



Finnis

Finnis Aerial Map



Contents

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1.0 | Introduction | 5 |
| 2.0 | Village Context | 7 |
| 3.0 | Village History | 9 |
| 4.0 | Village Analysis | 11 |
| 5.0 | Consultation | 19 |
| 6.0 | Project Proposals/Initiatives | 21 |
| 7.0 | Action Plan | 23 |
| 8.0 | Way Forward | 29 |
| 9.0 | Information Sources/Acknowledgements | 33 |

Appendices

| | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| A1 | PERS Analysis Forms |
| A2 | GVA Community Consultation Summary |

The Church of St. Michael, the Archangel, Finnis



1.0 Introduction

Located approximately 1.5 miles south of Dromara, Finnis takes its name from the Irish 'Fionnais' meaning 'white ridge'.

Source: www.banbridge.com

Purpose

The Banbridge District Village Plans set out what the residents of Finnis would like to see in terms of village development over the next 5 years.

The Village Plans have been prepared in consultation with the residents of Finnis and those with an interest in the town.

Intended Use

The intended use is to guide betterment of the village and to establish actions in the short, medium and long term, that meet the objectives of the residents and would contribute positively to progressing the social, economic, ecological and the physical appearance of the village.

Actions identified in the action plan can be taken forward by any party identified as a stakeholder for that action but should be taken forward in the knowledge of the others identified where reasonably practicable.

Finnis Development Plan context

The Planning and Local Government Group within the Department of the Environment (formerly Planning Service) is responsible for the administration of planning functions in Northern Ireland, including the preparation of development plans.

Finnis is currently covered by both the Banbridge Area Plan (BAP) 1983-98 and the Banbridge District Rural Area Subject Plan (BDRASP) 1986-1998. The BAP defined Finnis as a Hamlet in the settlement hierarchy, while the BDRASP clarified its development limits. Although beyond the notional end date of 1998 these Plans remain the statutory development plans for Finnis.

The draft Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 (dBNMAP) will replace the current plans when adopted. The Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) returned its completed report on dBNMAP to the Department on 26 March 2012. The Department has advised that it is currently assessing the PAC recommendations and that a timetable for publication of the final Plan will be released in due course.

While still in draft form, the policies and designations contained within dBNMAP will remain material considerations in the assessment of development proposals for Finnis. Finnis is designated as a Small Settlement in dBNMAP. A Local Landscape Policy Area has been designated along the River Lagan which includes the Rath and St. Michael's Church. Finnis is also located within the Mourne Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Local Context

2.0 Village Context



Regional Context



National Context

Geographical Location

The settlement of Finnis lies in the north east of the Banbridge District Area.

Landscape Character

Finnis lies within the Lower Slieve Croob Foothills area of landscape character.

The area is formed of a smooth, rolling landscape of relatively high ground. Pasture is the predominant land use and the strong geometric field pattern is an important and prominent feature of the landscape. Farms on the lower ground are often associated with stands of beech trees.

Specific principles for landscape management have been outlined by the Department for the Environment NI and are as follows:

- The strong field pattern, which emphasises the smooth landform, may be conserved by enhancing and managing field boundaries and replacing hedgerow trees.
- The manicured character of the valley bottom may be retained by maintaining the traditional stone bridges and conserving the clumps of mature beeches which are characteristic of this area.
- The tranquil nature of the glens should be conserved by avoiding inappropriate modern housing styles, ranch style fencing or ornamental planting schemes.

AONB

Finnis is located within the Mourne AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) in recognition of its exceptional scenic quality.

Finnis/Massford Historical Map 1934



3.0 Village History

Barney Morgan's Cake

Extracted from Dromara - Links with the past

“To Finnis Hall one snowy night a rambling we did go
To try and win a turkey for the Christmas time you know
The snow lay thick and heavy and the stars were shining bright
We never had such fun as we had that cold and wintry night”

The village of Finnis has a rich cultural and archaeological heritage for its small size.

Famous Finnis 'Ghost Tree'

Perhaps the most famous resident of Finnis is the 'haunted tree' which was finally felled after a storm in 2009, having stood in the village since the early 20th Century.

According to local legends, the bridge next to the tree gave terror to the local residents and the village priest set out to exorcise the evil spirit of the bridge and capture it in a bottle. The bottle was then placed in the sycamore tree and the bridge was said to be free of hauntings from then on. It has been said that no one from Finnis would touch the tree, or allow visitors to touch it either.

The Church of St. Michael, the Archangel

The church dates from the 1800's when it was formerly known as the 'Church of the Sacred Heart'. Now known as the Church of St. Michael, the Archangel, the church was built from local stone, quarried nearby, next to the River Lagan.

Source: www.lisburn.com/churches/lisburn-churches/st-michaels-finnis

Finnis Souterrain 'Binders Cove'

The Finnis Souterrain is a scheduled ancient monument that has been reopened to the public in the past few years after lying undiscovered for thousands of years.

The souterrain is an underground, stone-lined tunnel that is said to have been used in the 9th Century as a refuge for the occupants of the monastery from raiding Vikings.

