

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN  
CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT** Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C. (In the Chair)  
Mr. Pádraig Fleming, M.C.C.  
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, M.C.C.  
Mr. P.J. Kelly, M.C.C.  
Ms. Aisling Moran, M.C.C.  
Mr. Aidan Mullins, M.C.C.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Engineer  
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

**Apology:** Mr Philip Mc Veigh, Area Engineer

**(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the February meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2024**

On the proposition of Councillor Paschal McEvoy seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the February meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2024

**(2) Progress Report**

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

**(3) Notice of Motions:-**

**Notice of Motion No: 19/2024**

Councillor Pádraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council examine the roads in the Ballyadams/Ballintubbert area and to put in passing bays as there is a lot of heavy goods vehicles/cars meeting with little room to pass and the edges of roads are being worn away due to this situation”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected the roads in the Ballyadams/ Ballintubbert area and identified suitable locations for passing bays to be installed. These works will be carried out in the coming months.

**Notice of Motion No: 20/2024**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council provide an update on the Doireann Alainn estate in Ballylinan in relation to the boundary timber fence and the safety measures required at the pedestrian entrance out on the main road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this area and will arrange to carry out repairs to the timber fence. Subject to confirmation of agreement by the Residents Association, a gate or suitable alternative can be installed at the pedestrian entrance.

**Notice of Motion No: 21/2024**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out improvements works on the verge of the road and trim back the hedge between Laurel Grove and Rossmore View estates on Church Road, Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this section of the road and will arrange for a hedge cutting notice to be issued to the landowner.

**Notice of Motion No: 22/2024**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council apply for funding under the Active Travel Scheme to continue the recently finished footpath to Oughaval Cemetery, Stradbally up to Oughaval Woods”***

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 the scope of works required. Sources of funding will be explored.

**Notice of Motion No: 23/2024**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council meet with the residents at Kyle, Stradbally Road, Timahoe to discuss the serious flooding outside a number of houses in this area”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet on site as requested to look at possible solutions to resolve the flooding at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 24/2024**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council consider piping a stretch of the roadside drain at Charter Road, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will inspect this stretch of the roadside drain. A meeting on site would be best to identify the critical section.

**Notice of Motion No: 25/2024**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council ensure that the new lights in Killeen are switched on as soon as possible”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road’s Department is awaiting the ESB to energise the connection.

The Members requested that the ESB Area Manager be invited to attend a meeting Municipal District in relation to connectivity. Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Engineer advised that he would liaise with the Area Manager in this regard. Councillor Moran requested that the members be advised of the number of lights paid for but not yet commissioned.

**Notice of Motion No: 26/2024**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council seek TII Funding to carry out repairs to the N80 footpath on the Northern Relief Road in Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Laois County Council Roads Department will visit the site to examine the repairs required to the footpath and will arrange for the remedial measures.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 27/2024**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install a high-speed ramp in the Doireann Alainn estate in Ballylinan”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council can install a ramp in the estate, as requested. The preferred location for the ramp to be confirmed by the Residents’ Association.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 28/2024**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***‘That Laois County Council pipe, drain and make the road safe at Old Leigh, Ballickmoyler’***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. Laois County Council will arrange for these works to be carried out as soon as possible.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 29/2024**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council repair the footpaths in Rochfort Manor Housing Estate in Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this location and will arrange for these works to be carried out as soon as possible.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 30/2024**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council pipe and fill in the drain on the Derrymoyle Lane in Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has inspected this location and will arrange for the piping and backfill of the identified section of the drain to be carried out in the coming months.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 31/2024**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council seek / provide funding for the under grounding of the overhead cables on French Church Street and Upper Main Street in Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will carry out a survey to scope the works required, in terms of the extent and routes of the overhead lines and the underground ducting/footpath replacement works required. A cost estimate can then be prepared to support an application for funding.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 32/2024**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council provide an update on the provision of the proposed traffic calming measures on Lea Road in Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P J Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road’s Department is currently organising a topographical survey which is required to inform a detailed design of the junction. The topographical survey is to be completed in the coming weeks.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 33/2024**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council propose a programme of works for the upgrade of the roundabout at Ballymorris Road in Portarlinton as previously discussed”.***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road’s Dept is currently organising a topographical survey which is required to inform a detailed design of the roundabout. The topographical survey is to be completed in the coming weeks.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 34/2024**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council investigate the possibility of creating a school zone area on the public road outside the Heath National School to help slow traffic during busy school dropping off and collecting times”***

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 the scope of works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 35/2024**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council contact Irish Water to investigate the possibility of installing a sewage connection to the 25 residents on the Portlaoise Road out of Portarlinton and the Canal Road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council will contact Uisce Eireann and revert to the members with an update when a response is received.

**Notice of Motion No: 36/2024**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the potential pedestrian crossing in Ballybrittas Village that was asked for eight months ago”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road’s Dept has carried out speed surveys in Ballybrittas, the outcome of which will inform the assessment for the suitability of a crossing.

**(4) Correspondence**

It was noted that no correspondence had been received since the last meeting of the Municipal District.

A brief discussion took place in relation to a recent press release regarding temporary accommodation for people fleeing the war in Ukraine.

**(5) Fix Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 at 2.00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Ben Brennan, M.C.C. , Cathaoirleach**













