

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BORRIS-IN-OSSORY/MOUNTMELICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE AND VIA MICROSOFT  
TEAMS ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER 2023**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	John King – In the Chair
Councillor	Ollie Clooney
Councillor	James Kelly
Councillor	Conor Bergin
Councillor	Paddy Bracken

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Seamus McDonald

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Director of Services, Mr. Edmond Kenny, Senior Executive Engineer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

**(1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the November meeting of Borris-in-Ossory/Mountmellick Municipal District held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023**

On the proposition of Councillor Conor Bergin seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken, the minutes of the November meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 were confirmed as circulated.

**(2) Matters Arising**

Councillor James Kelly raised the following Notice of Motion which was considered at the November meeting of the Municipal District:

**Notice of Motion No: 131/2023**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

**“That this Council through its Business Support Unit, Local Enterprise Office and Laois Leader Partnership offices provide all their supports, grant aids and professional expertise to engage with Mountrath Co-Op Livestock Mart committee to help them with costs associated with reopening the business”**

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that to-date Laois County Council have been in contact with Mountrath Co-op Livestock Mart Committee advising them on the various supports that might be available through the LEO Office to help them with the re-opening of the businesses. As advised to the committee, Laois County Council’s capital funds are directed towards manufacturing and export orientated businesses which means unfortunately that LEO would not be able to provide funding support for the reopening of the mart. There may be some options at a later stage if they were looking to diversify into something else but at the moment they are only looking

at a return to business as per previous operations. We will continue to engage with the committee in terms of soft supports i.e., mentoring/training etc., that they might wish to avail of at a later stage.

### **(3) Vote of Sympathy**

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following families:-

- The Delaney family on the recent death of Mr. John Delaney, Kyledellig, Ballacolla, Co. Laois.
- The Poole family on the recent death of Mr. Muiris Poole, Capard, Rosenallis, Co. Laois.
- The Duggan family, 18 Fr. O' Connor Crescent, Mountrath on the recent death of Rose.
- The O' Riordan family, Davitt Road, Mountmellick Co. Laois on the recent death of Seamus.

### **(4) Notice of Motions**

#### **Notice of Motion No: 141/2023**

*Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:*

***"That Laois County Council address the overgrown trees blocking the public light adjacent to the health centre in Clonaslee"***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will carry out a site visit to assess the overgrowth and will carry out tree trimming should it be required.*

#### **Notice of Motion No: 142/2023**

*Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***"That Laois County Council address the flooding/drainage issues at Ballyquaid as a matter of priority"***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that the drainage issue will be inspected and measures taken as required.*

#### **Notice of Motion No: 143/2023**

*Councillor Conor Bergin proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***"That Laois County Council address the dangerous overhanging trees at Brocka, Clonaslee"***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Paddy Bracken. The Members were advised that the location in question will be visited and ownership of the trees established. Following assessment/ confirmation of the hazard posed to users of the public road the relevant landowner will be contacted to take action as required.*

**Notice of Motion No: 144/2023**

*Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That Laois County Council give priority to re-surfacing the road from the four roads junction, Cullahill including Turfarney/Shragh Hill to Coolkerry Cross, Rathdowney. This road has not been re-surfaced in over 30 years and also request land owners to trim back the hedgerows to all these roads to dry a little during the winter months”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that this road will be considered as part of 2024 roads programme having regard to the 3 year programme previously agreed with members.*

***The following two Notice of Motions were taken together:-***

**145/2023 – Councillor John King**

***“That this Council put in place road safety measures outside St. Pious National School in Ballacolla as a matter of urgency as this school area is very busy with parents dropping off children for school and GAA activities”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will provide what assistance they can insofar as matters come under the remit of the Local Authority.*

**148/2023 – Councillor Ollie Clooney**

***“That Laois County Council install traffic calming measures at Ballacolla Primary School”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road Design office will review the existing traffic arrangements in the vicinity of the primary school and consider options for improving safety at the at this location.*

