

**Minutes of the Portlaoise Municipal District Meeting held in Áras and Chontae
on the 19th April, 2017 at 11.00 a.m.**

Present: John Joe Fennelly, M.C.C. Chairperson ,
Catherine Fitzgerald, M.C.C., Caroline Dwane Stanley,
M.C.C. Willie Aird, A.C.C., Mary Sweeney, M.C.C., Noel
Tuohy, M.C.C., Gerry Lodge, M.C.C.

In attendance: Kieran Kehoe, D.O.S., Wes Wilkinson, A.S.E., Kim Kinsella,
A.O.,

**1) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PORTLAOISE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 15TH OF MARCH 2017.**

On the proposal of Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley, seconded by Councillor Mary Sweeney, the minutes of the meeting held on the 15 March, 2017 were confirmed and circulated.

2) MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley thanked Cllr. Fennelly for arranging meeting with respond.

Cllr. Fennelly thanked Housing and Respond

3) CLAR Funding

Mr. Kieran Kehoe explained the CLAR scheme for 2017 and stated that applications were required by 5th May 2017. He asked that the Members submit any potential submission to himself or Mr. Wes Wilkinson by 27th April. There are 4 areas where the funding is available Raheen, Clash, Blandsfort, Dysartgallen. A feature of the new scheme was that the Community group must provide 5% of the funding.

4) PORTLAOISE VISION STATEMENT

Presentation given to Members on the Portlaoise Vision Statement by Mr. Brian Maher GVA Planning.

Mr. Kieran Kehoe that the closing date for public submission was the end of the week and that he then prepare and submit a report to the Members.

5) NOTICE OF MOTIONS

<p>54/2017 – Councillor Mary Sweeney Seconded: Cllr. Lodge</p>	<p>Mr. Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.</p>
<p><i>“That Laois County Council investigate the road at Cashel Bog as the road edges are very deep at this location, it needs safety measures put in place to alert motorists of this issue”</i></p>	<p><i>Signage will be ordered and put in place at this location.</i></p>
<p>55/2017 – Councillor Mary Sweeney Seconded: Cllr. Dwane Stanley</p>	<p>Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance</p>
<p><i>That Laois County Council examine the gate at Gleann na Glaise Ballyroan as currently it is unsafe and inadequate in preventing children accessing adjacent field and river within”</i></p>	<p><i>The gate is used to access the land adjoining this estate. A wire mesh will be put on the gate to improve safety.</i></p> <p><i>Kieran Kehoe will refer back to Housing for further response and Wes Wilkinson will speak with the landowner</i></p>
<p>56/2017 – Councillor Mary Sweeney Seconded: Cllr. Aird</p>	<p>Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.</p>
<p><i>That Laois County Council provide a ramp at the top end of Ashley Gardens on the Borris Road”</i></p>	<p><i>Installation of a ramp can be considered for this location as part of the Discretionary Traffic Calming Programme in 2017.</i></p>
<p>57/2017 – Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley - Seconded: Cllr. Tuohy</p>	<p>Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services</p>
<p><i>“That this Council contact the Minister for Justice and the OPW regarding the urgent need to relocate the Courthouse”</i></p>	<p><i>The location for new Courthouse is under discussion with the Courts Service and Laois County Council met with Mr. Paul Burns, Assistant Secretary on the 9th of March 2017 in Smithfield.</i></p> <p><i>It was requested that a letter issue to Minister Flanagan and the local TD’s requested a meeting with the Chairperson of the Municipal District</i></p>
<p>58/2017 – Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley - Seconded; Cllr. Fitzgerald</p>	<p>Mr. Farhan Nasim, A/S.E.E.</p>
<p><i>“That this Council reinstate the fence adjacent to the roundabout at Rosevale Estate which was removed when the Pedestrian Crossing was installed”</i></p>	<p><i>The Guardrails were removed from Rossvale pedestrian crossing in order to comply with new design requirements in “The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets” for the safety of all roads users, including pedestrians and cyclists.</i></p> <p><i>Agreed that Wes Wilkinson would look at this again.</i></p>

