

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16th OF OCTOBER 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN
CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT Mr. Aidan Mullins, M.C.C. (In the Chair)
Mr. Padraig Fleming, M.C.C.
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, M.C.C.
Ms. Vivienne Phelan, M.C.C.
Ms. Aisling Moran, M.C.C.
Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Julie Bergin, A/Head of Finance
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the September Meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 11th of September 2024

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the September meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 11th of September 2024.

(2) Progress Report

The report was noted, and the Members complimented Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer and all the team on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

(3) Notice of Motions:-

Notice of Motion No: 91/2024

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install road markings at the Rain Cross Roads in Ballylinan to make the junction safe and also to put a ghost island and larger barrier board there”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to have these roadmarkings refreshed in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 92/2024

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council put a designated parking space on Main Street, Stradbally outside Court View for one of the residents and to please number all other car parking spaces in Court View”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member on site to review this issue.

Notice of Motion No: 93/2024

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council repair the recently damaged wall at Timogue Cross Roads on the right hand side coming from Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that repair works will be carried out in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 94/2024

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council review the need/location of the digital speed signs between Ballybrittas and the Old Pound”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Vivienne Phelan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will review the location of these two digital signs with regard to improving road safety along this stretch of road.

Notice of Motion No: 95/2024

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council carry out repairs to a section of footpath at the corner of Foxcroft Street and Main Street in Portarlinton”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Vivienne Phelan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for these repair works to be carried out in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 96/2024

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council arrange to block the access lane to a vacant site behind Railway Mews estate to prevent dumping or anti-social behaviour”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will contact the developer/ owner of this vacant site requesting them to have the access lane blocked off.

Notice of Motion No: 97/2024

Councillor Pdraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council refresh the road markings between Mullins Lane and Rochford Manor Estate, Graiguecullen in the interest of road safety”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to have these roadmarkings carried out in the coming weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 98/2024

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council carry out road safety improvement works at the Rahin Road T Junction, Ballylinan on the approach road from Fallaghmore towards Killyganard as the visibility at this junction to turn right up the Rahin Road is minimal in the interest of road safety”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that forward visibility for turning right towards Ballylinan is restricted by the boundary hedge located around the bend at this junction. The landowner could be approached regarding the removal of this boundary hedge and replacement with a fence to improve the visibility at the junction.

Notice of Motion No: 99/2024

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council in consultation with T.I.I. (Transport Infrastructure Ireland) to review the current speeds and road safety measures on the N78 in Crettyard at the Filling Station and the Creamery. This location has a considerable number of vehicles entering and exiting these commercial premises within the 100 kms speed limit with a number of near misses reported in recent times”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council's Road Design Section will conduct speed and traffic movement surveys at this location along with reviewing both the available accident data and the current measures for road safety provision for this location. The findings from the surveys and reviews will be brought to the attention of TII as required.

Notice of Motion No: 100/2024

Councillor Vivienne Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“ That this Council complete appropriate road safety measures at the junction of N80 and L78356 outside Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that A geophysical survey has been undertaken to inform the archaeological constraints at the location. A feasibility & options report is now required to be prepared for submission to TII.

Notice of Motion No: 101/2024

Councillor Vivienne Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address persistent road flooding on a small section of the approach road into Vicarstown from the N7 motorway”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy.

The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member on site to review this issue.

Notice of Motion No: 102/2024

Councillor Vivienne Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council resurface the tarmacadam outside the houses at Cork Road, Stradbally (across from Civil Defence) and organise the cleaning of footpath at this location in the interest of pedestrian safety”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy.

The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member at this location to review these issues.

Notice of Motion No: 103/2024

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out an investigation at the Rock Hill (N80) as to why there is water lying on the surface continuously”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Vivienne Phelan. The Members were advised that an Engineer from the Road Design Department will visit the site e site to investigate the problem.

Notice of Motion No: 104/2024

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council take in charge road at Grange Lower Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Ben Brennan.

The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member and carry out an inspection of this road at Grange Lower with regard to this request.

Notice of Motion No: 105/2024

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion;-

“That this Council take in charge road at Whelan’s Kilmurray, Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member and carry out an inspection of this road at Kilmurray with regard to this request.

Notice of Motion No: 106/2024

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion

“That Laois County Council include the rest of Springhill Road, Killeslin on the Roads Programme in 2025”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will include the rest of this road in the draft 2025 Roads Programme.

Notice of Motion No: 107/2024

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install parking bays in the Vale Housing Estate, Graiguecullen”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran.
The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member on site to review this issue.

Notice of Motion No: 108/2024

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council make safe the side of the road in Rossmore, Killeshin just down from the statue”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran.
The Members were advised that Laois County Council has recently carried out repair works at this location.

(4) Correspondence

The Members were advised that correspondence had been received from the H.S.E in relation to the following Notice of Motion which had been considered at the September meeting of the Municipal District:-

“That Laois County Council seek an update on the proposed use of the former HSE Clinic on French Church Street in Portarlinton and if it is available for acquisition for Community use”

The HSE were advised that Laois County Council may be interested in the purchase of same. The HSE have requested a valuation from Tailte Eireann (Previously known as Valuation Office) this is standard practise to follow DPER Circular 11/15 for the Transfer of State Property Assets. Tailte Eireann provide an independent valuation which is to be accepted by both parties without dispute should LCC wish to purchase the property. Once we are in receipt of same, the valuation will be considered.

(5) Fix Date for Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on the 20th of November 2024 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Aidan Mullins, M.C.C. , Cathaoirleach