Source: www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/youplaceandmine/down

Legananny Dolmen

The Legananny Dolmen is one of Ireland's most famous megalithic monuments. It is believed to be the portal grave of a chieftain. There are also traces of a cairn, probably a temple where "farming communities paid respect to departed ancestors and invoked magical help to ensure good harvests".

Source: www.banbridge.com



Finnis Souterrain

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/yourplaceandmine/down>



Haunted Tree, Finnis.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/yourplaceandmine/down>



St. Michael's Church



Legananny Dolmen

Source: www.wikipedia.org, Photograph Author: Ardfern



New building - with detailing sympathetic to local vernacular.

Peter Morgan's Cottage

River Lagan

Residential Area - modern houses

St. Michael's Church

St. Michael's Primary School

4.0 Village Analysis

A site visit and appraisal of Finnis was carried out on the 2nd April 2012. The site visit analysis was carried out via PERS review forms and a photo record of the settlement.

Pedestrian Environment Review Survey (PERS)

PERS or 'Pedestrian Environment Review Survey' is a walking audit tool. PERS is used to assess the level of service and quality provided for pedestrians across a range of pedestrian environments. The AECOM design team, along with GVA have used a PERS review to appraise the following types of pedestrian environment: Links, Crossings, Place Check, Public Spaces and Heritage. The PERS forms have been appended to this report under Appendix A1.

With this type of audit, the pedestrian environment and place review is qualitative, using the judgement of the consultant design team. This allows the 'feel' of the environment to be gauged and assessed from a first time visitor perspective. The qualitative analysis of the places from the perspective of the community will be assessed through detailed community consultation and incorporated into the outcomes of the analysis process.

Following the site visit and PERS analysis, the findings were then translated into a tabulated form - a SWOT analysis.

SWOT Analysis

SWOT analysis has been used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats for Finnis. A SWOT analysis is categorised by:

Strengths - the characteristics of the place that give it an identity, sense of place, local advantage

Weaknesses - the characteristics that may be poor within the village/settlement

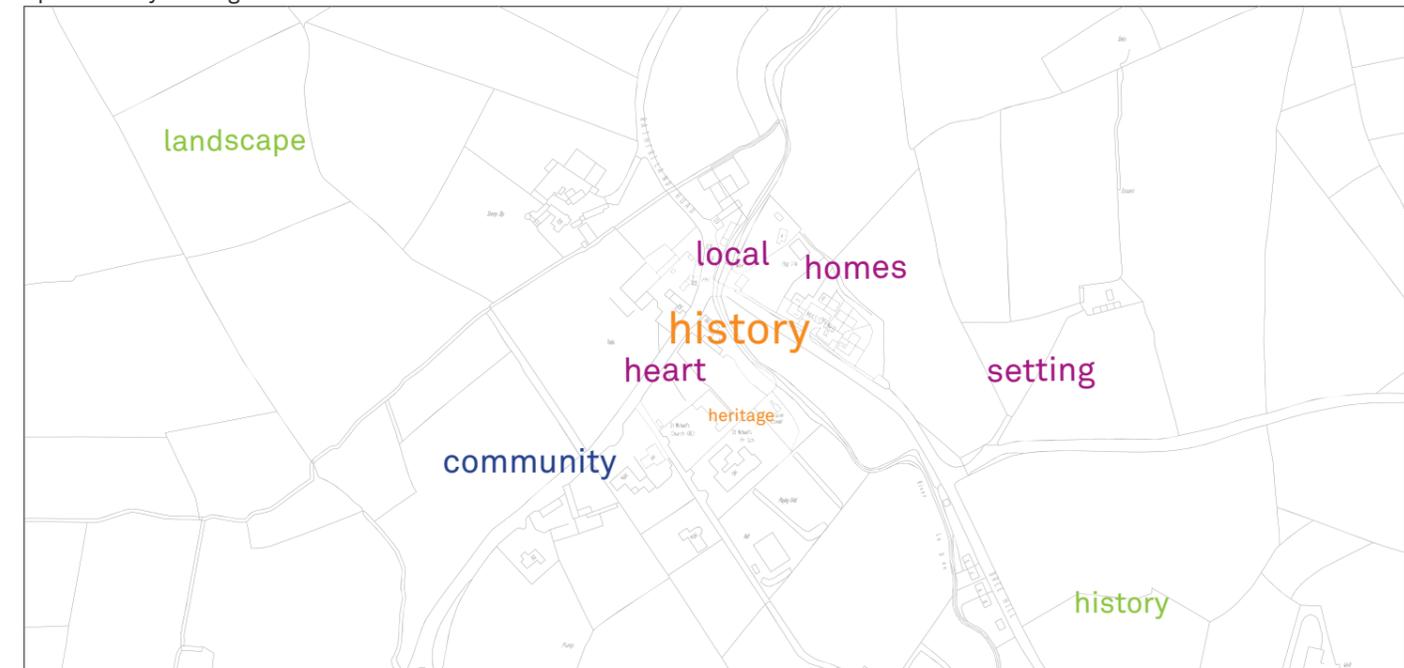
Opportunities - opportunities are the chances to improve the place/environment/quality of life/regeneration capacity of the place

Threats - threats are external elements in the environment that could cause a negative influence in the village/settlement

Spatial Analysis

The spatial analysis below captures the key elements and the settlements topographical features. The purpose behind this form of diagram is to gain a feeling for the sense of place.

