

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ARAS AN CHONTAE,
PORTLAOISE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THE 20th OF APRIL 2023**

PRESENT:

Councillor	Paddy Bracken – In the Chair
Councillor	Ollie Clooney
Councillor	James Kelly
Councillor	Conor Bergin
Councillor	John King
Councillor	Seamus McDonald

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Edmond Kenny, S.E.E. & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the March meeting of Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 20th of March 2023

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor John King the minutes of the March meeting held on the 20th of March 2023 were confirmed as circulated.

(2) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

(3) Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion No: 36/2023

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install additional warning signage on both sides of the bridge at Ballybrophy Train Station and also liaise with Iarnróid Eireann regarding safety measures for same as this junction is becoming a black spot for accidents”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that The Road Design Section of Laois County Council will review the existing advance warning signage provision at this location and examine what additional measures would complement and support safety at this location. Iarnróid Eireann will be contacted with regard to the review and additional measures as required.

Notice of Motion No: 37/2023

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council repair the bridge at Templequaine, Clonmeen, Errill as this bridge is damaged due to the large volume of traffic”

This Notice of Motion was second seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that this bridge will be cleared of vegetation for further inspection. The Elected Member will be updated on the condition of the bridge following the inspection.

Notice of Motion No: 38/2023

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council remove old hedgerow/clay and kerbing on both sides of the present car park in the Shrine area, Rathdowney and replace with tarmac and parking lines in order to provide extra car park spaces, as this area will be extra busy due to a new community garden that will be opened in May of this year”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Council will explore funding options for this in association with the Councillor. It is noted that the Parish of Rathdowney has indicated their permission in principle to leasing this area of the carpark to the Council, which would facilitate the works in question.

Notice of Motion No: 39/2023

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update on progress at Glenbarrow Car Park”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the Council has engaged with the owner of lands immediately beside the existing car park at Glenbarrow and are in the process of signing a long term lease agreement for the site that will allow the council to commence construction. It is expected that the lease will be signed in the coming weeks and the council will be in a position to commence works in early summer 2023.

Notice of Motion No: 40/2023

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois Council erect ‘No Dumping’ signs at the Festival Field, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the requested signage will be erected at the site.

Notice of Motion No: 41/2023

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding problem at Kilcavan Cross”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that level surveys will be completed on this street in the coming days. The outcome of the survey will identify the most suitable outfall. Drainage works will follow.

Notice of Motion No: 42/2023

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council work with Clonaslee Tidy Towns to examine the feasibility of getting the overhead cables in the village placed underground from Clonaslee Heritage Centre down the Main street to the end of the street and all associated works”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will work with Clonaslee Tidy Towns and all relevant stakeholders to assess the feasibility and likely cost of undergrounding overhead cables along the street. This assessment & associated cost estimate would inform any future applications for funding for future village renewal / regeneration / Public realm improvement works.

Notice of Motion No: 43/2023

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council carry out urgently needed road repairs on the L-1514 road at Doon, Borris-in-Ossory between the railway bridge and the M7 Motorway Bridge”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that repairs to the pavement will be undertaken by maintenance crews in the coming days.

Notice of Motion No: 44/2023

Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council provide two infill public lights in the car park adjacent to Killanure National School and the L-1010 Lacka Road”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section of Laois County Council will examine the request for additional lights at this location and consult Councillor Bergin in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 45/2023

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council in conjunction with TII address the lack of surface water drainage at Irishtown, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that a member of staff from the Road Design Section will meet Councillor Bracken to review the drainage issue, where a solution is possible a proposal will be developed and submitted to TII for funding.

Notice of Motion No: 46/2023

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council address the serious safety issues at the pedestrian crossing on the N80 at Emmett Street, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that a member of staff from the Road Design Section will meet Councillor Bracken at the location to assess the current situation and gain an appreciation of the issues with a view to addressing them appropriately.

Notice of Motion No: 47/2023

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council repair the road L21202 at Derrydavy, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that repairs to the pavement will be undertaken by maintenance crews in the coming days.

Notice of Motion No: 48/2023

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding issues on the R435/L1517 junction at Drennan’s Public House and Green Roads Borris in Ossory”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will inspect the existing drainage infrastructure at this site to determine the cause of the flooding issues. A level survey will be undertaken to identify a possible drainage outfall to solve this issue.

Notice of Motion No: 49/2023

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install fencing on Council land at the rear of St Fintan’s Terrace/Fr O’Connor Crescent & Rushall Housing Estates Mountrath to prevent the illegal dumping of household items and waste”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that The Housing Section will investigate this matter with the Environment enforcement Section to ascertain the issue at hand.

Notice of Motion No: 50/2023

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council provide for out of hours on call standby contract services such as plumbing, electrical etc., for this local authority’s tenants”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that currently Laois County Council Housing Maintenance staff are available during normal business hours. In order to provide a full time standby Contract service for plumbing / electrical services outside of normal business hours, additional funding in the Housing Maintenance Area will be required.

Additional Comments – Out of hours

Notice of Motion No: 51/2023

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair the wall adjoining the bridge at Ballynevin, Cullohill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that a number of coping stones are missing from the parapets of the bridge. Laois County Council will undertake to carry out repairs.

Notice of Motion No: 52/2023

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provide a playground in Ballacolla”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that where public playgrounds have been provided in recent years, these have been developed by the local community in an area with the assistance of external grant aid, rather than by direct provision by the Council. For its part the Council, when a public community playground is completed, assists through safety inspections for insurance purposes.

Notice of Motion No: 53/2023

Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair the stone bridge at Bob’s bar on the Erkina in Durrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that a recent collapse of a wall at this bridge has been made safe. A detailed inspection of the collapse will be arranged to determine the rehabilitation needs.

4. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the **18th of May 2023 at 9.30 a.m. in the Council Chamber.**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Director of Services