

Minutes of Meeting for Climate Action and Community Strategic Policy Committee
Held on Monday, 14th September, 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

in Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise

Present:

Cllr. John King, Chairperson
Cllr. James Kelly
Cllr. Padraig Fleming,
Cllr. Ollie Clooney
Mr. Bobby Delaney, Environment/Conservation
Mr. Michael Gorman, Social Inclusion
Ms. Ann Fingleton, Business/Commercial

Apologies:

Ms. Ruth Sullivan, Community/Voluntary

In Attendance:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Service, Ms. Carmel McNicholl Senior Executive Officer,
Ms. Elaine Moore A/Administrative Officer, Ms. Julie Scully, Health Ireland Co-ordinator,
Mr. Tadhg Madden Executive Engineer.

Cllr John King opened the meeting, welcomed everyone.

Confirmation of Minutes

Upon the proposal of Cllr. James Kelly and seconded by Ollie Clooney, the minutes of SPC Meeting held on Monday, 17th July 2020 were confirmed.

Matters arising: the Councillors queried as to when the works on cleaning of the rivers would be carried out to alleviate flooding. All members supported the concerns raised. Donal Brennan Director of Services advised that there was a 3 year plan in place and that works would be carried if there was a major emergency. He also outlined that the remit of the SPC was to formulate, develop and review policy for the Climate Action and Community areas of the Council.

Community Update

Elaine Moore A/Administrative Officer gave an update on the work being carried on in Community presenting an outline of the various funding schemes; COVID 19 Emergency Fund, Community Environmental Grant Schemes, Community Enhancement Programme, Community Enhancement Programme Community Centres & Buildings, CLAR, ORIS, leader and the Town & Village Renewal Scheme plus the accelerate measures stream of same.. Members welcomed the funding and asked a number of questions in relation to the allocation of same.

Healthy Ireland Laois Programme Update

Julie Scully gave an outline of the Health Ireland Fund 2019 – 2021 Round 3 giving a breakdown of how the budget of €234,365 would be spent. The members queried the time frame for the spending of same. They also welcomed Julie to Laois County Council.

Climate Action Strategy Update

Tadhg Madden Executive Engineer gave an update on Climate Action which included information on Measuring the Carbon Footprint of Portlaoise, the installation of Electric Vehicle charge points, the establishment of the Climate Action Team and information on the Sustainable Energy Community group. The members queried a number of items including the installation of electric vehicle charging points in Portlaoise, Tadhg advised the meeting that it was planned to roll the installation out to all towns and village in Laois in the coming years. Cllr. John King requested that Tadhg give a presentation to the full Council meeting.

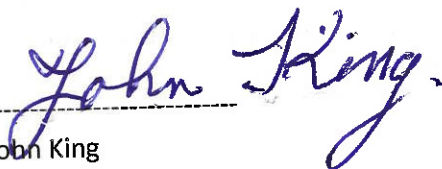
Any Other Business

Mr. Bobby Delaney queried the flooding programme and was advised that the programme for Mountrath was at design phase and that consultants were being appointed for Portarlinton.

Ms Ann Fingleton asked that the SPC examine the Sports, Recreation and Play strategy in light of the current pandemic with a view to enhancing same.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Cllr. John King
Chairperson



Mr. Donal Brennan,
Director of Services

