



Cllr. John CLENDENNEN

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USEFUL CONTACTS

Emergency Services

Gardaí / Ambulance / Fire Brigade
T: 112 or 999

Birr Garda Station:
T: 057 916 9710

Edenderry Garda Station:
T: 0469 731 290

Tullamore Garda Station:
T: 057 932 7600

Tullamore Hospital:
T: 057 932 1501

MIDOC GP Out of Hours Service:
T: 1850 302 702

Offaly County Council

Arás An Chontae, Tullamore
T: 057 934 6800 www.offaly.ie

Municipal District Offices:
Birr: T: 057 912 4900
E: birrmd@offalycoco.ie

Edenderry: T: 0469 731 256
E: edenderrymd@offalycoco.ie

Tullamore: T: 057 935 2470
E: tullamoremd@offalycoco.ie

Housing Department:
T: 057 935 7409

SEAL Insulation Grants:
T: 01 808 2100 www.seal.ie

Environmental Department:
T: 057 935 7403

Offaly Dog Warden: T: 057 935 1181

Litter Complaints: T: 1800 242 673

Offaly Recycling Centres:
Birr: T: 057 912 5905

Edenderry: T: 0469 772 677

Derryclare, Tullamore: T: 057 934 4186

Environmental Health Officer:
T: 057 935 9550

Irish Water
Administration Queries: T: 1890 448 448

Supply & Emergencies: T: 1890 278 278

Roads Department:
T: 057 935 7415

Public Lighting Fault Reporting
www.deadsureapp.com

Planning Department:
T: 057 935 7414

Heritage Office:
T: 057 934 6839

Arts & Culture Department:
T: 057 935 7400

Music Generation
www.musicgeneration.ie

Local & Community Development:
T: 057 935 7401

Offaly Local Enterprise Office
T: 057 935 7480
www.localenterprise.ie/offaly

Offaly Local Development
Company - LEADER Funding:
T: 057 935 2467 / 057 932 2850
www.offalyldc.ie

Offaly Sports Partnership
T: 057 935 7462 www.offalysports.ie

Offaly Public Participation Network
T: 087 119 8591 www.offalypnn.ie

2021

JANUARY

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DECEMBER

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2021 HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

1 Jan, Fri	New Year's Day	3 May, Mon	May Day	25 Dec, Sat	Christmas Day
17 Mar, Wed	St. Patrick's Day	7 Jun, Mon	June Bank Holiday	26 Dec, Sun	St. Stephen's Day
2 Apr, Fri	Good Friday	2 Aug, Mon	August Bank Holiday	31 Dec, Fri	New Year's Eve
4 Apr, Sun	Easter Sunday	25 Oct, Mon	October Bank Holiday		
5 Apr, Mon	Easter Monday	24 Dec, Fri	Christmas Eve		

USEFUL CONTACTS

Offaly Libraries

Birr: T: 057 912 4950
Banagher: T: 057 915 1471
Clara: T: 057 933 1389
Edenderry: T: 046 973 1028
Ferbane: T: 0906 454259
Kilcormac: T: 057 913 5086
Tullamore: T: 057 934 6832

Agriculture

Department of Agriculture & Food
T: 071 968 2000
Teagasc
T: 043 334 1021
Coillte
T: 1890 367 378

Transport

Local Link Rural Transport
T: 057 869 2168
www.locallinklaioisoffaly.ie
Bus Éireann:
T: 1850 836 611
www.buseireann.ie
Kearns Transport
T: 057 912 0124 / 22244
www.kearnstransport.com
Tullamore Train Station:
T: 057 932 1431 or 01 836 6222
www.irishrail.ie

Health Services

Medical Card / GP Visit Cards:
T: 01 864 7100
Birr Community Mental Health Service
T: 057 912 0540
Health Centres Offaly
Banagher: T: 057 915 1247
Birr: T: 057 912 0486
Blueball: T: 057 935 4044
Clara: T: 057 933 1242
Cloghan: T: 0906 457 119
Clonbullogue: T: 0469 730 9109
Cloneygowan: T: 057 9343552
Daingean: T: 057 9353142
Ferbane: T: 0906 454916
Kilcormac: T: 057 9135030
Kinnitty: T: 057 9137061
Moneygall: T: 0505 45272
Rhode: T: 0469 737955
Shinrone: T: 0505 47312
Tullamore: T: 057 9319599

Miscellaneous

Passport Office Dublin:
T: 01 671 1633 www.dfa.ie
Motor Tax:
T: 057 935 7413 www.motortax.ie
Driving Licence Renewal:
T: 0761 087880
Citizens Information Centres:
Birr: T: 076 107 4000
Edenderry: T: 076 107 6280
Tullamore: T: 076 107 6290
www.offalycitizensinformation.ie
Social Protection:
T: 057 916 9040 www.welfare.ie

FINE GAEL

#WorkingForOffaly

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Thank you for taking the time to read my newsletter. It has been a year like no other with Covid-19 and the global pandemic. There has been a broad range of government financial supports, for sectors of society and individuals impacted, to help get through this difficult and challenging period. At Offaly County Council, a number of initiatives have been introduced through collaboration with different local agency's, to ensure we really are all in this together. There are a number of useful contacts which provide assistance for anyone in the community that requires assistance or support.



Shannonbridge Power Station

In February 2020, I tabled a motion to Offaly County Council, which was unanimously supported by the full Council; "Offaly County Council collaborate with the Just Transition Commissioner and the ESB to maintain Shannonbridge Power Station in its entirety once it ceases to generate electricity, whilst identifying and developing opportunities to utilise the facility for tourism, remote working and cultural & educational purposes that will benefit the village of Shannonbridge and the surrounding area." There is an abundance of opportunity for this valuable and strategic site, and it is incumbent on all stakeholders to work together to ensure its long term sustainability through diversity. The government announcement of over €10 Million Just Transition Funding for Offaly is welcome and will ensure a sustainable future for the county.

It has been a particularly difficult time for businesses affected by Covid-19, a broad range of supports have been made available through the Local Enterprise Office, in addition to Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme, Restart Grants and Failte Ireland Adaptation Grants. The introduction of the CRSS (Covid Restrictions Support Scheme) from October will in summary, provide a weekly cash payment to businesses that are effectively closed or only able to trade at a fraction of their previous turnover because of pandemic-related restrictions. The payment will generally be a percentage of their turnover for 2019, up to a maximum payment of €5,000 per week while restrictions last ("restricted period"). The scheme will apply from 13 October 2020 to 31 March 2021 but may be extended to 31 December 2021 if necessary. More details are available at www.revenue.ie.

With a number of large pharmaceutical companies at an advanced stage in the trial and delivery of Covid-19 vaccinations, there is reason for hope and optimism that in the year ahead, life will return to normality, but in the meantime we must all play our part in limiting the spread of the virus by following all of the public health guidelines and looking out for one another. I hope this newsletter will give you insight into some of the initiatives I have been working on at Offaly County Council and the work that has been carried out at a local level across Offaly. If I can ever assist you or your community with any queries please don't hesitate to contact me. **Stay safe & Hold firm!**

John





#KeepWell

Covid19 restrictions can stress the mind, body and soul, it's more important than ever to #KeepWell #KeepActive #StayConnected #EatWell #SwitchOff #ManageYourMood

Offaly County Council are investing over €10 Million in recreational amenities, trails and parks right across the county, providing safe and enjoyable facilities for local residents as well as an economic opportunity through tourism development.. Walking, Jogging and Running are all great ways of staying active, there's some helpful advice in the link below from Sport Ireland. [https:// www. sportireland.ie/YPB/Jogging](https://www.sportireland.ie/YPB/Jogging).



Eglis Church



Killavilla Community Centre



Rath Hall & National School

Community Centre and Church WiFi Broadband Connection Points

Significant resources have been applied to communications infrastructure developments across Offaly, under both the National Broadband Plan and initiatives at Offaly County Council such as WiFi4EU and Department of Rural and Community Affairs, administered through the dedicated Broadband Officer for the county. I have worked with several communities to deliver this important resource, providing working hubs and learning centres, and assisting church masses to be streamed across every town and village where there is a demand, as we deal with the challenges posed by Covid19.