59/2017 – Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley - Seconded: Cllr. Aird	Mr. Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.
<i>“That this Council make safe the Road at Glenfield, Timahoe Road which has been the site of numerous accidents”</i>	<i>This location has been submitted to Road Design for inclusion in the funding application to the Department that will be made later in 2017. In the interim, the Portlaoise MD office will also install some additional Road Marking at this location.</i>
60/2017 – Councillor John Joe Fennelly Seconded: Cllr. Aird	Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.
<i>That this Council improve the signage and make safe the junction in Ballinakill Village at the crossroads for Kilkenny, Durrrow & Castlecomer”</i>	<i>This location has been submitted to Road Design for inclusion in the funding application to the Department that will be made later in 2017. Maintenance will be carried out on directional signage at this location in the interim.</i>
61/2017 – Councillor John Joe Fennelly Seconded: Cllr. Aird	Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.
<i>“That this Council improve the visibility at Gorman’s Junction, Ballypickas and breast the ditches along the roadway at Boleybeg between Spink Creamery and Knock School”</i>	<i>In relation to the junction of the R430 and L-3777-26 (Gormans Junction), Laois County Council will extend the verge trimming works when they are being carried out this season. In relation to the hedges on the R430 from in the vicinity of Boleybeg, the Portlaoise MD office will investigate this section of road and follow up with hedge cutting notices where required.</i>
62/2017 – Councillor John Joe Fennelly Seconded: Cllr. Fitzgerald	Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.
<i>That this Council install road numbers at the junction of Clonkeen and district and improve signage and safety at the two bridges in this area”</i>	<i>The Portlaoise MD office will refresh and install some additional road markings in advance of the bridges in this location. We will review the signage at the junction and consider installing replacement signage where required.</i>
63/2017 – Councillor William Aird Seconded: Cllr. Fennelly	Mr. Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.
<i>“That Laois County Council provide extra road markings and warning signs at the entrance to Heywood College when travelling from Ballinakill and turning right”</i>	<i>The Portlaoise MD office will also install some additional Road Marking at this location.</i>

<p>64/2017 – Councillor William Aird Seconded: Cllr. Dwane Stanley</p>	<p>Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services</p>
<p>“That this Council introduce bye-laws which will assist in preventing anti-social behaviour in houses when they become vacant”</p>	<p>Any incidences of anti-social behaviour will be referred to an Garda Síochana</p> <p>Cllr. Aird thanked Laois County Council for the works done to date</p>
<p>65/2017 – Councillor William Aird Seconded: Cllr. Fitzgerald.</p>	<p>Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.</p>
<p>“That this Council put in place some form of traffic calming at the Meelick Road, Portlaoise”</p>	<p>There is a 60kph speedlimit along this section of road, 6 no. road marking indicating 60kph to driver were relined in late 2016.</p> <p>This location can be considered for installation of Speed Radar signage in 2017</p> <p>Request that TII be contacted to make a case for a radar sign and for a weight restriction on this road.</p>
<p>66/2017 – Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald Seconded: Cllr. Tuohy</p>	<p>Mr. Pat Delaney, A.O., Planning</p>
<p>“That Portlaoise Municipal Authority be given an update on the taking in charge of Summerhill Housing Estate”</p>	<p>The Planning Department are continuing to progress this estate for taking in charge. A CCTV survey has been requested and will be carried out in the coming weeks.</p>
<p>67/2017 – Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald Seconded: Cllr. Lodge</p>	<p>Mr. Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.</p>
<p>“That Portlaoise Municipal Authority inform the Members when the old Petrol Pumps near Market Square will be removed”</p>	<p>The condition of the fuel tanks was assessed in late 2016. It was found that they were not decommissioned.</p> <p>It is estimated that the cost of decommissioning the fuel tanks, removing the 4 no. fuel pumps and reinstating the footpath may cost in the region of €15-20k.</p> <p>A Request for Quotations to carry out these works will be issued in mid 2017.</p>
<p>68/2017 – Councillor Jerry Lodge Seconded: Cllr. Aird</p>	<p>Mr. Wes Wilkinson A/S.E.E.</p>
<p>“That this meeting calls on Laois County Council to install 2 ramps at Millview in the interest of road safety”</p>	<p>Installation of ramps can be considered for this location as part of the Discretionary Traffic Calming Programme in 2017.</p>

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. FIX TIME, DATE & VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is to be held on the 17th May2017 @ 11.00 a.m. in the Council Chamber of Áras an Chontae.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

CATHAOIRLEACH

Certified: _____

DIRECTOR OF SERVICE.

