

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN ÁRAS AN
CHONTAE ON THE 26TH OF NOVEMBER 2012**

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

APOLOGIES:	Councillors	Ray Cribbin	John Joe Fennelly
		John Moran	

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, A/Senior, Administrative Officer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

120. VOTE OF SYMPATHY

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Gorman family on the death of Ms. Carmel Gorman, Connolly Street, Mountmellick, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillors Tom Mulhall & John Bonham and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Lalor family on the death of Mr. Peter Lalor, Roundwood, Mountrath, Co. Laois, brother of Councillor Michael Lalor.

On the proposition of Councillors William Aird & John Bonham and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Buggy family on the death of Mr. George Buggy, 4 The Green, Kilminchy, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Phelan family on the death of Ms. Aoife Phelan, Cashel, Ballyroan, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Styles family on the death of Ms. Brigid Styles, 5 New Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Reddin family on the death of Mr. Paddy Reddin, Dr. Murphy Place, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Meehan family on the death of Mr. Frank Meehan, Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Troy family on the death of Ms. Maureen Troy, Pallas, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Keegan family on the death of Mr. Patrick Keegan, Rathleague, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Pdraig Fleming and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Bambrick family on the death of Mr. Joseph Bambrick, Ballykilcavan, Stradbally, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Tom Mulhall and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Tynan family on the death of Mr. Tom Tynan, The Old Pound, Ballybrittas, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Tom Mulhall and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Dowling family on the death of Mr. Bertie Dowling, Morette, Emo, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Tom Mulhall and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Nerney family on the death of Mr. Jim Nerney, Cappakeel, Emo, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Condrón family on the death of Mr. John Condrón, Doonane, Crettyard, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Kelly family on the death of Ms. Martha Kelly, Jarrow House, Newtown, Crettyard, Co. Laois.

On the proposition of Councillor Ben Brennan and unanimously agreed a vote of sympathy was extended to the Browne family on the death of Ms. Elizabeth Browne, Doonane, Crettyard, Co. Laois.

The meeting was adjourned for five minutes as a mark of respect to the deceased.

121. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- (i) On the proposition of Councillor William Aird seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of Laois County Council held on the 22nd of October 2012 were agreed as circulated.
- (ii) On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor John King, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Laois County Council held on the 22nd of October 2012 were agreed as circulated.

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

- (i) DISPOSAL OF 0.0235 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 9 COLLIER'S VIEW, COLLIER'S LANE, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYROAN FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €78,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0235 hectares including dwelling house at 9 Collier's View, Collier's Lane, Portlaoise in the townland of Ballyroan for a consideration of €78,000

- (ii) DISPOSAL OF 0.0226 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 11 COLLIER'S VIEW, COLLIER'S LANE, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYROAN FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €78,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0226 hectares including dwelling house at 11 Collier's View, Collier's Lane, Portlaoise in the townland of Ballyroan for a consideration of €78,000.

- (iii) DISPOSAL OF 0.0219 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 23 COLLIER'S VIEW, COLLIER'S LANE, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYROAN FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €80,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0219 hectares including dwelling house at 23 Collier's View, Collier's Lane, Portlaoise in the townland of Ballyroan for a consideration of €80,000.

- (iv) DISPOSAL OF 0.0122 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 45 MARYBOROUGH CRESCENT, DUBLIN ROAD, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYROAN FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €85,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0122 hectares including dwelling house at 45 Maryborough Crescent, Dublin Road, Portlaoise in the townland of Ballyroan for a consideration of €85,000.

- (v) DISPOSAL OF SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT AT 40 BRIDLE WALK, KILMINCHY, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF KILMINCHY FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €60,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of a second floor apartment at 40 Bridle Walk, Kilminchy, Portlaoise in the townland of Kilminchy for a consideration of €60,000.

- (vi) DISPOSAL OF 0.0150 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 21 BUTTERCUP AVENUE, ESKER HILLS, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BORRIS LITTLE FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €90,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0150 hectares including dwelling house at 21 Buttercup Avenue, Esker Hills, Portlaoise in the townland of Borris Little for a consideration of €90,000.

- (vii) DISPOSAL OF 0.0113 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 41 CARMODY WAY, FAIRGREEN, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF CLONREHER FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €65,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0113 hectares including dwelling house at 41 Carmody Way, Fairgreen, Portlaoise in the townland of Clonreher for a consideration of €65,000.

- (viii) DISPOSAL OF 0.4075 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT WOLFHILL, CO. LAOIS IN THE TOWNLAND OF WOLFHILL, DRUMAGH, CRETTYARD, CO. LAOIS, FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €30,261**

On the proposition of Councillor James Daly seconded by Councillor Ben Brennan, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.4075 hectares including dwelling house at Wolfhill, Co. Laois in the townland of Wolfhill, Drumagh, Crettyard, Co. Laois, for a consideration of €30,261.

- (ix) DISPOSAL OF 0.0170 HECTARES INCLUDING DWELLING HOUSE AT 404 MARKET MEWS, MARYBOROUGH VILLAGE, MOUNTRATH ROAD, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF CLONROOSK LITTLE, 32B STONEYBATTER, DUBLIN 7, FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €65,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Alan Hand seconded by Councillor Rotimi Adebari, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.0170 hectares including dwelling house at 404 Market Mews, Maryborough Village, Mountrath Road, Portlaoise in the townland of Clonroosk Little to Mr. Michael O' Brien, 32B Stoneybatter, Dublin 7, for a consideration of €65,000.