Birr Primary Care Centre Update

The delivery of a Primary Care Centre for Birr has hit yet another barrier in recent weeks, with the HSE advising that they will no longer be proceeding with the Rectory field as a potential site. This is a vital piece of infrastructure for Birr and the surrounding area to ensure state of the art health care provision for all. I have made several representations to the HSE, and they have now outlined a timeline for the delivery of Birr Primary Care Centre by Autumn 2022, but we must now be provided with comprehensive details regarding the location and the process to deliver this crucial facility on time.

€3.5 Million Public Street LED Lighting Energy Efficiency Project for Offaly



LED Lighting Upgrade for ALL Public Lights

Since February 2015, I have tabled motions calling for Offaly County Council to upgrade its full suite of public lighting to LED. Over 3,000 of the counties 8,000 public lights have been upgraded to LED to date. A proposal was approved in October, working with neighbouring counties, to convert all our county lighting to LED. It is estimated that the project will cost €3.5 Million to upgrade the remaining 5,000 public street lights. Transport Infrastructure Ireland are responsible for approximately a further 1,000 units, most of which are upgraded to LED.

This initiative is a major step forward in maximising the efficiency and safety of public street lighting across the county, which will result in reduced maintenance and energy costs, whilst improving the quality of public street lighting. It is estimated that savings will amount to €3.8 Million over ten years, with the project essentially paying for itself, an important factor and contributing to reduced carbon emissions for the county.

It is imperative now that Offaly County Council work with local communities and conduct a full study of the lighting stock across the county and use this opportunity to ensure areas inadequately served by public street lighting at present would see improvements. Additionally, once the public street lighting upgrades are paid, that the annual savings would be ring-fenced for community focused initiatives'. The upgrade initiative is expected to commence once the project has been agreed by all County Councils across the region.

Road Sweeper Rota for Birr Municipal District

First Monday of the month	Kilcormac, Ballyboy, Rath & Five Alley.
First Tuesday of the month	Banagher, Shannon Harbour & Lusmagh.
First Wednesday of the month	Ferbane, Cloghan, Shannonbridge, Belmont, Doon & Pullough.
Every 2nd Wednesday	Cloghan & Ferbane.
Every Thursday	Birr Town & Birr Area.
Every 2nd Friday	Shinrone, Moneygall, Barna & Brosna.
Every 2nd Friday	Coolderry, Kinnitty, Killyon, Clareen & Roscomroe.

Road Sweeper Rota

Offaly County Council provide a comprehensive road sweeping service. Wherever possible, it is encouraged to leave roadways and footpaths free of vehicles on scheduled days in your area, to provide full access for the road sweeper and maximise benefit of this helpful service. I have called on the Area Engineer to include areas such as Cadamstown and Dunkerrin on the schedule for 2021.

Investment & Improvement in Offaly Roads

There has been significant progress made in improving roads across the county, with an allocation of €14.6 Million for all associated works in the past calendar year. Additionally, the Governments July Stimulus package saw an over 70 projects across Offaly allocated over €1 Million in funding under three different schemes. The Birr Municipal District received funding allocation under the different schemes as follows; Town & Village Renewal (€100,000), Active Travel (€271,000) and Climate Change (€51,000). All projects are expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Town & Village Renewal Funding

- Shannonbridge - €25,000** pedestrianisation and creation of an amenity space at the lockhouse
- Lusmagh - €25,000** for the provision of footpaths and public lighting
- Birr - €25,000** purchase of 4 geodesic domes to facilitate outdoor festival & events
- Clareen - €25,000** enhancement of an outdoor gathering place at the GAA field including seating and the regularisation of parking.

Active Travel Funding

- Lusmagh Footpaths €20,000
- Ferbane Footpaths €24,000
- Ferbane Pedestrian crossing €10,000
- Shinrone St. Mary's Terrace €24,000
- Banagher, The Hill €15,000
- Banagher, Harbour road €30,000
- Birr, Camcor Park €50,000
- Banagher, Upper Main St €20,000
- Kinnitty Footpaths €36,000
- Birr, Syngefield footpaths €42,000

Climate Change Funding

- Clareen €10,000
- Corrlanty, Shinrone €25,000
- Coolfin, Banagher €10,000
- Dunkerrin €6,000