

<b>File Ref: Env/SPC</b>	<b>Date/Time: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 2.00 pm</b>	<b>Executive Conference Room and remotely via MS Teams</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Transportation, Environment &amp; Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee</b>	
<b>Present:</b>	Cllr. Paddy Bracken, Cllr. John Joe Fennelly, Cllr. Willie Aird, Cllr. Noel Tuohy.	Mr. John Killeen, Construction Rep., Ms. Deirdre O'Connell Hopkins, Trade Union Rep. Mr. John Talbot, Agriculture Rep
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Mr. Simon Walton, Director of Services, Ms. Ann Carroll, AO, Environment, Mr. Adrian Barrett, SE, Roads.	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr Ben Brennan	Mr. Michael O'Hora, Senior Engineer, Ms. Georgina Ireland, Administrative Officer

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening of Meeting</b> Cllr Bracken welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was being held via a combination of MS Teams and in person.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Quorum Present</b> Mr. Paddy Bracken confirmed that there was a quorum, as per the SPC standing orders of October 2019, present.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Confirmation / Agreement of Minutes</b> On the proposal of Cllr. John Joe Fennelly and seconded by Cllr. Noel Tuohy, the minutes of SPC meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 were approved.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Progress Report from Director of Services</b> Mr. Simon Walton advised the meeting that, subsequent to previous meetings of the SPC, the following works are ongoing; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 River Drainage Maintenance Environmental/Ecological Consents – extensive walkover surveys had been carried out and further details would be circulated to the committee in the New Year.</li> <li>• A Hedge Cutting Policy to be drafted by this SPC committee in 2021, which would identify the duties of the local authority and landowners. A nomination from the IFA will be requested to assist with the policy document.</li> </ul> <p>An updated draft policy will issue in advance of the next SPC Meeting.</p>	

Item	Description	Action Required
5	<p><b>Draft Policy for Naming of Infrastructure</b> The committee considered a preliminary draft policy. The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There should be a combined policy on Naming of Infrastructure and Place Names, which should go before the Planning SPC and then before the full Council.</li> <li>• The Chair of the Committee shall be agreed by the Elected Members.</li> <li>• Nominations for the Committee are to be adopted by the Municipal District Committees.</li> </ul>	AB
6	<p><b>Community Fire Safety</b> Mr. Declan Power, Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation to the committee members on Community Fire Safety Policy 2020 – 2023. He advised that the aim of the Policy was to reduce the number of fires in domestic dwellings throughout County Laois and reduce its consequences if it does occur. The Members thanked Mr. Power for the presentation. It was agreed that this draft policy should now proceed for full Council approval.</p>	
7	<p><b>Public Lighting</b> Mr. Simon Walton, Director of Services advised on the development of a draft policy document to enhance efficiencies for small scale public lighting enhancements.</p>	
8	<p><b>Correspondence</b> None</p>	
9	<p><b>Any Other Business</b> Mr. John Talbot asked if colour scheme had been decided for the parking zones identified at the last meeting of the SPC. Mr. Simon Walton, Director of Services advised that consultation would commence early 2021 for time limited parking in Mountrath to ascertain appetite for greater car turnover. Similar proposals are to be put forward for Abbeyleix and Mountmellick later in 2021.</p>	
10	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> It was agreed that the next meeting of the SPC would take place on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at 2pm</p>	
	<p><b>This concluded the business of the meeting.</b></p>	