

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN ÁRAS AN
CHONTAE ON THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY 2013**

PRESENT:	Councillors	Paul Mitchell	In the Chair
	Councillor	Rotimi Adebari	William Aird
		John Bonham	Paddy Bracken
		Ben Brennan	Ray Cribbin
		James Daly	James Deegan
		John Joe Fennelly	Catherine Fitzgerald
		Padraig Fleming	David Goodwin
		Alan Hand	John King
		Michael Lalor	Jerry Lodge
		Seamus McDonald	John Moran
		Tom Mulhall	Kathleen O' Brien
		Brendan Phelan	Martin Phelan
		Mary Sweeney	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Messers Peter Carey, County Manager, Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, Ms. Anna Marie Delaney, Director of Services, Ms. Josephine Kavanagh, Administrative Officer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

**12(a) CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING OF LAOIS
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 28TH OF JANUARY 2013**

On the proposition of Councillor James Deegan seconded by Councillor Ray Cribbin, the Minutes of the January Meeting of Laois County Council held on the 28th of January 2013 were confirmed as circulated.

**12(b) CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED JANUARY MEETING
OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 4TH OF FEBRUARY 2013**

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor Ray Cribbin, the Minutes of the adjourned January Meeting of Laois County Council held on the 4th of February 2013 were confirmed as circulated.

Councillor James Daly raised the issue of the proposed application by Eirgrid to An Bord Pleanala for the Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project. It was noted that the County Manager was meeting representatives from Ratheniska Sub Station Action Group on Friday, March 1st 2013. The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey indicated that the role of Laois County Council in the process is to ensure proper planning and sustainable development.

13. VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

On the proposal of Councillor Padraig Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed that congratulations be extended to the Ladies Irish Rugby Team on recently winning the Triple Crown for the first time in the Six Nations. In particular, congratulations was extended to Ms. Alison Miller who is from County Laois on her victory in scoring two tries. It was agreed that a letter would issue to Ms. Miller in this regard.

14. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001

LEASE OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 AT CLONMINAM INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN THE TOWNLAND OF CLONMINAM FOR A PERIOD OF 4 YEARS AND 11 MONTHS FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €26,000 PER ANNUM FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS & €28,000 PER ANNUM IN EACH OF THE REMAINING YEARS OR PERIOD THEREOF

It was noted that this item was deferred from the January meeting held on the 4th of February 2013. A lengthy discussion ensued in relation to this proposed disposal. Mr. Peter Carey, County Manager responded to the various queries raised by the Members. He indicated that this is a short term opportunity to obtain a yield from the site and more importantly to create jobs.

Councillor Jerry Lodge proposed that the above property be leased under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald.

A Counter proposal was proposed by Councillor William Aird and seconded by Councillor Kathleen O' Brien. A roll call vote was taken on Councillor Aird's proposal which resulted as follows:-

COUNCILLOR		FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTION
FIRST NAME	SURNAME			
Rotimi	ADEBARI	✓		
Willie	AIRD	✓		
John	BONHAM	✓		
Paddy	BRACKEN		✓	
Ben	BRENNAN	✓		
Raymond	CRIBBIN		✓	
James	DALY	✓		
James	DEEGAN	✓		
John Joe	FENNELLY		✓	
Catherine	FITZGERALD	✓		
Padraig	FLEMING	✓		
David	GOODWIN	✓		
Alan	HAND			✓
John	KING	✓		
Michael	LALOR			Absent
Jerry	LODGE		✓	
Seamus	MCDONALD		✓	
Paul	MITCHELL	✓		
John Robert	MORAN	✓		
Tom	MULHALL	✓		
Kathleen	O'BRIEN	✓		
Brendan	PHELAN		✓	
Martin	PHELAN	✓		
Mary	SWEENEY	✓		

As a result of the Roll Call Vote, there was 16 votes in favour of Councillor William Aird's proposal, 6 votes against with 1 absent and 1 abstention.

