

**MINUTES OF THE GRAIGUECULLEN/PORTARLINGTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 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.

**APOLOGIES:** Ms. Aisling Moran, M.C.C.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. Philip McVeigh, Senior Executive Engineer

**(1) (i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the June meeting of the Graiguecullen  
Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2022**

On the proposition of Councillor A Mullins seconded by Councillor P Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the June meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2022.

**(i) (ii) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of the  
Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2022**

On the proposition of Councillor A Mullins seconded by Councillor P Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed the minutes of the Annual General meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlington Municipal District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 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.

Councillor Mc Evoy raised the issue of the pedestrian crossing at the Library in Stradbally and requested that its location be reviewed. Mr Mc Veigh agreed to meet the members on site. Councillor Brennan raised concerns regarding a section of roadway at Shanrath.

### (3) Notice of Motions

#### **Notice of Motion No: 88/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the repair and replacement of damaged and missing equipment in the Children’s Playground in Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P J Kelly. The Members were advised that the specialist parts and replacement units have been on order for 12-16 weeks from the agents who are experiencing considerable delays from the manufacturers. Equipment for 2 play items was delivered last week and these are being installed this week. Equipment for the Zipline was shipped last week and will be installed as soon as it arrives. A date for the shipping of the final unit is awaited. Court repairs have been completed and court marked.

It was requested that Laois County Council should examine different suppliers and provide extra seating.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 89/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council carry out a survey on the pedestrian crossing at the entrance to St. Brigid’s Square on Bracklone Street in Portarlinton. A number of incidents at the crossing have been reported to me by local residents”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal Mc Evoy. The Members were advised that Road Design will arrange a safety audit for this junction and Pedestrian Crossing.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 90/2022**

Councillor Aidan Mullins proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois Council confirm when overhead electricity lines will be removed, and new lamp standards installed on Main Street in Portarlinton”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P J Kelly. The Members were advised that ESB advise that they will be on site for 2 weeks commencing 19<sup>th</sup> of September and should be ready to complete the electrical switchover and removal of overhead lines by the first week in October. The Council will then arrange for the new streetlights to be installed.

#### **Notice of Motion No: 91/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council make safe the wall beside St Colman’s School, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P J Kelly. The Members were advised that this wall is in private ownership and that the Council has contacted the owner and requested that it be made safe. The Council is currently working with the owner and the adjacent landowner to progress the repair of this wall.

**Notice of Motion No: 92/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council carry out a lighting assessment at Charter Road, Stradbally”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that Road Design will carry out a lighting survey at Charter Road.

**Notice of Motion No: 93/2022**

Councillor Paschal McEvoy proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That this Council consider purchasing the Old Convent in Stradbally which has come on the market recently”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor P J Kelly. The Members were advised that the site is a protected structure and so while acknowledging the value of the site within the town centre, the challenges of developing the site would have to be assessed and considered. G Murphy advised that the building would be assessed.

**Notice of Motion No: 94/2022**

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

***“That Laois County Council investigate the possibility of putting in place a foot path / cycle lane from Killenard primary school to O’ Dempsey’s GAA Ground”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that the Council recognises the importance of bringing about connectivity between schools and sports clubs, particularly in our rural villages. Subject to approval by the National Transport Authority, the feasibility of developing a pedestrian / cycle track from Killenard to O’ Dempsey’s GAA will require consideration of constraints such as speed limits, third party landowners, road drainage, environmental issues, etc. The Engineer will contact Councillor Kelly to arrange a site meeting.

**Notice of Motion No: 95/2022**

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

***“That Laois County Council make safe the junction known as Powell’s Crossroads on the Portarlington / Ballybrittas Road as the view turning to Killenard can be very dangerous”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal Mc Evoy. The Members were advised that the Council will survey this location in order to include safety improvement works required in the funding application for 2023 Low Cost Safety Improvement Works.

**Notice of Motion No: 96/2022**

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

***“That Laois County Council install water gullies on the Rath Road near the Ballyadding Lane junction to help alleviate flooding during times of very wet weather”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal Mc Evoy. The Members were advised that the Council will obtain a quotation for these works with a view to carrying out the works as soon as possible.

**Notice of Motion No: 97/2022**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the taking in charge of Meadows Way and Tommy Murphy Housing Estate Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were given the following update: -

**Meadows Way:** Works have been carried out on the estate in the last 4 weeks and include repairs to foul sewer and cycle track, the provision of final surfacing to roadway and the provision of additional fire hydrants. However, 2no. additional public lights are required and there is a delay in sourcing these due to supply issues but should have them in the next 10-12 weeks. Once the additional lights are in place it can be recommended for taking in charge.

**Tommy Murphy Park:** This has been advertised for taking in charge and will be on the agenda for the September Council Meeting.

**Notice of Motion No: 98/2022**

Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council give an update on the safety measures being put in place on the R 430 in Killeshin”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Road Design propose traffic calming measures at the location and will arrange a site meeting with Councillor Brennan.

**Notice of Motion No: 99/2022**

**Councillor Ben Brennan proposed the following Notice of Motion: -**

***“That Laois County Council repair the footpaths in Oakley Park in Graiguecullen”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will carry out a survey of the footpaths in this area to determine the scope of works required.

**Notice of Motion No: 100/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council install additional signage and road markings on the N78 at Pedigree Corner near Ballylinan on both approaches to the crossroads in the interest of Health & Safety as traffic travels at excessive speeds on this stretch of road causing a danger to traffic, etc crossing the N 78”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan. The Members were advised that Road Design will engage with Transport Infrastructure Ireland’s Safety Engineer to propose and implement safety measures at these locations.

**Notice of Motion No: 101/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council, in the interest of health and safety, install 30 KPH signs at the entrance to Graigue Na hAbhann, Graiguecullen plus children at play / slow signage on the right hand side as you drive into the estate down as far as the Children’s playground”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Aidan Mullins. The Members were advised that the Council will arrange to install these signs in October.

**Notice of Motion No: 102/2022**

Councillor Padraig Fleming proposed the following Notice of Motion: -

***“That Laois County Council develop a plan for the roads in the Ballyadams area to include signage /road markings”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paschal Mc Evoy. The Members were advised that Laois County Council has carried out a survey of the roads in this area. Roads for surfacing will be prioritised and included in the next road’s programme. Additional road markings and signage will, also, be installed at identified locations in this area.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

**5. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Graiguecullen/Portarlinton Municipal District would take place on the **19<sup>th</sup> of October 2022** at 2.00 p.m. followed thereafter by the budget meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Padraig Fleming, Cathaoirleach**