

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE
19th OF JANUARY 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor John King (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor Brendan Phelan
Councillor James Kelly
Councillor Paddy Bracken
Councillor Seamus McDonald
APOLOGIES: Councillor David Goodwin

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Edmond Kenny, A/Senior Executive Engineer, & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary, Corporate Affairs.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF
BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON
THE 15th OF DECMEBER 2016**

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Minutes of the December meeting held on the 15th of December 2016 were confirmed as circulated.

1. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

2. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District would be held on the 16th of February 2017 at 9.30 a.m. in the Fine Gael Room.

3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 01/2017

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council upgrade the inadequate road signage at The Old Forge crossroad Coolrain”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that a sign was removed in the location - Laois County Council will replace the signage. Councillor Kelly indicated that the original sign was on the left hand side of the road going into Coolrain and Councillor Kelly requested that the new signage be moved across the road. Mr. Edmond Kenny, A/Senior Executive Engineer to consider when replacing the signage.

Notice of Motion No: 02/2017

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council upgrade the street lighting at Father O’Connor Crescent and the Fire Station Mountrath to improve nighttime visibility and safety”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the Public Lighting section will look at this location - any upgrade works will be subject to funding being available. However, the public lighting operational budget is limited to pay for energy bills and keep existing lights working. Councillor James Kelly requested that this site be re-visited with a view to replacing the lights at this location. It was agreed that Mr. Farhan Nasiem would be requested to have the matter considered.

Notice of Motion No: 03/2017

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council take the necessary action required to make safe the overhanging trees which are a hazard in Camross graveyard”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. Arrangements will be made to have this matter investigated to determine if there is any hazard/damage in the area. A discussion ensued during which Members expressed concern regarding the unsuitability of evergreen trees in graveyards due to their growth.

Notice of Motion No: 04/2017

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council support that no closure of the second rail line from Ballybrophy to Limerick junction via Roscrea as this line could be used for other services to enhance our tourist trade in our County”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. It was agreed that Laois County Council would support this Notice of Motion.

Notice of Motion No: 05/2017

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council resurface road at Lismurragha Clonmeen Errill as this road was omitted from the roads programme in 2016”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will include it for consideration as part of the 2017 road works program subject to survey and agreement by elected members.

Notice of Motion No: 06/2017

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the serious problem of street lighting in all our towns & villages to see what can be updated & fixed and a survey done to see where new public lights are needed due to our towns increasing in size”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Public lighting operational budget is limited to pay for energy bills and keep existing lights working. There is no funding available to upgrade existing lights and install new lights within public lighting operational budget. Public lighting section works on the new projects and also identifies areas where lights need to be upgraded or requires new installations. If there is any particular area which needs to be addressed, public lighting section can carry out design work on particular location. Any installation will be subject funding being available. The national review is also taking place to replace all existing high energy lights to high efficiency LED lights. Once that review has been completed and funding is allocated all existing lights will be upgraded to LED.

Notice of Motion No: 07/2017

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provides definition signs for Clonaghmore Road, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that Laois County Council agrees to carry out works as requested.

Notice of Motion No: 08/2017

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provides new stop sign at the junction for Barnashrone/Ballyfin Road”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council is aware that the stop sign was knocked as a result of an accident in the location. Laois County Council will replace the signage.

Notice of Motion No: 09/2017

Councillor Patrick Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council be provided with an update on the progress in relation to funding for road safety measures at the dangerous junction for Clonaghadoo on the N80 Mountmellick “

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this safety issue at Clonaghadoo had been raised with TII in 2016. Road Design will be arranging a meeting with TII again in consideration to progress this safety scheme in 2017.

Notice of Motion No: 10/2017

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair bridge and erect warning signs at Clonnaheen/Skerry, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will carry out a survey and investigate further the issues in this area. A costing will be prepared and we can discuss further once some options are available. Mr. Edmond Kenny indicated that he would liaise with Road Design regarding this matter and the timeline for same.

Notice of Motion No: 11/2017

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council connect houses in Goodwin Estate, Rosenallis to sewage treatment plant”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that connections to the public sewer system is now a matter for Irish Water. The matter will be raised with Irish Water through the Asset Needs Brief System.

Notice of Motion No: 12/2017

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council resurface road in Goodwin Estate, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will include it for consideration as part of the 2017 road works programme subject to survey and agreement by elected members.

Notice of Motions No: 13/2017

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council includes the roads at Cloonamore, Clonaslee in the 2017 Roads Programme”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will include it for consideration as part of the 2017 road works program subject to survey and agreement by elected members.

Notice of Motion No: 14/2017

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding problem at house at Ashbrook, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that An inspection of the current drainage at the site will be undertaken with the Councillor to identify the cause of the problem.

Notice of Motion No: 15/2017

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council provide traffic calming measures at Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that A traffic counter will be installed at the site to record speed. The results will establish the need for the erection of signage and the most suitable location.

Notice of Motion No: 16/2017

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council install ramp in showgrounds Rathdowney”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that a traffic counter will be installed at the site to record speed. The results will establish the need for the installation of speed control measures and the most suitable location. Works will be subject to funding availability.

Notice of Motion No: 17/2017

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council extend lights out to Burial road on the Donaghmore Road, Rathdowney “

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Public Lighting section will look at this location - any upgrade works will be subject to funding being available. However, the public lighting operational budget is limited to pay for energy bills and keep existing lights working.

Notice of Motion No: 18/2017

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council request funding to complete upgrade of Durrow”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has prepared an initial cost estimate to complete the next phase of the upgrade works in Durrow. Our Road Design Section will update this cost estimate in light of the out-turn costs for the completed first phase. Potential funding streams could then be explored to complete the upgrade works.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

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

Councillor James Kelly referred to the correspondence discussed at the November meeting of the Municipal District regarding the removal of the disused double telephone box at Market Square and the notice that had been erected by EIR stating that the payphone would be removed on the 16th of December 2016. It was noted that the payphone still remains in Market Square and it was agreed that EIR be contacted to clarify the current position.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE
AFFAIRS