Spatial Analysis Diagram



Ordnance Survey NIMA No. CS&LA156

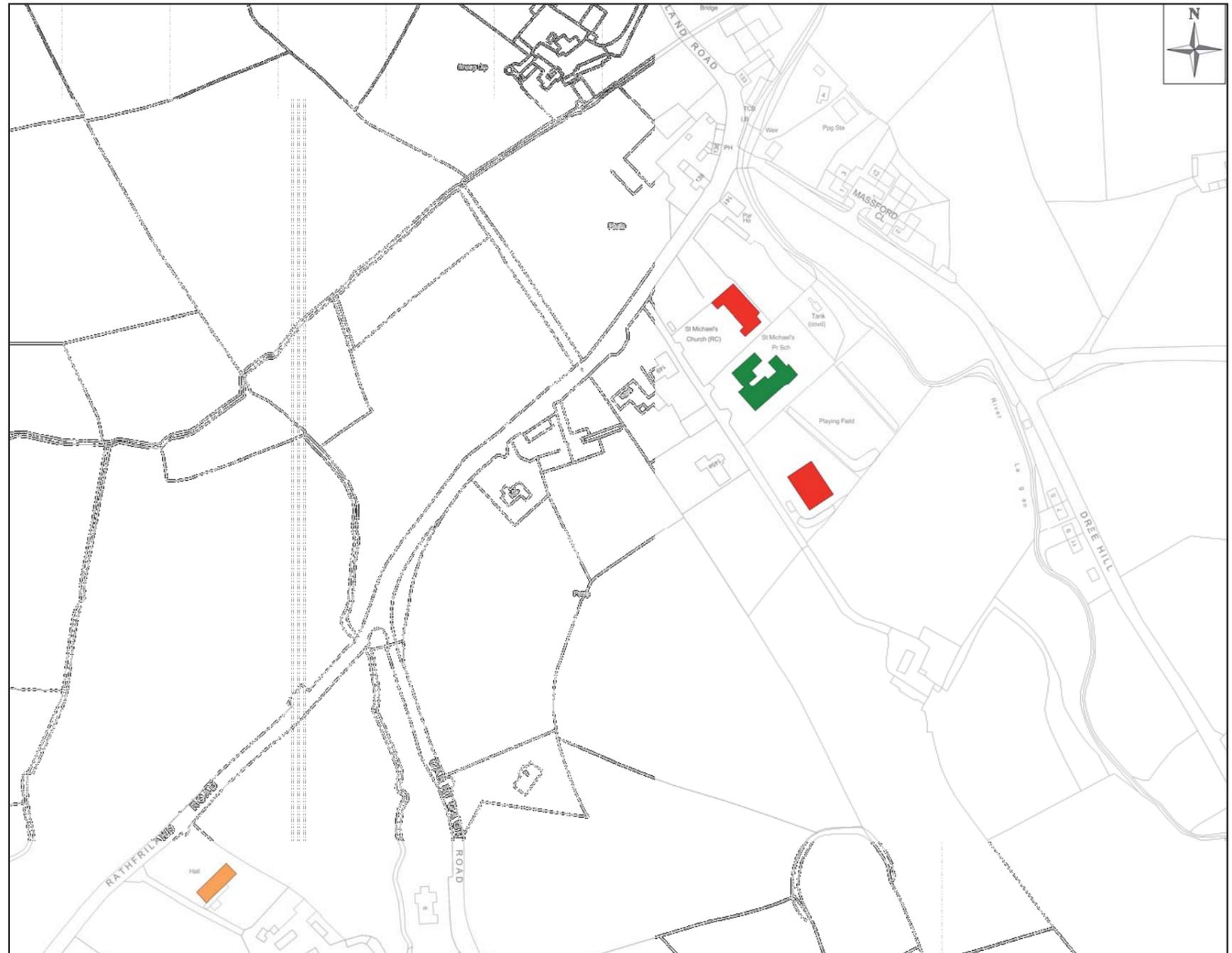
4.1 Photo Record





4.3 Infrastructure Mapping

- LEGEND**
- Church / church hall
 - Orange hall
 - Primary school
 - Community centre
 - Health centre / GP's surgery
 - Residential / care home
 - Playgroup
 - Library
 - Post office
 - Playground / playing field
 - Public toilets
 - Recycling point



