

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER 2022 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT** Mr. Paschal McEvoy, Cathaoirleach (In the Chair)  
Mr. Aidan Mullins M.C.C.  
Mr. Pdraig Fleming, M.C.C.  
Mr. P.J. Kelly, M.C.C.  
Mr. Ben Brennan, M.C.C.  
Ms. Aisling Moran, M.C.C.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer

- (1) (i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the October meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2022**

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the October meeting of the Graiguecullen / Portarlington Municipal District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.

- (2) (ii) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Budget meeting of the Graiguecullen / Portarlington Municipal District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2022**

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the budget meeting of the Graiguecullen / Portarlington Municipal District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2022

**(3) Progress Report**

The report was noted, and the Members complimented Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer and all the team on the works that had been completed since the last meeting.

Councillor Aidan Mullins raised the issue of repairs required to public lights at the road junction to Killenard outside Portarlington and other lights in Bracklone Street and the Link Road, Portarlington.

Mr P Mc Veigh agreed to provide a response to the speed review in Killeshin, charging points for Killeshin and Graiguecullen and a speed limit review on the Carlow Road, Ballylinan. Free parking in Portarlington in the lead up to Christmas was requested.

#### (4) Notice of Motions

##### **Notice of Motion No: 121/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council review the location of the pedestrian crossing at the junction of French Church Street and the Link Road in Portarlinton. Many pedestrians and drivers are claiming it is a hazard because of its location”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Road Design will meet with Councillor Aidan Mullins at the Pedestrian Crossing at the junction of French Church Street and the Link Road in Portarlinton and review the location of the crossing and assess safety measures.

##### **Notice of Motion No: 122/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out traffic surveys on Ballymorris Road and also in Droughill, Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to carry out traffic surveys at these two locations in the coming weeks.

##### **Notice of Motion No: 123/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out surveys of the trees in housing estates to identify those causing obstruction to pedestrians and road users and arrange to have them cut back”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to carry out a survey in housing estates and will arrange to have any identified road / footpath obstructions, located in public areas, cut back.

##### **Notice of Motion No: 124/2022**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the hedge that is falling down due to pipe laying on the road in front of Pedigree”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pdraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has contacted the Ballylehane Group Water Scheme

requesting them to engage with a consultant to investigate this issue and provide a report to the Council.

Once the issue is investigated and a report provided then the Council will review.

**Notice of Motion No: 125/20222**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install an additional gully on the road in Oakley Park, Graiguecullen to prevent a house being flooded at this location”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member at this location to review the scope of drainage works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 126/2022**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council examine the flooding issue outside a dwelling house at the bottom of the Cuts Road in Killeslin”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet on site with the Elected Member to identify the works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 127/2022**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council liaise with the ESB to remove the overhead wires in Killeen Village as previously discussed”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council recently met with the ESB on site in Killeen to identify the works required to remove the overhead lines near the bridge and route them underground. We are currently liaising with the ESB with a view to having a proposal prepared for a possible future funding application.

**Notice of Motion No: 128/20222**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council install two speed tables in Killeen Village to further try to reduce the speed going through the village in light of the results of the recent speed survey”***

This Notice of was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has recently completed a traffic count / speed survey on the two approach roads on the R429 into Killeen (near the school and the Church) and the survey results indicated high traffic speeds at both sites. We will check this section of road to identify possible suitable locations for the installation of speed tables.

**Notice of Motion No: 129/2022**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council repair the flooding issue at Ballyfoyle as previously pointed out”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will investigate this month the cause of the flooding at this junction in Ballyfoyle to identify the remedial works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 130/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council erect a Stop Sign at Byrne’s Lane on the N80”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for a Stop sign to be installed at this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 131/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council remove the ditch at a dangerous bend at Ballinaclea, Timahoe and replace it with a timber fence”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member at this location to review the scope of works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 132/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That this Council trim back the trees and re-surface the back lane at Church Avenue housing estate, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet on site with the Elected Member to identify the works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 133/2022**

Councillor PJ Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council renew and make visible the road markings at Hermitage Crossroads as locals fear accidents happening with hotel and golf users not being familiar with the stop and go system that operates there”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for the road markings at this crossroads to be refreshed as soon as possible.

**Notice of Motion No: 134/2022**

Councillor PJ Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council widen the exit lane on the roundabout at Cappakeel for Vicarstown. Articulated lorries, tractor trailer units and large buses are mounting the kerb regularly and potentially damaging tyres”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange to meet on site with the Elected Member to scope the works required to this roundabout.

**Notice of Motion No: 135/2022**

Councillor PJ Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council consider putting in place a bus stop canopy opposite the Montague hotel in the interest of safety as residents are standing on the side of the road in the winter months in total darkness waiting for buses. Many road users have brought this to my attention as a matter of urgency”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council does not currently have funds to provide the bus shelter requested. The council awaits further direction from the NTA as regarding how such stand-alone bus shelters will be funded and supplied going forward.

**Notice of Motion No: 136/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council carry out safety works at the crossroads at Crossard, Wolfhill to improve the visibility on the left-hand side towards Luggacurren and to re-surface the 2 lay-bys in the area as identified”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has carried out improvement works at this crossroads in the

last week to improve visibility at the junction. We will arrange to resurface the two lay-bys near this crossroads in the coming week.

**Notice of Motion No: 137/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

*“That Laois County Council refresh the road markings at the 4 crossroads / junctions from the Kildare border towards Barrowhouse including the centre road white line markings at two of the crossroads / junctions in the interest of health and safety”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for these road markings, including the centre line markings, at these crossroads, to be refreshed.

**Notice of Motion No: 138/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

*“That Laois County Council refresh the road markings at Ballyhide Cross, Killestin and include hedge cutting where relevant in the interest of health and safety for road users”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will inspect this crossroads with a view to carrying out the identified improvement works.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The members noted that there is to be a Public Consultation Day 2 for the Portarlinton Flood Relief Scheme in Portarlinton Community Centre on the 24<sup>th</sup> November between 2pm and 7pm. It was noted that this has been advertised widely.

**5. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlinton Municipal District would take place on the **7<sup>th</sup> of December 2022** at 2.00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paschal McEvoy, Cathaoirleach