

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 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 FEBRUARY MEETING OF  
GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON  
THE 21<sup>ST</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2018**

On the proposal of Councillor Aidan Mullins seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall, the minutes of the February meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 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, and, in particular the work carried out in relation to the severe weather.

**3. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**Notice of Motion No: 19/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council put a Cul-de-sac sign at Kyle, Timahoe at the entrance to the “New Road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer will arrange an inspection at this location with Councillor McEvoy. A cul-de-sac sign will be erected if this road is in the charge of the Council.

### **Notice of Motion No: 20/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council put tar and chippings along the road side from Guileen Cross, Ballycoolan to a specified location”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that this location has been included in the schedule of works to be completed by the patching unit. It is expected that these works will be completed within the next two weeks.

### **Notice of Motion No: 21/2018**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council gives an update on the taking charge of Cil Beag Manor Housing Estate, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that once landscaping works are completed subject to weather conditions and footpath provided through open space at final phase of the development, we will consider same with a view to taking in charge.

### **Notice of Motion No: 22/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council progress the replacement of the parapets on the River Barrow Bridge at French Church Street, Portarlinton in co-operation with Offaly County Council and also replace the footpaths on the bridge”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that the Council had appointed RPS Consulting Engineers to prepare tender documents and complete an appropriate assessment of the proposed works as the bridge is located within a special area of conservation. It is expected that parapet replacement works will be tendered in April 2018.

Subject to available funding and tender prices the finished scheme will have a full upgrade of the bridge parapets and footpaths.

### **Notice of Motion No: 23/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council commence the implementation of the Landscape Improvement Plan for Portarlinton in conjunction with the local Tidy Towns Committee”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that the Council has commenced the implementation of the Landscaping Improvement Plan for Portarlinton where it has recently undertaken landscaping works at Shiphouse on the R419 Portlaoise Road. The Area office is currently preparing tender documents for the construction of 100m of new footpath at this location also. The 3 Year Rolling Action Plan submitted by the Tidy Towns Association is being examined. Further works during 2018 will be considered in conjunction with the local Tidy Towns Association subject to available funding.

### **Notice of Motion No: 24/2018**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the commencement of a programme of footpath repair/ replacement in Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Tom Mulhall. The Members were advised that Virgin Media has informed Laois County Council that it intends commencing the installation of infrastructure for its fibre broadband rollout programme in Portarlinton in May 2018.

On completion of the initial stages of Virgin Media works it is the intention of Laois County Council to commence its programme of footpath repairs in Portarlinton.

The extent of the works to be completed in 2018 will be determined by available funding. Mr. Aidan Mullins requested maps of works and Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would forward same when available.

### **Notice of Motion No: 25/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council repair the pothole on the corner at Woodlands on the road between Ballickmoyer and Tolerton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/S.E.E. has arranged for the patching unit to complete pothole repair works at this location.

### **Notice of Motion No: 26/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council install a stop sign at house at Grange, Maganey”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that several replacement stop signs have recently been procured and one will be erected at this location within the next two to three weeks.

### **Notice of Motion No: 27/2018**

Councillor John Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:

***“That this Council install a stop sign at Ballintubbert House where the three roads meet”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer will arrange for this stop sign to be installed within the next two to three weeks.

### **Notice of Motion No: 28/2018**

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update for what drainage and dredging they have in mind for the River Barrow and its tributaries in 2018”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council is currently preparing appropriate assessment screening reports and walk over surveys for proposed works on the River Barrow north of

Dunrally Bridge, the Stradbally River between Stradbally and Garran's Bridge and parts of the Douglas River. Some vegetation removal works have been completed on the Stradbally River during February 2018. Mr J Ormond agreed to check with the OPW if they had any plans for drainage works near Graiguecullen (St Mullins).

**Notice of Motion No: 29/2018**

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council call on TII to erect cameras on the roundabouts at interchange 15 on the M7 as there are vehicles driving up on the roundabout and cutting up the grass”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that a letter will issue from the Roads Department to the TII.

**Notice of Motion No: 30/2018**

Councillor Tom Mulhall proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update as to when the public road in Portarlinton from Ballymorris Road to Portlaoise Road will be open to the public”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that the Planning Section will make contact with the developer in relation to timelines in this regard.

**Notice of Motion No: 31/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council repair the drains outside of house on the R431”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has recently completed works at this location to help alleviate water flows. Mr. John Ormond has also arranged to meet with the adjacent land owner week ending the 23rd March to discuss necessary works on private property which are needed to restrict the quantities of water entering the road drainage system outside Mr Ryan's dwelling. Any necessary repairs to the road

drainage system will be completed in conjunction with the works to be completed by the adjacent landowner.

**Notice of Motion No: 32/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council erect public lights on the Strand Road, Ballickmoyler as there is a lot of pedestrian traffic at this location”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Public Lighting Section will look at this location - any upgrade works will be subject to funding being available.

**Notice of Motion No: 33/2018**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council erect a Stop Sign at the dangerous junction as you head for Lower Rossmore”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer would arrange to meet Councillor Brennan on site to identify the exact location where the stop sign is required and will arrange for a stop sign to be installed.

**Notice of Motion No: 34/2018**

Councillor Pádraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“To ask Laois County Council to resolve the flooding issues outside the houses in the semicircle, at Imleach, The Swan”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond *will inspect this location to determine the cause of surface water ponding and also the works required to resolve the issue. Any necessary remedial works will be completed subject to available funding.*

**Notice of Motion No: 35/2018**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“To ask Laois County Council to put road markings/ stop signs at the entrance to Highfield Manor, Mullin’s Lane, Graiguecullen as well as line markings on Mullin’s Lane off Crosneen Road in the interest of proper traffic control”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Highfield Manor is not in the charge of Laois County Council and that Mr J Ormond had inspected this location and noted that there is a stop sign located at the entrance to the estate. Mr Ormond indicated that he will review the line markings on the public road at this location to determine what is required in accordance with chapter 7 (line markings) of the Traffic Signs Manual.

**Notice of Motion No: 36/2018**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“To ask Laois County Council to look at the road directional/ signage at the Ballintubbert triangle in the interest of health and safety”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Mr. John Ormond, A/Senior Executive Engineer will arrange an inspection of this junction for the suitability of existing directional signage and will discuss proposals for new directional signage with Councillor Fleming where necessary.

**5. Time and date of next meeting:**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on **18<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 at 2.00 p.m.**

**6. Schedule of Municipal Works 2017**

On the proposition of Councillor Paschal McEvoy seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins, the schedule of Road Works programme for 2018, as presented by Mr. John Ormond, Area Engineer was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Tom Mulhall enquired as to the possibility of extra funding for roadworks following the severe weather events. Mr John Ormond, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would have the matter checked.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**John Moran, Cathaoirleach**