Ordnance Survey NIMA No. CS&LA156

Precedent Images - picnic and seating areas



SWOT Analysis



Ordnance Survey NIMA No. CS&LA156

4.4 SWOT Analysis

| Strengths | Weaknesses | Opportunities | Threats |
|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive landscape setting with a peaceful rural character. • Trails and tourist features are present e.g. Peter Morgans Cottage, River Lagan Weir. • Area is classified as an AONB. • Finnis is already part of the Mourne Cycle Way. (Mourne Slieve Croob circuit) • Strong sense of community needs to be fostered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No safe pedestrian access between the main road and the primary school. • Lack of seating areas. • Traffic speed on main road near the school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area adjacent to Peter Morgans Cottage could be utilised as a picnic/seating/refreshments area. • Cottage could be utilised at weekends for cyclists - serving refreshments . Potential area adjacent to local pub to have seating/picnic tables. • A noticeable derelict building within the prominent site of Peter Morgan's Cottage could be an opportunity for development. • Opportunity to add interpretation panels in village to offer information on nearby souterrain, Legananny Dolmen and famous Finnis 'haunted tree' • Townland markers have been used successfully in Annaclone, these could be installed in Finnis and other villages also. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions will apply due to AONB status • Economic downturn is negatively impacting on investments, growth potential and job prospects |

Consultation Process

Community Event Posters and Forms



5.0 Consultation

Making Local Views Count

Throughout the work in preparing a Village Plan for Finnis there has been a considerable level of interaction with the community and key stakeholders. Their contributions, comments and views have all been fed into the process of advancing and refining the plan proposals and have been recorded as an Appendix to the Plan.

A Collaborative Approach

The community consultation process adopted for the Banbridge District Village Plans was specifically designed to:

- Ensure the community and stakeholders are involved in the production of the plans and not just consulted once the plans have been completed.
- Ensure the community feel involved enough to take ownership of the plans and have a sense of pride in their Village.
- Ensure widespread awareness of what is being undertaken and develop 'knowledgeable communities', able to contribute purposefully at all stages of the development of the Village Plans.
- Give residents and stakeholders the confidence and assurance that their views are being heard and issues dealt with, as well as keeping people informed of the progress.

Stage 1 Community Consultation

The first round of community consultation was undertaken in Kinallen (incorporating Waringsford and Finnis) on Wednesday 2nd May. This was an attended session and gave residents of the three villages an opportunity to review draft action plans and discuss the plans with members of the consultation team.

The following day, the consultation material was on display in Peter Morgan's Cottage in Finnis, to give residents a second opportunity to review the material and comment.

Members of the community had the opportunity to 'Draw your own Plan' and 'Stick a dot on the things you like'. In addition, comments forms were supplied for general comments on the draft action plan.

Stage 2 Community Consultation

Stage 2 consultation was undertaken on Wednesday 23rd May in Fair Hill Primary School in Kinallen. The meeting included a powerpoint presentation to communicate the village plan process, timescales, initiatives and finally a series of visualisations of potential village improvements. Attendees of the meeting then had a chance to review and discuss the action plans, which were displayed on the wall both in tabular and plan format.

Again, the material was displayed the following day in Peter Morgan's Cottage to offer residents a second change to review and comment.

Stage 3 Community Consultation

The Stage 3 consultation was undertaken on Tuesday 29th May in Peter Morgan's Cottage. This was a drop in event to facilitate review of the proposed Action Plan, that was fully updated to take on board comments raised at Stage 2 consultation.

Stakeholder Consultees

The following stakeholders were contacted regarding the Finnis Village Plan during the consultation period:

- NIHE
- DOE Planning
- DRD Roads Service
- DARD Rivers Agency
- NIEA
- PSNI
- SELB
- Southern Trust HSCNI
- Enable NI

Core Themes

While the number and range of comments made by the community and stakeholders is extensive, the core themes are as follows:

- General enhancement of area around Peter Morgan's Cottage, car parking, landscaping and picnic area
- General roads matters regarding speed of traffic, maintenance of roads, footpaths, signage and road markings for the school
- Improve and maintain heritage/character of village including new lighting

Dree Hill Planting Visualisation



Existing conditions

6.0 Project Proposals/ Initiatives

The visualisations in this section of the plan document and illustrate a selection of key initiatives that have been suggested in the Action Plan. They are intended to give inspiration and convey how simple measures can greatly improve the setting or function of the village. The initiatives are more fully described in the Action Plan in Chapter 7.0.

Heritage Interpretation

Finnis is a very old settlement and has a rich heritage. This can be celebrated by the introduction of new interpretative signage at Peter Morgan's Cottage. The signage could cover the local points of interest such as the Finnis Souterrain, Finnis Tree, Source of Lagan, pre-famine cottage, explanation of name 'Massford,' 'Blaeberry Sunday' walk, walks such as Darby's Loanin' and Glen Loanin' walks and incorporate information from the existing sign that covers the 'Gateway to Slieve Croob and the Dromara Hills' walking and cycling routes.

Tree Planting

Additional tree planting could be provided to enhance the rural character of the village and enhance the setting of residences along Dree Hill Road.