**Notice of Motion No: 146/2023**

*Councillor John King proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That Laois County Council engage with Clough Vision Group in supporting them with their plans for the new Community Hall and Playground. A new site is now secured for these projects”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that Council staff have met representatives of Clough Vision in recent weeks and are providing advice and ongoing support*

**Notice of Motion No: 147/2023**

*Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That Laois County Council provide a pedestrian crossing on the Main Road at the community centre in Cullahill”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road Design Department will review the current pedestrian movements at the community centre and investigate the potential for installing a pedestrian crossing*

**Notice of Motion No: 149/2023**

*Councillor Ollie Clooney proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That Laois County Council re-surface the road from Ballynafunston to Attanagh”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that this road will be considered as part of 2024 Roads Programme having regard to the 3 year programme previously agreed with members.*

***Councillor Seamus McDonald was absent from the meeting and it was agreed that his Notice of Motions would be deferred to the January meeting of the Municipal District as follows:-***

***Notice of Motion No: 150/2023 – Councillor Seamus McDonald***

***“That Laois County Council resolve the flooding issue at Brockera, Ballyfin”***

***Notice of Motion No: 151/2023 – Councillor Seamus McDonald***

***“That Laois County Council repair damaged bridge at Meelick, Rosenallis”***

***Notice of Motion No: 152/2023 – Councillor Seamus McDonald***

***“That Laois County Council put in place safety measures at Clonaghadoo School”***

**Notice of Motion No: 153/2023**

*Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That Laois County Council carry out remedial works at Kylebeg, Lodge Borrishin- Ossory to prevent flooding and road safety issues recurring”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that the drainage issue will be inspected and necessary measures taken as required.*

**Notice of Motion No: 154/2023**

***Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-***

***“That Laois County Council carry out remedial works at Corraun, Ballacolla to prevent flooding on the site due to bouts of heavy rainfall”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that the drainage issue will be inspected and necessary measures taken as required.*

**Notice of Motion No: 155/2023**

***Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-***

***“That Laois County Council provide an up to date report and timelines on the provision of the new playgrounds at Ballyfin and Trumera”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Conor Bergin. The Members were advised that the Ballyfin Play Area is now reported as completed. Trumera Play Area has advanced to the appointment of a contractor and works will commence early in the new year. The Members raised that the post construction inspection had resulted in some alteration being required on site prior to certification.*

**Notice of Motion No: 156/2023**

***Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-***

***“That this Council seek funding through the TII for junction/safety works on the N80 and the junction with the R423 Road at Derrycloney, Mountmellick”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that Laois County Council Road Design office will review the safety at the existing junction and will consider options for improving safety at the at this location with TII.*

**Notice of Motion No: 157/2023**

*Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That this Council seek funding urgently from the Department of Housing to bring their maisonettes housing stock up to the required standard”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor John King. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will make contact with the Department of Housing in this regard.*

**Notice of Motion No: 158/2023**

*Councillor Paddy Bracken proposed the following Notice of Motion:-*

***“That this Council be informed of the current status on derelict sites at the old Maltings, Irishtown and the old Central Garage, Emmett Street, Mountmellick”***

*This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Ollie Clooney. The Members were advised that in relation to Central Garage, in January 2023 a section 11 notice was served on the owners requiring specified works to be carried out by February 2023 in order to prevent land from becoming or continuing to be a derelict site. These works were completed to the satisfaction of the Local Authority. With regard to the Maltings, the Old Maltings site at Irishtown, Mountmellick is now in Council ownership. The Council are investigating potential uses and redevelopment options for the site having regard to the location and protected structure in situ.*

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

*It was noted that no correspondence had been received since the last meeting of the Municipal District.*

**6. FIX DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

*It was agreed that the next monthly meeting of the Municipal District would be held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at 9.30 a.m.*

*This concluded the business of the meeting.*

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**

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**Director of Services**

