

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER 2022 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT** Mr. Pdraig Fleming, Cathaoirleach (In the Chair)  
Mr. Aidan Mullins M.C.C.  
Mr. Paschal McEvoy, 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 September meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2022**

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

- (2) **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.

- (3) **Notice of Motions**

**Notice of Motion No: 103/20222**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council contact the TII to install safety measures on the N78 at the Creamery and Geneva Stores in Crettyard”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange a site meeting with Councillor Ben Brennan to identify issues at this location and will propose safety improvement works as required. Councillor Moran requested that Laois County Council contact the T.I.I. about this location.

**Notice of Motion No: 104/20222**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council re-paint the road markings on the pedestrian crossing at the school in the Swan”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Council will arrange for these road markings to be carried out as soon as possible. Councillor Brennan requested that the ramp be re-painted as well.

**Notice of Motion No: 105/2022**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council install safety measures at the junction of the Mall on the R430 which is very dangerous for people crossing over from the Crettyard side”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council will arrange to install a speed radar on the R430 approach to the junction from the Graiguecullen side and to provide additional road markings.

**Notice of Motion No: 106/2022**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council investigate the possibility of putting in place a footpath / cycle lane around the Killimy part of Emo Village from the church to Kennel’s Cross turning left up to Coolbanagher and then left back into the village”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the proposed development of a footpath at this location does not fall under the category of Active Travel given its location in an 80kph zone and population numbers served. Councillor Kelly agreed to review with the Council’s engineer Mr D Donoghue.

**Notice of Motion No: 107/20222**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council examine the road around the National Ploughing Championship site and carry out any necessary repairs where required”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will arrange for routine maintenance works to be carried out in this area. This will involve re-opening of water cuts and repairing any road damage that has occurred.

### **Notice of Motion No: 108/2022**

Councillor P.J. Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council carry out repairs to the footpath on Church Avenue, Stradbally as some parts are very steep and can prove very slippery and dangerous in frosty weather”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council will consider this project for the 2023 programme of works subject to IPB funding being available.

### **Notice of Motion No: 109/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on possible funding for a new footpath from the Railway Station to Corrig Wood as previously discussed”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that the Active Travel Engineer has enquired with the NTA regarding the status of the application for funding for this project. Members will be further advised upon receipt of the NTA update.

### **Notice of Motion No: 110/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on possible funding for a new footpath on the Bog Road, Portarlinton from the entrance to Derryounce Walkway to the junction with Botley Lane as previously discussed”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that the Council has carried out a survey and met with representatives from Offaly County Council at this location. A quotation for the works on the Laois side has been obtained and an Ecological Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been completed for these works.

A funding application was submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) in May 2022 and the outcome of this application is awaited.

### **Notice of Motion 111/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council carry out a survey on local road L-3953 with a view to lowering the speed limit”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out on this section of road in Ballintubbert.

### **Notice of Motion No: 112/2022**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council consider the installation of safety measures to facilitate farmers to cut back hedges on both sides of the road, from Glosna Cross to the Swan with a view to making the road safer as there have been a number of accidents on that road”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected this road and will arrange to install electronic VMS's (Variable Message Signs) – one at each end of the road for a designated week. The VMS's will facilitate any landowners who want to cut their hedges along the road.

### **Notice of Motion No: 113/2022**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council replace the footpaths in Saint Abban’s Terrace Killeen, as they are in a very poor condition and are a trip hazard”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected this footpath at Saint Abban’s Terrace and is in the process of obtaining a quotation for these works. Based on the available funding, the works may need to be carried out on a phased basis.

### **Notice of Motion No: 114/2022**

Councillor Aisling Moran proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council repair the recently damaged wall at Gale’s Bridge Castletown and investigate if it needs reinforcement”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected this bridge which was recently damaged and are currently engaging with a Contractor to carry out the masonry repair works to the bridge.

### **Notice of Motion No: 115/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council investigate the flooding on the R430 at the Swan Village as there has been an increase in the volume of surface water on the road recently”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal McEvoy. The Members were advised that the Council has investigated this flooding on the R430. There appears to be some damage to the existing surface water drain following the recent watermain installation carried out on behalf of Irish Water. The Irish Water contractor is planning to resolve this in the coming week.

### **Notice of Motion No: 116/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council repair / reinstate the road edge surface at the 2 locations as identified on the Boley Road, Ballylinan”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that the Council has investigated and completed the road repair works at both locations.

### **Notice of Motion No: 117/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the Bridge repairs at Clopook, Luggacurren”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected this bridge and is currently in the process of appointing a contractor to carry out the repair works. These works will be carried out as soon as possible.

### **Notice of Motion No: 118/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council carry out a safety assessment of the trees on the footpaths on Main Street Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P.J. Kelly. The Members were advised that the Council will arrange to meet the Elected Member to review the trees of concern and will arrange for an arborist to advise on any issues ahead of any works.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 119/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

*“That this Council provide more parking spaces at the Kylebeg Housing Estate, Athy Road, Stradbally”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aisling Moran. The Members were advised that there are currently a number of car parking spaces located at the green area opposite the houses. The Council will arrange to meet with the Elected Member to review this issue and to identify where additional parking is required.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 120/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

*“That this Council repair the box shore at the Pike Cross Timahoe”*

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that the Council has inspected this location and scoped the repair works required. These works will be carried out as soon as possible.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Councillor Aidan Mullins sought an update on the pedestrian crossing at Bracklone Street and Councillor P.J. Kelly sought an update on the speed radar sign at Ballybrittas

#### **5. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlinton Municipal District would take place on the **16<sup>th</sup> of November 2022** at 2.00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

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Paschal McEvoy, Cathaoirleach