Example Interpretation Panel, incorporating Finnis heritage

7.0 Action Plan

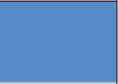
ACTION PLAN THEMES

 Physical / Aesthetic

 Ecological

 Socio - Economic

 Development

| | Short Term Actions/Quick Wins (next 12 months) | Cost Range | Stakeholders | Potential Funders | Theme |
|------|--|------------|---|--|--|
| S.1 | Create a picnic/seating area adjacent to Peter Morgan's Cottage to provide tourists and cyclists with a place to stop and rest. | £10,000 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council, adjacent Landowner | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |
| S.2 | Introduce community noticeboard to foster community relations and advertise events. | £1,000 | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |
| S.3 | Introduce new interpretative signage at Peter Morgan's Cottage covering the local points of interest such as the Finnis Souterrain, Finnis Tree, Source of Lagan, Pre-famine cottage, explanation of name 'Massford,' 'Blaeberry Sunday' walk, walks such as Darby's Loanin' and Glen Loanin' walks and incorporate information from the existing sign that covers the 'Gateway to Slieve Croob and the Dromara Hills' walking and cycling routes. | £5,000 | Banbridge District Council, Local landowner, Massford Project Association, Sustrans, NI Tourist Board | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |
| S.4 | Improve general maintenance and tidying of the streets in the village, including the benches, roads signs and interpretative signage panels. Concern noted at the weeds growing in footpaths and broken sections of footpath surfaces. Undertake remedial works to address immediate problem areas, which could cause a trip hazard. | £5,000 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council |  |
| S.5 | Introduce climbing plants to screen the retaining walls to the church car park and introduce tree planting to the church grounds, such as rowans, to enhance the setting. | £12,000 | Banbridge District Council, St Michael's Church | St Michael's Church, Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |
| S.6 | Introduce signage to improve linkages to both St Michael's Church Hall and the School. | £1,500 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council, St Michael's Church, St Michael's Primary School | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |
| S.7 | Investigate options for bulk buying of goods such as home heating oil through a village cooperative. | N / A | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, Massford Project Association | Banbridge District Council, DRAP |  |
| S.8 | Introduce hazard marking on the Rathfriland Road to highlight the entrance to the school and school hazard sign on the approaches to the junction to highlight to drivers the presence of children. | £500 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council, St Michael's Church, St Michael's Primary School | DRD Roads Service |   |
| S.9 | Liaise with BT over replacing the red telephone box at the bridge, which was knocked down in 2011. | N / A | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association, BT, DRD Roads Service | BT |  |
| S.10 | Initiate discussions with the local community and local landowners regarding the provision and location of a play area in the village and agree what age range the facilities should cater for. (Refer to M.11) | N / A | Banbridge District Council, affected Landowners, local Residents, Massford Project Association, St Michael's Primary School | Banbridge District Council |   |
| S.11 | Mend and repair the fence at the rear of the green area at Peter Morgan's Cottage. | £1,500 | Banbridge District Council, adjacent Landowner, local Residents, Massford Project Association | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD |  |

| | Medium Term Actions (next 1-5 years) | Cost Range | Stakeholders | Potential Funders | Theme |
|------|--|------------|---|--|-------|
| M.1 | Establish if street lighting provision is sufficient to ensure pedestrian safety in all areas. Limited lights noted around junction of Rathfriland Road with Dree Hill. Implement change if a need is identified. Heritage fittings to be considered if performance meets demand. | £10,000 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council | DRD Roads Service | |
| M.2 | Change draft local plan to introduce an Area of Townscape Character, to provide additional protection to the existing strong setting. | N / A | DOE Planning, Banbridge District Council, DRD Roads Service | N/A | |
| M.3 | Introduce a hedge boundary and trees to the green space between Massford Close and Dree Hill to enhance the rural setting. | £50,000 | Banbridge District Council, DRAP | DRAP | |
| M.4 | Introduce screen planting, such as multi stem trees and shrubs, as a buffer between the green space at Peter Morgan's Cottage and the rear of the housing on Massford Close to soften the setting. | £16,000 | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, Massford Project Association | DRAP | |
| M.5 | Change fence detail to the green space at Peter Morgan's Cottage to a metal rail and post estate fence, more in keeping with the high quality, rural character. | £10,000 | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, Massford Project Association | DRAP | |
| M.6 | Reinforce weak boundaries to James King Pub with tree planting to strengthen edge, enhance the rural setting and screen the pub yard. | £7,500 | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, Business Owner | DRAP | |
| M.7 | Develop a community led initiative for an annual gala / festival at Peter Morgan's Cottage as a way of developing community spirit and attracting visitors. | N / A | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association, local Residents | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD | |
| M.8 | Initiate discussions between the local community and the Council over community wishes for floral displays to enhance the streetscape. | N / A | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association, local Residents | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD | |
| M.9 | Improve the finish of the car park area at Peter Morgan's Cottage with a permeable block paving or similar to enhance the setting of the cottage. | £25,000 | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD | |
| M.10 | Introduce a 30mph speed limit within the village, which is in keeping with the width and rural nature of the road, along with physical measures to enforce the speed limit, such as hazard signs, road markings, traffic ramps etc. to enhance the safety of pedestrian movement. (Traffic Regulation Order Process required.) | £5,000 | DRD Roads Service, Translink, Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association, DSD | DRD Roads Service, DSD | |
| M.11 | Develop new play provision in line with consultations, in agreed location. (Refer to S.10) | N / A | Banbridge District Council, affected Landowners, local Residents, Massford Project Association, St Michael's Primary School | Banbridge District Council | |
| M.12 | Renew surface of lane serving the school and church hall to improve accessibility and introduce street lighting to improve pedestrian safety. | £35,000 | Banbridge District Council, St Michael's Church, St Michael's Primary School, Landowner | St Michael's Church, Banbridge District Council, SELB, Landowner | |
| M.13 | Identify existing or potential walking routes and circuits around the countryside surrounding the village and introduce waymarking signage to promote the health and wellbeing of the community. | £1,500 | Banbridge District Council, Massford Project Association, affected Landowners, DOE Planning, local Residents | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD | |

| | Long Term Actions (5 + years) | Cost Range | Stakeholders | Potential Funders | Theme |
|-----|---|---------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------|
| L.1 | Refurbish derelict building adjacent to Peter Morgan's Cottage and carry out environmental improvements to improve its setting. Suggested use as a café/bar/bistro/shop/self catering accommodation/hostel for walkers and cyclists to accommodate tourists from the Souterrain and cyclists on route around the Mourne and Slieve Croob Route. | £250,000 - £500,000 | DRD Roads Service, Banbridge District Council, DSD, DRAP, Massford Project Association, Sustrans, Building Owner / Landowner | Banbridge District Council, DRAP, DSD | |

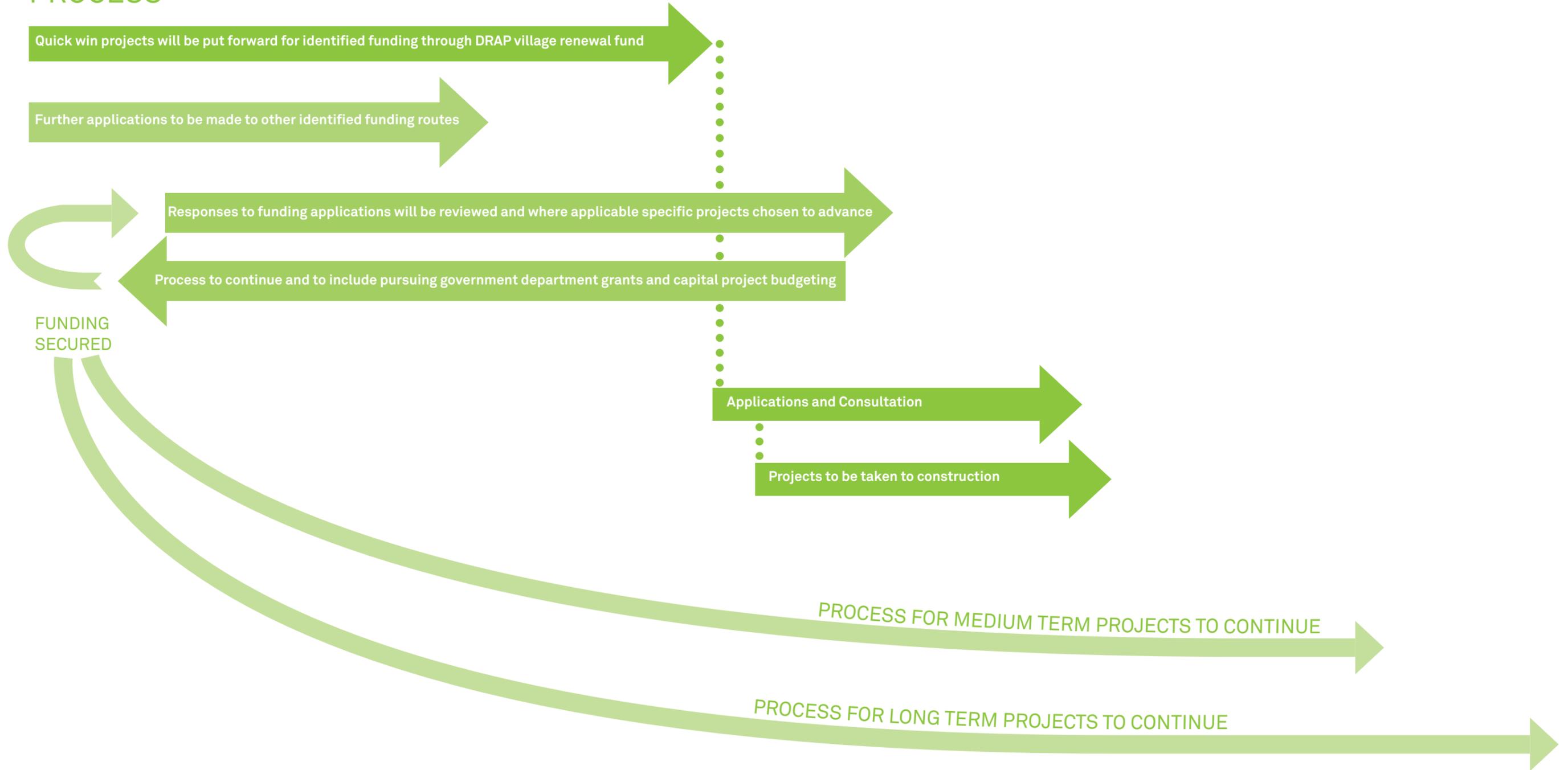


Legend

- Short Term Action (next 12 Months)
- Medium Term Action (1 - 5 Years)
- Long Term Action (5+ Years)