DISPOSAL OF 0.0289 HECTARES AT 8 BOTHAIR CAORAN, SLI NA MONA, PORTARLINGTON, CO. LAOIS IN THE TOWNLAND OF DROUGHILL FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €100,000

On the proposition of Councillor Tom Mulhall seconded by Councillor Ray Cribbin, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0289 hectares at 8 Bothair Caoran, Sli Na Mona, Portarlington, Co. Laois in the townland of Droughill for a consideration of €100,000.

LEASE OF 326 M2 OF LAND AND PROPERTY AT 17 MARIAN AVENUE, PORTLAOISE, CO. LAOIS TO MARIAN AVENUE COMMUNITY GROUP FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €50.00 PER ANNUM

On the proposition of Councillor Alan Hand seconded by Councillor Kathleen O' Brien, the Members unanimously agreed to the lease of 326 m2 of land and property at 17 Marian Avenue, Portlaoise, Co. Laois to Marian Avenue Community Group for a period of 10 years for a consideration of €50.00 per annum.

15. PART VIII OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, 2001 IN RESPECT OF EXTENSION OF THE CARLOW NORTHERN RELIEF ROAD AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE NUMBERS ROAD, CARLOW

The Members were circulated with the planning report on the proposed development. Members were advised that the Carlow Northern Relief Road Extension (Link Road) will extend south-eastwards (primarily through unzoned tillage land) from the existing roundabout on the R430 Castlecomer Road to a proposed new roundabout on the Numbers Road, and will in the future form part of the Carlow Ring Road. The Link Road will be approximately 800 metres in length and will have a single carriageway cross-section. The Numbers Road will be upgraded for approximately 400 metres from Meadows Way housing estate to the new roundabout, with some minor improvements to footpaths towards Chaff Street.

The construction of the road, from its present terminal on the Castlecomer Road, to as far as the Numbers Road will help alleviate the traffic problem in Graiguecullen particularly in the Numbers Road area. The scheme forms part of the Graiguecullen Local Area Plan 2012-2018 prepared as part of the Joint Spatial Plan for the Greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area 2012 – 2018, also comprising the Carlow Town Development Plan 2012 – 2018 and the Carlow Town Environs Local Area Plan 2012-2018.

The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey advised the Members that this development is subject to availability of the necessary funds. On the proposition of Councillor Pdraig Fleming seconded by Councillor James Daly, the Members unanimously agreed to the proposed development.

16. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL ROADWORKS PROGRAMME 2013

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor John Moran, the Members unanimously approved the Annual Roadworks Programme for 2013 as circulated. Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services informed the Members that funding had been reduced overall by €1 million to €6.7 million.

17. UPDATE ON IRISH WATER – PRESENTATION BY MR. KIERAN KEHOE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Mr. Kieran Kehoe gave a presentation on the establishment of Irish Water. Mr. Kehoe outlined the background, the Programme Management structure and also details of the transition plans. The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey paid tribute to Laois County Council Water Services Staff for their commitment to date to the provision of water services in the County.

The Members complimented Mr. Kehoe on a very comprehensive update and Mr. Kehoe responded to the various queries and concerns raised by the Members. It was noted that Irish Water would be making a presentation in the near future to the Elected Members.

18. PRESENTATION BY MR. WALTER GRAHAM ON WATER FLUORIDATION

Mr. Walter Graham gave a presentation on the issues around Water Fluoridation. The Members complimented and thanked Mr. Graham for a very detailed presentation. Mr. Graham circulated details of same to the Members.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were circulated:-

- (i) Correspondence dated the 6th of February 2013 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 43/2012 from the Office of the Minister for Education & Skills
- (ii) Correspondence dated the 11th of February 2013 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 51/2012 from the Office of the Minister for Education & Skills
- (iii) Correspondence dated the 13th of February 2013 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 01/2013 from the Office of the Minister for Education & Skills
- (iv) Correspondence dated the 13th of February 2013 in relation to Notice of Motion No: 03/2013 from the Office of the Minister for Justice & Equality

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED:

CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED:

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS