

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN  
ARAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE, ON THE 27<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2017**

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Councillor	Tom Mulhall	In the Chair
	Councillors	William Aird Ben Brennan Catherine Fitzgerald Padraig Fleming John King Seamus McDonald John Moran Brendan Phelan Noel Tuohy	Paddy Bracken John Joe Fennelly James Kelly David Goodwin Jerry Lodge Paschal McEvoy Aidan Mullins Mary Sweeney Caroline Dwane Stanley

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Messers John Mulholland, Chief Executive, Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, Ms. Carmel McNicholl, A/Director of Services, Ms. Irene Delaney, Administrative Officer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

**19. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING OF  
LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> OF JANUARY 2017**

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor John Moran, the Minutes of the January meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 were confirmed as circulated.

**20. REPORT ON CPG MEETING HELD ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> OF JANUARY 2017**

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor Willie Aird, the report on the CPG meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2017 were confirmed as circulated

**21. REPORTS ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS HELD IN JANUARY 2017**

On the proposition of Councillor Willie Aird seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly, the reports on the Municipal District Meetings held in January 2017 were confirmed as circulated.

**22. RATIFICATION OF MS. MARY DELANEY, COMMUNITY SERVICES  
MANAGER, H.S.E. AS THE H.S.E. REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LAOIS  
L.C.D.C.**

On the proposition of Councillor Catherine Fitzgerald seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the ratification of Ms. Mary Delaney, Community Services Manager, H.S.E. as the H.S.E. representative on the Laois L.C.D.C.

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

**(i) Disposal of the Freehold of 6 Acragar, Mountmellick, Co. Laois.**

On the proposition of Councillor Paddy Bracken seconded by Councillor Seamus McDonald, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of the freehold of 6 Acragar, Mountmellick, Co. Laois in the townland of Acragar Co. Laois, for a consideration of €300.00

**(ii) Disposal of 0.365 hectares of land at Clonkeen, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.**

On the proposition of Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley seconded by Councillor Willie Aird, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.365 hectares of land at Clonkeen, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in the townland of Clonkeen for a consideration of €10,000

**(iii) Disposal of 0.239 hectares of land at Clonkeen, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.**

On the proposition of Councillor Willie Aird seconded by Councillor Caroline Dwane Stanley, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.239 hectares of land at Clonkeen, Portlaoise in the townland of Clonkeen for a consideration of €3,000.00

**24. SECTION 85 AGREEMENT BETWEEN KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL & LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT SPECIES WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREA OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL**

On the proposition of Councillor John Joe Fennelly seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming, the Members unanimously approved the Section 85 Agreement between Kildare County Council and Laois County Council for the management of Invasive Alien Plant Species within the administrative area of Laois County Council.

**25. LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL – MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2017**

Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive briefed the meeting on this matter and the report for February was circulated. The report for February 2017 was unanimously agreed and noted. A number of queries were raised on the report and the Directors of Services responded to the various queries raised.

**26. HOUSING ACCOMMODATION DELIVERY PROGRAMME 2017 - 2019**

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Housing Accommodation Delivery Programme 2017-2019 and Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance/Director of Housing briefed the Members and responded to the various queries raised. The Chief Executive complimented the Housing SPC & all the Members for their contribution.

**27. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2017**

The Members were circulated with a copy of the Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2017 and this was unanimously agreed on the proposition of Councillor John Moran and seconded by Councillor John King.

**28. PRESENTATION ON IRELAND 2040 – OUR PLAN**

Mr. John Mulholland, Chief Executive delivered a comprehensive presentation to the Members on Ireland 2040 Our Plan. The Members were advised that this matter would also be discussed in detail at the next Planning & Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee meeting scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 and all Members of Laois County Council would be invited to attend this meeting.

**29. AUDIT COMMITTEE – REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE’S FINDINGS IN RELATION TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND STATUTORY REPORT 2015**

On the proposition of Councillor John Moran seconded by Councillor Brendan Phelan, the Members unanimously agreed to the report on the Committee’s findings in relation to the Audited Financial Statement and Statutory Audit Report 2015 as presented.

**30. AUDIT COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

On the proposition of Councillor James Kelly seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed to the Annual Report 2016 of the Audit Committee as presented.

**31. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2016 INCLUDING APPROVAL OF OVER-EXPENDITURE AND TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL**

Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance briefed the Members on the Annual Financial Statement 2016 including the approval of over-expenditure and transfers to capital. On the proposition of Councillor Jerry Lodge seconded by Councillor James Kelly, the Members unanimously agreed the Annual Financial Statement 2016 including approval of over-expenditure and transfers to capital as presented.

**32. REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEME**

Mr. Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance briefed the Members on the Development Contributions. On the proposition of Councillor Jerry Lodge seconded by Councillor John King, the Members unanimously agreed the report on the Development Contributions as presented.

**33. CATHAOIRLEACH’S RECEPTION FOR LAOIS I.F.A. 1966**

It was noted that Laois County Council will host a Cathaoirleach's Reception for the Laois I.F.A. 1966 on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.

#### **34. PRESENTATION BY COMHAIRLE NA NÓG FOR THE MARCH MEETING**

On the proposition of Councillor Brendan Phelan seconded by Councillor Pádraig Fleming, the Members unanimously agreed that the presentation by Comhairle na nÓg be tabled on the agenda for the March meeting of Laois County Council.

#### **35. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORPORATE PLAN 2014-2019**

The Members were circulated with the update on the implementation of the Corporate Plan 2014 – 2019 and same was noted.

#### **36. RATIFICATION OF CONFERENCES/ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING**

On the proposition of Councillor Paschal McEvoy seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the ratification of conferences/attendance at training as circulated.

#### **37. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items of correspondence were circulated to the Members which had been received since the last meeting:-

- (i) Correspondence dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 from TUSLA in relation to Notice of Motion No: 38/2016
- (ii) Correspondence dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2017 from OPW in relation to Notice of Motion No: 01/2017
- (iii) Correspondence dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in relation to Notice of Motion No: 03/2017
- (iv) Correspondence dated the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government in relation to Notice of Motion No: 02/2017

#### **38. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

##### **Notice of Motion No: 08/2017**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion

***“That Laois County Council calls on Ms. Frances Fitzgerald, T.D., Minister for Justice and Equality to limit the amount of free legal aid available to offenders who repeatedly offend”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Noel Tuohy. It was agreed that a letter issue to the Minister in this regard.

**Notice of Motion No: 09/2017**

Councillor James Kelly proposed the following Notice of Motion:-

***“That Laois County Council commit to provide funding for the installation of at least two bus shelters per annum in the County”***

This Notice of Motion was seconded by Councillor Padraig Fleming. The Members were advised that Laois County Council will refer this matter to the National Transport Authority for their consideration.

This concluded the business of the meeting

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**CERTIFIED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
CORPORATE AFFAIRS**