This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown copyright & database rights NIWA No. CS2LA156. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

PROCESS



* Process to be monitored and reviewed by steering group to ensure positive progress

8.0 Way Forward

The procedure for the production of the Village Plan for Finnis has been an extremely worthwhile process, in terms of involving the community and gaining momentum for regeneration in the village.

Following three stages of public consultation, the village plan has been prepared to take on board the views and aspirations of the local residents and business owners, ensuring community buy-in for the proposals. The plans have also been reviewed by a core group of stakeholders.

Many of the actions are short term or 'quick wins' that can be achieved with minimum funding and without formal permissions and have been identified to help bring about drive and momentum for the implementation of longer term projects.

More complex projects will require permissions to be in place, like Planning Permission or Traffic Regulation Orders. They may need the buy in of multiple stakeholders to progress, including landowners or other parties. They will also have more complex funding arrangements and may require multiple applications or match funding from Government Departments to be identified and budgeted for in a financial year.

Action Review

Banbridge District Council will monitor the progress of the village plan, identifying any stumbling blocks and potential resolutions so that the plan can always be moving forward. The Council may call on selected community groups to drive forward particular elements of the plan, in particular any proposals that require funding that can only be sought by community groups.



8.1 Funding Opportunities

| Grant | Who can apply | Funding range | Possible applications |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Garfield Weston Foundation | Registered charities, unless the organisation has 'exempt' or 'exempted' status | No strict limit | Funding provided for projects in the UK in the general fields of: education, arts, health, environment, community, youth, religion, welfare and social. |
| Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) - Project Development Grants | Building Preservation Trusts | Up to £20,000 | Assistance available to help Building Preservation Trusts pay for developing and coordinating a project. |
| Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) - Options Appraisal Grants | Registered charities | Up to 75% costs, not exceeding £7500 | Assistance available towards the cost of an options appraisal to determine the most feasible option for the repair on an historic building or beneficial reuse in the UK. |
| American Express - Philanthropic Programme | Organisations that are able to prove not-for-profit status worldwide | No strict limit | Assistance available for not-for-profit organisations in three areas: Historic Preservation & Conservation, Leadership, Community Service and Engagement |
| All Our Stories - Heritage Lottery Fund | Voluntary and Community organisations | Between £3000 and £10,000 | Support for activities which encourage communities across the UK to get involved with their local heritage. **May be applicable for Banbridge District Linen Trail** |
| Support for Tourism Businesses (Northern Ireland) | Tourism accommodation business, existing or start-up | Varies | Financial support to assist tourism businesses in Northern Ireland |
| Small Business Rate Relief Scheme (Northern Ireland) | Small businesses and post offices | Average of £300-£430 per year | Rate relief for small businesses. **May be applicable for flexible working hubs** |
| Re-Imaging Communities Programme | District Councils and constituted community and voluntary organisations | £500-£5000 and £15,001-£50,000 | Grants available to encourage creation of vibrant and attractive shared public space through arts which will create life, enhance the physical and natural environment, and include communities, |
| Rural Transport Fund (Northern Ireland) | Voluntary Organisations | No strict limit | Financial assistance is available to support projects in Northern Ireland that aim to provide improved transport opportunities. |
| Village SOS Active (Lottery Programme) | Non profit organisations | Between £10,000 and £50,000 | Grants available to community businesses to revive villages in the UK |
| Lloyds TSB Foundation for Northern Ireland | Registered charities, although there are some exceptions | Between £3000 and £4000 | Funding is available to registered charities in Northern Ireland for projects that target social and community needs or education and training. |
| Invest Northern Ireland - Property Assistance Scheme | Clients of Invest Northern Ireland | % of approved construction costs | Financial assistance available for companies in Northern Ireland that require additional space, premises or property that they are seeking to develop themselves. |
| Down Rural Area Partnership 3.2 Business Creation and Development | Individuals or companies in rural areas with less than 10 employees | Between £5000 and £50,000 | Assistance to create employment opportunities through promoting entrepreneurship and developing the economic infrastructure in rural areas. |
| Down Rural Area Partnership 3.3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities | Private Individuals, Companies, Local Councils | Between £50,000 and £250,000 | Funding to attract visitors, and create new employment opportunities through sustainable development of the rural economy. |
| Down Rural Area Partnership 3.4 Basic services for the Economy and Rural Population | Private individuals, private companies or partnerships, non departmental public bodies, local councils, community/voluntary groups | Between £50,000 and £100,000 | Services and improvements for rural areas. |
| Down Rural Area Partnership 3.5 Village Renewal and Development | Private individuals, private companies or partnerships, non departmental public bodies, local councils, community/voluntary groups | Between £5,000 and £70,000 | To support integrated village initiatives and integrated action plans. |
| Down Rural Area Partnership 3.6 Conservation and Upgrading of the Rural Heritage | Private individuals, private companies or partnerships social economy enterprises (SEE), non Departmental public bodies, Local Councils | Between £50,000 and £250,000 | To support opportunities to preserve and upgrade Northern Ireland's rural heritage and to use the natural and built environment as the basis for sustainable economic growth in rural areas. |

8.1 Funding Opportunities

| Grant | Who can apply | Funding range | Possible applications |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Awards for All - Northern Ireland (Lottery Programme) | Not-for-profit organisation, town or parish council, school or health body | £500-10,000 | Equipment and computers, training courses, publicity and research costs, start-up costs, pilot projects, events, volunteer expenses, conference costs, special repairs, travel and outings, materials |
| HLF - Landscape Partnerships (Lottery Programme) | Formal or informal partnerships, likely to include local voluntary conservation or community groups, parish councils, local governments or statutory/advisory agencies. | Between £250,000 and £ 2 million | Support for integrated community projects throughout the UK for the conservation, enhancement and wider enjoyment of the landscape. |
| HLF - Heritage Grants (Lottery Programme) | Not-for-profit organisations | Greater than £100,000 | Projects relating to national, regional or local heritage of UK, which aim to conserve and enhance diverse heritage and/or encourage people to be more involved in their heritage. ** Cycle route & Tourism trail are possible applications ** |
| Parks for People (Lottery Programme) | Local authorities/not-for-profit organisations that own public parks | Range from £250,000 to £5 million | Restoration and regeneration projects focussing on public parks and gardens, including squares, walks and promenades in the UK |
| Townscape Heritage Initiative (Lottery Programme) | Not-for-profit organisations, local authorities | Between £500,000 and £2 million | Support for communities in regenerating the historic parts of their towns and cities. |
| The Idlewind Trust | UK registered charities and excepted/publicly exempt charities | Up to £5000 | Grants available for projects that encourage the performing/fine arts and preserve buildings, objects of beauty and items of historic interest or national importance for public benefit. |
| Skinner's Company - Lady Neville Charity | Registered charities and not-for-profit organisations in the UK | £500-£1000 | Grants available for not-for-profit organisations and registered charities offering a diverse range of activities and interests within one of the Charity's areas of priority: Local Heritage, Local community; and Performing Arts |
| Reconciliation Fund (for North South and Anglo-Irish Cooperation) | Individuals and community based organisations involved in reconciliation work to create better understanding between people on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Great Britain | EUR 1000-EUR 150,000 | Assistance with reconciliation work and efforts to create better understanding between people on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and between Ireland and Great Britain |
| NGO Grant Scheme | Registered charities, particularly Building Preservation Trusts | No strict limit | Grants are available for registered charities in Northern Ireland, particularly Building Preservation Trusts, to help with the cost of acquiring listed buildings at risk. ** May be applicable for Moneyslane - National School and Katesbridge building ** |
| Esme Mitchell Trust | Charitable and voluntary groups | £120,000 per year is available | Grants given for projects of a heritage, cultural or artistic nature. Appeals over a wide area of benefit are supported, available in Ireland as a while, but principally in Northern Ireland. |
| Groundwork - Groundwork Programmes | Communities in need | Varies | Support available to improve the quality of environment, lives of local people and success of local businesses. |
| Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Grants Scheme (Northern Ireland) | Voluntary Organisations | Maximum £10,000 | Financial assistance to help voluntary and community groups in Northern Ireland develop their capacity to engage in community relations work. |
| Bombardier Aerospace in the Community (NI) | The Foundation : groups must be registered charities working in the community. Sponsorship committee: voluntary and community groups. | Varies | Funding available to support community involvement projects , primarily in the areas of education and entrepreneurship. |

9.0 Information Sources/ Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all those who have contributed to the preparation of this Village Plan, including:

- The community of Finnis
- Peter Morgan's Cottage

Information Sources

http://www.dromoreleader.co.uk/news/local/famous_finnis_ghost_tree_felled

www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/yourplaceandmine/down

http://www.planningni.gov.uk/index/policy/dev_plans/devplans_az/bnm2015-vol2-banbridge.pdf

www.banbridge.com

Glossary

| | |
|-----------|---|
| AONB | Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty |
| BDC | Banbridge District Council |
| DARD | Department of Agriculture and Rural Development |
| DOE | Department of Environment |
| DRAP | Down Rural Area Partnership |
| DRD | Department for Regional Development |
| EI Scheme | Environmental Improvement/Public Realm Scheme |
| HSCNI | Health and Social Care Northern Ireland |
| NIEA | Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| NIHE | Northern Ireland Housing Executive |
| PERS | Pedestrian Environment Review Survey |
| PSNI | Police Service Northern Ireland |
| SELB | Southern Education and Library Board |
| SWOT | Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats |

A1

PERS

Pedestrian Environment Review Survey Forms

A2

GVA Community Consultation Summary

