

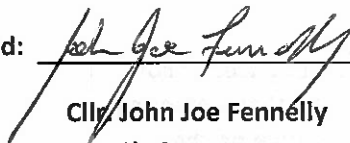
Laois County Council

Meeting Record

File Ref: Env/SPC	Date/Time: 5 th December 2022 at 2 pm	Executive Conference Room Áras an Chontae
Subject:	Transportation, Environment & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee	
Present:	Cllr John Joe Fennelly, Chair Cllr William Aird Cllr Paddy Bracken Cllr Noel Touhy	Mr. John Killeen, Construction Rep Mr. John Talbot, Agricultural Rep
In attendance:	Mr. Simon Walton, Director of Services Ms. Fiona Skehan, Administrative Officer	
Apologies:	Ms. Deirdre O'Connell, FORSA Mr. Adrian Barrett, Senior Engineer Cllr Ben Brennan	
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION REQUIRED
1	<u>Quorum Present</u> Cllr Fennelly opened the meeting by welcoming the committee and advising quorum was in place.	
2.	<u>Confirmation of Minutes of SPC Meeting held on 5th September 2022</u> Proposed by Cllr Wm Aird Seconded by Cllr P Bracken	
3	<u>Matters arising</u> Cllr Willie Aird referred to the recent IFA/LCC Hedge cutting week pilot scheme and advised that it received a good response and that a meeting with the IFA the following Friday will discuss how to improve on the scheme in 2023.	
4	<u>Progress Report from Director of Services</u> Mr. Walton advised that pilot hedge cutting scheme was discussed under item 3. Mr. Walton asked the committee if they wished to consider policy area to explore in 2023. It was agreed that the committee would look at best practice for mobility. A discussion took place with regards to sharing of footpaths with cyclists, scooters etc which is awaiting national legislation from the Minister for Transport. Mr. Talbot outlined two route options for a greenway from Portlaoise to Abbeyleix and agreed that option one was most suitable which ran along the old railway line. The community group is to discuss with landowners and secure an agreement for which the council who will look favourably upon and commence the application process for funding.	Update for March meeting

	A discussion on residents permits took place with a view to reviewing the parking byelaws. Mr. Walton advised that a review would not involve one area of the byelaws but rather in its entirety.	
5	<p><u>Correspondence</u> No correspondence received.</p> <p>Cllr Bracken asked if Roads could look at a street sweeper for Mountmellick and surrounding villages in particular to assist Tidy Towns and unblock shores / gullies as this time of year has a lot of leaves on the ground.</p>	Update for March meeting
6	<p><u>To consider for next year AILG submission regarding speed limits</u> Cllr Fennelly advised that there will be a national review of speed limits. Cllr Aird asked that TII give discretion to local authorities. Mr. Walton discussed Section 9 Road Traffic Act 2004 and advised that no change to speed limits on national roads will take place without written consent from TII.</p>	
7	Date of next Meeting Monday 6th March 2023 at 2pm	
	This concluded the business of the meeting	

Signed:



Cllr John Joe Fennelly
SPC Chairperson

Date:

07/03/2023