- (x) DISPOSAL OF 1.511 HECTARES OF LAND AT TENTORE IN THE TOWNLAND OF OLDGLASS, BALLACOLLA, CO. LAOIS, FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €2,750.00**

On the proposition of Councillor Martin Phelan seconded by Councillor John Bonham, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 1.511 hectares of land at Tentore in the townland of Oldglass, Ballacolla, Co. Laois, for a consideration of €2,750.00.

- (xi) DISPOSAL OF 0.134 HECTARES OF LAND AT TENTORE IN THE TOWNLAND OF TENTORE, BALLACOLLA, CO. LAOIS, FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €950.00**

On the proposition of Councillor Martin Phelan seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.134 hectares of land at Tentore in the townland of Tentore, Ballacolla, Co. Laois, for a consideration of €950.00.

- (xii) DISPOSAL OF A SITE COMPRISING OF 0.5666 HECTARES AT OLD POUND FIELD, MOUNTRATH ROAD, PORTLAOISE IN THE TOWNLAND OF CLONROOSK LITTLE TO OLLIE & AVRIL FENNELL FOR A CONSIDERATION OF €60,000**

On the proposition of Councillor Martin Phelan seconded by Councillor John King, the Members agreed that this Section 183 be adjourned until the December meeting of Laois County Council scheduled for the 10th of December 2012

123. NOMINATION OF 2 MEMBERS TO COUNTY LAOIS VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

The Members were informed that Laois County Council were advised by the County Laois Vocational Education Committee on the 20th of September 2012 of the resignation of 2 Members from the Committee who were representative of sectoral interests.

The provisions of Section 12 of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act, 2001 apply with regard to the filling of such casual vacancies and in accordance with same, the Council sought nominations by way of public advertisement from appropriate groups and bodies representative of sectoral interests of suitably qualified persons.

A Consultation Meeting was subsequently convened with the Committee on the 19th of November, 2012 at which the 3 nominations received were considered. It was agreed that the following nominees be put forward for consideration by the Council :-

- Ms. Winifred Champ-Cox, Deerpark, Portarlinton,
- Mr. Matthew Keegan, 16 Westlands, Mountrath Road, Portlaoise.

On the proposition of Councillor Mary Sweeney seconded by Councillor James Deegan, it was unanimously agreed that the above two nominees be appointed to the County Laois Vocational Education Committee.

124. PRESENTATION BY MS. ANNETTE CODD, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, SPECIAL OLYMPICS LEINSTER ON UPCOMING EVENTS

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Annette Codd, Regional Director, Special Olympics Leinster. Ms. Codd delivered a presentation on the Special Olympics Leinster Regional Events for 2013 and indicated that any assistance from Laois County Council would be of great benefit to the organisation. Mr. Peter Carey, County Manager thanked Ms. Codd for her very comprehensive presentation and assured her of Laois County Council's commitment to upcoming events.

125. PRESENTATION BY MR. MARK MACAULAY, EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MIDLANDS ENERGY AGENCY – MIDLANDS ENERGY AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Mark Macaulay, Executive Engineer delivered a presentation on the Midlands Energy Agency to the Members. The Members complimented Mark & also Triona Casey on an excellent presentation and the work to date in this area.

126. CORRESPONDENCE

The following item of correspondence was circulated :-

- (i) Correspondence dated the 24th of October 2012 from the Office of the Minister for Housing & Planning in relation to Notice of Motion No: 42/2012

- (ii) Correspondence dated the 22nd of November 2012 from the Head of Branch Banking, A.I.B., Bank in relation to Notice of Motion No: 45/2012

127. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Notice of Motion No: 47/2012

Councillor William Aird proposed the following Notice of Motion:

“That this Council agree not to send out any more letters for household charges until the database has been correctly updated”

This motion was seconded by Councillor Martin Phelan. It was agreed that no further reminder letters would issue until the database is more up to date. Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance indicated that the Council had not met the 65% target (600 households off the target) and that the Local Government Fund had been cut by a further ½%. He further advised that the Department had indicated that they would review at year end to take account of the financial position at that stage, including progress on securing an increased household charge yield.

Notice of Motion No: 48/2012

Councillor Alan Hand proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council call on the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to leave County Laois with five L.E.A.’s (Local Electoral Areas) in the interest of proper local representation”

This motion was seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald. It was agreed that a letter would issue to Minister Phil Hogan, T.D., in this regard.

Notice of Motion No: 49/2012

Councillor Alan Hand proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council calls for the ending of water fluoridation in County Laois”

This motion was seconded by Councillor Jerry Lodge. The Members were informed that the fluoridation of drinking water, the main aim of which is the prevention and control of dental caries (dental decay), commenced in Ireland in 1964 after the introduction of the Health (Fluoridation of Water Supplies) Act 1960. The Act provides that health authorities shall arrange for the fluoridation of public piped water supplies. The Act also provides that sanitary (local) authorities may act as the agents of health authorities in fluoridating public piped water supplies. Currently approximately 73% of the population receives fluoridated water from public water supplies.

Local Authorities are required under the Health (Fluoridation of Water Supplies) Act 1960 and in particular in Section 4 of the Act to fluoridate public water supplies. This Act allows for the Local Authority to recoup the costs associated with the fluoridation of water from the HSE.

