

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
IN ARAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE, ON THE 17th of DECEMBER 2018**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor	John King	In the Chair
	Councillors	William Aird	Paddy Bracken
		Paschal McEvoy	Padraig Fleming
		Catherine Fitzgerald	Brendan Phelan
		David Goodwin	Tom Mulhall
		Seamus McDonald	Noel Tuohy
		Pauline Madigan	John Moran
		Aidan Mullins	John Joe Fennelly
		Caroline Dwane Stanley	James Kelly
		John Joe Fennelly	

APOLOGIES: Councillor Ben Brennan Mary Sweeney

IN ATTENDANCE:

Messers John Mulholland, Chief Executive, Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

219. VOTE OF SYMPATHY

- (i) The Members expressed a vote of sympathy to Ms. Martina Bracken, Administrative Officer on the death of her mother, Mrs. Carmel Bracken, Craydon Court, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
- (ii) The Members expressed a vote of sympathy to Councillor Ben Brennan on the death of his sister, Mrs. Anne O' Neill, 11 Hillside View, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.

The meeting was adjourned for a period of fifteen minutes as a mark of respect to the deceased in accordance with the Bereavement Protocol.

220. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 26TH OF NOVEMBER 2018

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the Minutes of the November meeting held on the 26th of November 2018 were confirmed as circulated.

221. REPORT ON CPG MEETING HELD ON THE 19th OF NOVEMBER 2018

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor John Moran, the report on the CPG meeting held on the 19th of November 2018 was confirmed as circulated.

**222. REPORT ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS HELD IN NOVEMBER
2018**

On the proposition of Councillor Brendan Phelan seconded by Councillor John Moran, the Members unanimously agreed the reports on Municipal District Meetings held in October 2018.

**223. DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD INTEREST AT 23 BELADD LOWER,
STRADBALLY ROAD, PORTLAOISE**

On the proposition of Councillor Noel Tuohy seconded by Councillor Willie Aird, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of freehold interest at 23 Beladd Lower, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in the townland of Maryborough East for a consideration of €300.00.

**224. NOMINATION OF MR. TOM KELLY TO THE COMMUNITY, SOCIAL,
CULTURAL & HERITAGE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

On the proposition of Councillor Pdraig Fleming seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the nomination of Mr. Tom Kelly, Killamuck, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois to the Community, Social & Cultural & heritage Strategic Policy Committee.

225. TAKING IN CHARGE OF RAILWAY MEWS, PORTARLINGTON

On the proposition of Councillor Aidan Mullins seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy, the Members unanimously agreed to the taking in charge of Railway Mews, Portarlinton

**226. PRESENTATION BY MS. MARY KEOGH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER WITH THE PCDA (PORTARLINGTON COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION LTD) ON THE WORK PROGRAMME OF
PORTARLINGTON ENTERPRISE CENTRE**

Ms. Mary Keogh, Community Development Officer with the PCDA (Portarlinton Community Development Association Ltd) delivered a very comprehensive presentation to the Members on the work programme of the Enterprise Centre in Portarlinton . The Members thanked Ms. Keogh for her work and her presentation in this regard.

227. ADOPTION OF THE LAOIS ARTS PLAN 2018-2022

The Members were circulated with the Laois Arts Plan 2018-2022. On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously adopted the Laois Arts Plan 2018-2022.

228. ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER 2019

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor John Moran, the members unanimously adopted the Audit Committee Charter 2019.

229. ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2019

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor John Moran, the members unanimously adopted the Audit Committee Annual Work Programme 2019.

230. PRESENTATION BY MR. TOM DONNELLAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BORD NA MONA

Mr. Tom Donnellan, Chief Executive, Bord Na Mona attended and delivered a presentation to the Members on Bord Na Mona's future plans and investments for the midlands.

231. RATIFICATION OF CONFERENCES/ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING

The Members were circulated with the list of conferences/training for ratification and forthcoming conferences/training which was ratified on the proposal of Councillor James Kelly and seconded by Councillor Noel Tuohy.

232. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were circulated to the Members which had been received since the last meeting of Laois County Council:-

- (i) Correspondence from the Department of Health dated the 3rd of December 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 31/2018
- (ii) Correspondence from the Department of Health & the Office of the Taoiseach dated the 3rd of December 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 32/2018
- (iii) Correspondence from the Department of Justice and Equality dated the 4th of December 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 35/2018
- (iv) Correspondence from the Department of Justice and Equality dated the 4th of December 2018 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 34/2018

233. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 39/2018

Councillor Willie Aird proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council call on the Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government to increase the allowance whereby people can be admitted onto the housing waiting list”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. It was agreed that a letter issue to the Minister in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 40/2018

Councillor Willie Aird proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update on the position regarding the development of the new Courthouse”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council have been advised that the Courts Service are currently progressing the legal conveyancing of the site.

Notice of Motion No: 41/2018

Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council notify all interested parties and communities throughout Laois of the proposed Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The members were advised that the draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES) was presented to the members of the SPC on the 5th of December 2018 was circulated to the members of the LCDC and the 470 members groups of Laois PPN which represents many communities within the County. It was agreed that all Members receive a copy of the submission.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS