor Bergin
		Aisling Moran	Mary Sweeney
		Noel Tuohy	Caroline Dwane Stanley
		Ollie Clooney	John King
		Ben Brennan	Thomasina Connell

APOLOGIES:	Councillor	Tom Mulhall	Paschal McEvoy
-------------------	------------	-------------	----------------

IN ATTENDANCE:

Messers John Mulholland, Chief Executive, Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Simon Walton, Director of Services, Mr. Joe Delaney, Director of Services, Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, & Ms. Michelle McCormack, S.O.

124. VOTE OF SYMPATHIES

On the proposition of the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald, the Members unanimously extended a vote of sympathy to the Lodge Family, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise on the recent death of Mrs. Susan Lodge

On the proposition of Councillor John King, the Members unanimously extended a vote of sympathy to the McEvoy Family, Kilcoke, Ballybrophy on the recent death of Mr. Bill McEvoy

125. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 19TH OF OCTOBER 2020

On the proposition of Councillor Willie Aird seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins, the Members unanimously agreed to the minutes of the October meeting of Laois County Council held on the 19th of October 2020.

126. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH OF NOVEMBER 2020

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken, the Members unanimously agreed to the minutes of the Statutory Budget Meeting held on the 9th of November 2020.

127. REPORT ON CPG MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH OF OCTOBER 2020

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed to the report on CPG meeting held on the 12th of October 2020.

128. REPORT ON CPG MEETING HELD ON THE 28th of OCTOBER 2020

On the proposition of Councillor Thomasina Connell seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran, the Members unanimously agreed to the report on CPG meeting held on the 28th of October 2020.

129. REPORT ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS HELD IN OCTOBER 2020

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed to the report on the Municipal District Meetings held in October 2020.

130. SUPPLEMENTARY STANDING ORDERS

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin, the Members unanimously agreed to the supplementary standing orders as circulated in relation to the holding of remote meetings and in particular the introduction of voting – a vote taken remotely in accordance with these Standing Orders constitutes a valid vote towards the decision of Laois County Council.

131. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD AT 5 HARBOUR STREET, MOUNTMELICK

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of freehold at 5 Harbour Street, Mountmellick, Co. Laois in the townland of Ballycullenbeg for a consideration of €300.00

132. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD AT 37 BORRIS ROAD, PORTLAOISE

On the proposition of Councillor Willie Aird seconded by Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of freehold at 37 Borris Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in the townland of Borris Little for a consideration of €300.00

133. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF DISPOSAL OF 1.56 HECTARES OF LAND AT J17 NATIONAL ENTERPRISE PARK

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 1.56 hectares of land at J17 National Enterprise Park, Togher, Portlaoise in the townland of Togher for a consideration of €312,000.00.

134. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF LEASE OF LAND AT MACHINERY YARD, CLONBOYNE, PORTLAOISE

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the lease of land at Machinery Yard, Clonboyne, Portlaoise in the townland of Clonboyne for a period of 4 years and 11 months for a consideration of €50,000 per annum

135. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF DISPOSAL OF 0.0173 HECTARES OF LAND AT SHEFFIELD CROSS ROADS, RATHLEAGUE, PORTLAOISE

On the proposition of Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald seconded by Councillor Mary Sweeney, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0173 hectares of land at Sheffield Cross Roads, Rathleague, Portlaoise in the townland of Rathleague for a consideration of €300.00

136. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF LEASE OF LAND COMPRISING 1.10 HECTARES AT MONURE, GRAIGUECULLEN

On the proposition of Councillor Pádraig Fleming seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan, the members unanimously agreed to the lease of land comprising 1.10 hectares at Monure, Graiguecullen in the townland of Monure for a period of three years – the consideration for the licence agreement of the property shall be €1.00 per annum and the consideration for the lease agreement of the property shall be €100.00 per annum

137. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 IN RESPECT OF LEASE OF LAND COMPRISING 1.936 HECTARES AT MONURE, GRAIGUECULLEN

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming, the members unanimously agreed to the lease of land comprising 1.936 hectares at Monure, Graiguecullen in the townland of Monure for a period of 3 years - the consideration for the lease of the property shall be €100.00 per annum.

138. APPROVAL OF THE CULTURAL ACCORD BETWEEN THE EUREKA CENTRE, BALLARAT, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA AND TENAKILL LALOR HOUSE COMMITTEE, RAHEEN, ABBEYLEIX, CO. LAOIS.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald advised the meeting that a cultural accord between the Eureka Centre, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia and Tenakill Lalor House Committee, Raheen, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois, Ireland has been discussed and agreed upon by both parties over the last year. On the proposition of Councillor John King seconded by Councillor Noel Tuohy, the Members unanimously agreed to proceeding with the signing of the document by both Cathaoirleach.

139. LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive briefed the meeting on this matter and the report for May 2020 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.

140. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were circulated which had been received since the last meeting:-

- (i) Correspondence received from the Department of Transport dated the 27th of October 2020 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 18/2020
- (ii) Correspondence received from the Department of Justice dated the 4th of November 2020 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 24/2020
- (iii) Correspondence received from the Department of Transport dated the 29th of October 2020 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 32/2020
- (iv) Correspondence received from the Department of Health dated the 18th of November 2020 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 26/2020

141. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 34/2020

Councillor John Joe Fennelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council call on the T.I.I. to erect a fence on the Abbeyleix/Durrow Road as there has been 4 serious traffic accidents caused by deer crossing at this location”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has recently engaged with TII in this matter with a view to appropriate fencing being provided under the TII’s fencing retrofit programme. For their part TII have reviewed the relevant road accident statistics and have indicated that they will proactively engage with Laois County Council to deliver a solution that addresses the road safety issue arising.

Notice of Motion No: 35/2020

Councillor Willie Aird proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council call on the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Mr. Darragh O’ Brien, to revoke SHD applications in favour of local authorities handling all housing planning applications within their County”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald.

The Members requested that a deputation be sought from the Minister in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 36/2020

Councillor Willie Aird proposed the following Notice of Motion :-

“That Laois County Council calls on the Minister for Health, Mr. Stephen Donnelly to increase bed capacity to cater for the needs of people with dementia”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly. It was agreed that a letter issue to the Minister for Health on the matter.

Notice of Motion No: 37/2020

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council to call on the Office of Public Works to carry out the necessary excavation works to recover the remains of Joe Brady, Daniel Curley, Michael Fagan, Thomas Caffrey and Tim Kelly in what is commonly known as the Invincibles Yard at Kilmainham Goal. The bodies of these five members of the Irish National Invincibles lie beneath the paving slabs of the yard where they were executed in 1883 for their part in the Phoenix Park assassinations. The families of the five men are represented by the National Graves Association and the wish of the families is for their relatives to be exhumed from Kilmainham Goal and reinterred in consecrated ground at Glasnevin Cemetery”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly. It was agreed that a letter issue to the O.P.W. on the matter.

Notice of Motion No: 38/2020

Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council request an update from the Health Services Executive as to the current position of the HSE Community Intervention Team in County Laois”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that a letter would issue to the HSE Community Intervention Team on the matter.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED:

CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED:

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS

