

**MINUTES OF THE BORRIS IN OSSORY/ MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE
21ST OF MARCH 2019**

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Ms. Orla Barrett, S.E.E., Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON THE 20TH OF FEBRUARY 2019

On the proposition of Councillor Seamus McDonald seconded by Councillor John King, the Minutes of the February meeting held on the 20th of February 2019 were confirmed as circulated.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising. Mr. Paddy Bracken, Cathaoirleach indicated that Mr. Ger O' Mahony acknowledged receipt of our letter of good wishes to him and thanked the Municipal District for same.

3. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on the **18th of April 2019 at 9.30 a.m.**

4. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 37/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council provide funding to extend the footpath from Debbicott to the Rock School, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that preliminary cost estimates for extending this footpath, including drainage and public lighting, indicates that the level of funding required substantially exceeds that available for new footpaths in the Municipal District. The Council will examine the contexts and needs for the scheme to help justify expending the estimated funding before exploring alternative funding sources to deliver this infrastructure. There would also be a requirement to work with the community to examine potential alternatives.

A discussion ensued during which Members indicated that this is a very important piece of infrastructure. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. undertook to examine the different options which may be available.

Notice of Motion No: 38/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council resolve the flooding problem outside Canal House, Strahard, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that this issue will be addressed as part of planned works on Strahard Lane in 2019.

Councillor Bracken requested that the matter be addressed as a matter of urgency as there is an elderly couple living at the location in question.

Notice of Motion No: 39/2019

Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair the road/footpaths in O’ Moore Street, Mountmellick”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that this will be investigated and necessary repairs will be addressed.

Notice of Motion No: 40/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council carry out repairs on the Roundwood/Killenure Road”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that any necessary repairs at this location will be addressed.

Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. in responding to a query indicated that the works should be carried out by early Summer 2019 as there are some drainage works to be carried out firstly to ensure that the problem is fully resolved.

Notice of Motion No: 41/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council extend footpath at Belair, Clonaslee”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the extension of the footpath at this location will be delivered subject to funding.

Notice of Motion No: 42/2019

Councillor David Goodwin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair road at Clonaghadoo”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that repairs to the public road will be undertaken at this location.

Notice of Motion No: 43/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council devise safety measures for the village of Ballaghmore Borris in Ossory such as Amber signs / digital speed signs / and rumble strips and road markings where needed to create traffic control for patrons attending school and local shop.”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor James Kelly. The Members were advised that Road Design Section will review this junction in view to improve safety at this location. Any proposed works at this location will be subject to funding being available.

Councillor King advised that road markings are gone completely here and requested if a digital speed sign could be provided in the interim – Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. to consider same.

Notice of Motion No: 44/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council re-surface road and carry out drainage works and road markings at the Harp road junction Rathdowney towards the IDA factory as this road is in poor condition and is also the Main Road to Kilkenny from Rathdowney”

This Notice of motion was seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan. The Members were advised that the R435 Johnstown Road in Rathdowney, from the Harp road to the speed limits near Erkina Court, is included on the 2019 Road Strengthening Programme.

Councillor King advised that drainage works are required at this location also – Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that these would be considered before the road strengthening.

Notice of Motion No: 45/2019

Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council carry out a safety audit at the dangerous junction at Aghaboe Abbey, Ballacolla and works should include rumble strips and cautionary signs in an effort to reduce speed to make this a safe area for tourists and motorists”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. The Members were advised that the Road Design Section will review this Junction to improve safety. On outcome of the review this will be consider for Safety scheme funding application in 2020.

Councillor King indicated that this is a black spot for accidents and being a tourist attraction he would like to see works carried out here in 2019 rather than 2020. Councillor Kelly & Phelan also indicated that this is a dangerous junction and requires road safety measures to be carried out as soon as possible.

Notice of Motion No: 46/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council address the parking issues at Ossory Court Housing Estate, Borris in Ossory”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that lining of parking bays in Ossory Court will be included in the 2019 lining programme.

Councillor Kelly indicated that there are only 10 car park spaces here for the number of houses that are in the estate. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would visit the location with Councillor Kelly with a view to looking at the design.

Notice of Motion No: 47/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council carry out remedial works to address the sub standard condition of the footpath near the Health Centre Borris in Ossory”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that *this will be addressed shortly.*

Notice of Motion No: 48/2019

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council address the flooding issues on the L5661 at Clonard, Trumera and also on the L5661 the poor condition of the road surface on the motorway bridge over the M7 at Clonard”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that this will be investigated and any flooding issues will be addressed, subject to funding.

The matter concerning the motorway bridge carrying the L5661 over the M7 was referred to the maintenance contractor for the M7/M8 motorway scheme, Celtic Roads Group, who responded as follows:

“The road surface on the L5661 was recently cleaned as part of our annual maintenance regime... I have thoroughly inspected the section of road and there are no issues or concerns with the surface or structural characteristics of this element, including skid resistance. As and when the condition of this element warrants renewal, CRG will include it in our annual renewals programme for the scheme. At present, this section of road does not require works in 2019.”

Councillor James Kelly indicated that water is lodging at Delaney’s house. Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. to visit the location with Councillor Kelly.

Notice of Motion No: 49/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That Laois County Council repair bridge at property at Clonaheen, Rosenallis”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that repairs to this bridge will be carried out as necessary.

Notice of Motion No: 50/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council clean river at Laught, Geashill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that this will be considered for inclusion in the 2019 programme of works for the River Barrow.

Notice of Motion No: 51/2019

Councillor Seamus McDonald proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That Laois County Council erect sign for Laois at Moneyquid, Killeigh”

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor David Goodwin. The Members were advised that a sign is located on the N80 at Moneyquid.

Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. indicated that he would investigate the location that Councillor McDonald is referring to.

Notice of Motion No: 52/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council restore footpaths in Cullohill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded John King. The Members were advised that these footpaths will be investigated and any repairs will be undertaken.

Councillor Phelan requested that an overlay seal could be considered.

Notice of Motion No: 53/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council give an update on provision of amenity park and walkway in Borris-in-Ossory”

This Notice of Motion was seconded James Kelly. The Members were advised that TVRS 2018 funding has been secured to provide an amenity park and walkway in Borris-in-Ossory. Work will be completed by summer 2019.

Notice of Motion No: 54/2019

Councillor Brendan Phelan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council repair road L5755/L5753 at Ballykealy, Cullohill”

This Notice of Motion was seconded John King. The Members were advised that these roads will be repaired under planned routine works.

5. SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

On the proposition of Councillor John King seconded by Councillor David Goodwin, the Members unanimously agreed to the Schedule of Municipal District Works as presented.

The Members complimented Mr. Stan Cullen, A/S.E.E. and all the staff in the areas for the outstanding work carried out in 2018.

The Members raised the issue of staffing for the area. Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services advised that Mr. Dermot Dunne has been assigned as an additional staff member to the area and there are ongoing recruitment campaigns to fill any vacancies which may become vacant.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

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

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
**DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

