

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20th JUNE 2018 in ÁRAS AN CHONTAE AT 2.00
p.m.**

PRESENT Mr. John Moran, Cathaoirleach (In the Chair)
Mr. Aidan Mullins M.C.C.
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, M.C.C.
Mr. Tom Mulhall, M.C.C.
Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C.
Mr. Pádraig Fleming, M.C.C.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

**1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING OF
GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON
THE 16TH OF MAY 2018**

On the proposal of Councillor Aidan Mullins seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall, the minutes of the May meeting held on the 16th of May 2018 were confirmed as circulated.

2. PROGRESS REPORT

The report was noted and the Members complimented Mr John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

Councillor Brennan requested grass cutting on the N78. Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer indicated that he would meet Councillor Brennan on site with regard to same.

Councillor McEvoy requested some works to be carried out in Killone, Stradbally.

3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 73/2018

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council investigate the poor condition of the road surface at house at Killeen as it is breaking up”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange for this location to be inspected and any necessary repairs complete once a works crew becomes available.

Notice of Motion No: 74/2018

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council investigate the condition of the River Douglas Bank as it is deteriorating”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that an Ecologist is currently surveying sections of the Douglas River on behalf of Laois County Council and carrying out screening works. Works, including repairs to the river bank, will be prioritised based on the results of the survey and available funds and are subject to the approval of National Parks & Wildlife and Inland Fisheries Ireland.

Notice of Motion No: 75/2018

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council investigate the Bridge on the road between Killeen and Maganey as the floor is damaged”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that this location will be inspected and any necessary repairs will be included for consideration in the minor bridge repairs works to be completed in Q3 or Q4 2018.

Notice of Motion No: 76/2018

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council investigate the possibility of putting Rumble Strips on both roads approaching the children’s playground in Timahoe to slow traffic approaching this area”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange for a traffic count and speed survey to be completed at this location over the coming weeks. The provision of safety remedial measures will be considered based on the results of the survey.

Notice of Motion No: 77/2018

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council give an update regarding the removal of the ESB pole at Kerr’s Corner Timahoe”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. *will meet with an ESB representative on site in the next week or so and will contact Councillor McEvoy with an update on this issue.*

Notice of Motion No: 78/2018

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council investigate the possibility of putting traffic calming measures on Portarlinton Road Ballybrittas from the new houses to the (N80)”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange for a traffic count and speed survey to be completed at this location over the coming weeks. The provision of safety remedial measures will be considered based on the results of the survey and this location can also be considered for inclusion in the Road Safety Remedial Measures Programme if deemed necessary.

Notice of Motion No: 79/2018

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council put in place continuous white line and stop road markings at the Bush Cross Ballynolan, Stradbally”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the road from Bush Cross to Yellow Pit Cross is included in the 2018 surface dressing programme. White lining and stop markings will be installed on completion of the surface dressing works.

Notice of Motion No: 80/2018

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council put in place measures to alleviate the flooding at the Hermitage Cross roads Killenard”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that a recent CCTV survey of the drainage pipe crossing under the road

at this location showed damage caused by excavation works previously carried out here. A new road crossing is required and will be installed over the coming months.

Notice of Motion No: 81/2018

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council give an update on when the traffic calming measures will be put in place on Bracklone Street Portarlinton”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that the design for safety works has been approved for this site. Road design is procuring works for this site which will take 5/6 weeks. Subject to funding being finalised these works would start in 8 to 10 weeks.

Notice of Motion No: 82/2018

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install additional public lighting on Lea Road, Portarlinton at the turn off for Killenard”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that public lighting section will inspect this location to assess its suitability with respect to the installation of additional public lighting at the junction. Any upgrade works and new installation will be subject to funding being available.

Notice of Motion No: 83/2018

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install speed ramps at suitable locations in housing estates where safety of residents demands it”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that to protect vulnerable road users such as children, pedestrians and cyclists new 30kph speed limits have been adopted in housing estates throughout Laois in the recent past. Should Councillor Mullins have any specific locations for additional traffic calming measures in mind Mr. Ormond can arrange for a speed survey to be completed to confirm if speed is an issue and suitable preventative measures such as ramps can then be considered.

Notice of Motion No: 84/2018

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council give an update on the taking in charge of Railway Mews in Portarlington & Gracefield Manor in Ballylinan”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised of the following:-

Gracefield Manor - The receivers have recently advised that they have now decided to pay the bond to the Council to complete works within the estate. As a result a call has been made on the bond to Ulster Bank to allow the payment to be made. It is intended to review and update the Bill of Quantities prepared in 2013 and to carry out a tender process with a view to completing the outstanding works. The timeframe is dependent on receipt of the bond monies, however it is hoped to have the tender process completed by the end of September 2018.

Railway Mews - The process of taking in charge of an estate includes a range of infrastructural services reviews. In order to address this matter, a member of staff has been re-assigned to deal with this matter. A timeframe for the completion of this work will be available at the end of the month.

Notice of Motion No: 85/2018

Councillor Pdraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council work with St Fiaccs Soccer Club, Graiguecullen regarding the provision of Playing Pitches and facilities in the area for the Club”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council regularly works with community and sporting bodies to assist those bodies in applying for such nationally funded grants as become available from time-to-time to enhance local sporting facilities.

Notice of Motion No: 86/2018

Councillor Pdraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council install traffic calming measures including the provision of Bollards in the Centre of the Road at key locations in Killeshin

Village in light of the fact there is a school approaching 400 pupils , a number of businesses employing 60 people and extensive sporting facilities e.g GAA, Soccer all of which use the main road for entry and exit to their facilities”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange to meet with Councillor Fleming in Killeshin to discuss traffic calming measures. The existing road width and layout of adjacent junctions would currently not facilitate the installation of bollards in the centre of the road as these would become a traffic hazard. It is also noted that two driver feedback signs have been installed in Killeshin in recent years and that the junction for access to the school is provided with a dedicated right turning lane.

Notice of Motion No: 87/2018

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council ensure that Transport Infrastructure Ireland provide funding on the N 80 near the Mill Cross , Ballylinan so as to resolve the flooding that takes place on the N 80 which causes danger to traffic”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that remedial works were carried out on the N80 at Mill cross in 2017 to resolve flooding issues. Road design will arrange a meeting with Cllr Padraig Fleming to discuss this further.

Notice of Motion No: 88/2018

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council make safe the bridge at Fairymount, Crettyard on the R430”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. will arrange for an inspection to be completed at this bridge to review the existing warning signage and road restraint system. The provision of safety remedial measures will be considered based on the results of the survey and this location can also be considered for inclusion in the Road Safety Remedial Measures Programme if deemed necessary.

Notice of Motion No: 89/2018

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect a street light at the terrace in Doonane on the road to Doonane Chapel”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will review this site for requirement of a public light at this location. Please note there is no capital funding available for installation of new street light. It was agreed that a costing would be sought for a light at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 90/2018

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council make the road wider and safer in the vicinity of Doonane Chapel”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that it was previously agreed that 2 passing bays would be provided along this section of road. It is anticipated that these works will be completed in quarter 3 or early quarter 4 of 2018.

4. Correspondence

Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance advised the Members that a request had been received from Carlow County Council dated the 1st of June 2018 in relation to the scheduling of a joint Carlow/Graiguecullen Municipal District Meeting.

The Members agreed that the meeting would be held following the September meeting of the M.D. on the 26th of September 2018 at a venue to be confirmed.

5. Time and date of next meeting:

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on **26th of September 2018 at 2.00 p.m.**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
John Moran, Cathaoirleach