

January 2018

Loughinisland Village Renewal Plan

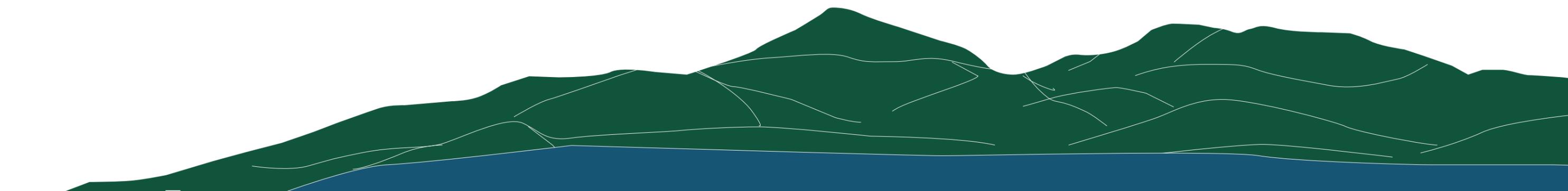
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council



Loughinisland Lake - Credit: Arfern



ARUP





Graves overlooking Lake. Credit : Eric Jones



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Ancient Church Ruins. Credit: Eric Jones

01 | Introduction

The Village Renewal Plan has been developed by the community in conjunction with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to meet the requirements of the Rural Development Programme for Northern Ireland 2014-2020.

Ove Arup and Partners (Arup) was appointed as the consultancy team to facilitate the delivery of the Village Renewal Plan for Loughinisland. This Village Renewal Plan has been facilitated by a stakeholder workshop. The outcome of this is a Village Renewal Plan which includes a range of projects and initiatives that we believe will have a real impact on the area.

The Village Renewal Plan was funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union, and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

The Rural Development Programme uses the LEADER approach which adopts a community led model to assist rural communities to improve the quality of life and economic prosperity in their local area, through the allocation of funds based on local need. Village Renewal and Development is an important element of the Rural Development Programme.

The Village Plan is a working document that requires the support of the community and in many cases the community working in partnership with other agencies and statutory bodies.

It should be noted that the progressing of a Village Plan' under the Rural Development Programme does not mean that the settlement or area, to which the 'Village Plan' applies, is designated as a village in the settlement hierarchy as identified in the current development plans that apply to the District (i.e. the Banbridge/Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015, and the Ards and Down Area Plan 2015) or in the Council's new Local Development Plan for the District, which is currently under preparation.

It is important to note that some projects and initiatives set out within the action plan may be subject to future feasibility studies and analysis, detailed design, landowner agreements, statutory approvals and available funding.





Loughinisland gateway (Credit - Dean Molyneaux)

02 | Context

Village Location

The townland of Loughinisland, which derives its name from the Gaelic Loch an Oileáin, translated as 'lake of the island' is a small village and civil parish community within rural County Down. The settlement is between Downpatrick and Ballynahinch and resides approximately 25 miles South of Belfast.

Village Character

The settlement of Loughinisland expresses its culturally enriched heritage via the church ruins that are grouped within the cemetery on the Island. The churches range in date from the 13th century to the 17th century and provide the settlement with a unique historical setting. Today the village and community of Loughinisland are intimately stitched into the picturesque landscape offering a compact linear settlement spanning the western portion of the Loughinisland Road. Building on this, the village comprises primarily residential land use within its core with St. Macartan's Primary School, Parochial Hall, St. Macartan's RC church and cemetery also within the village core. Furthermore, given the name of the settlement, the Loughinisland Lake resides to the east of the main residential area offering a unique, panoramic and picturesque asset within the heart of the community. Additionally, the village comprises a passionate, engaging and enthusiastic community who harness the culture, heritage and vibrancy of Loughinisland.



Marian Grotto at St. Macartan's Chapel. Credit: Eric Jones

History and Development of the Village

The village originated its development adjacent the Loughlinisland Lake. Situated within the centre of the lake rests an Island to which the original Gaelic Macartan's clan settled. As time progressed, the village established Three churches between the 13th and 17th centuries. By 1836, Loughlinisland established a local primary school which remains to this day. Beyond the initial development of the village, by 1832 the Chapel ruins and ancient burial grounds had been firmly established along the inner east banks of Loughlinisland Lake. With a village core unestablished, the presence of the current day St. Macartan's Church played a key role in concentrating the future development of the village core. By 1862, the village had established the need for educational services highlighting the growth of the community and surrounding area. Building on this, the Loughlinisland National School had firmly established its position within the community upon its current site. Moving on, by 1907, the village began to notice a clustering of development to the western portion of the village benefitting from passing lines of trade and communication along the Loughlinisland Road. Furthermore, at this time the village had established a parochial house situated beyond the current day village core at lands north of the Lake along the Loughlinisland Road. Moving forward, by 1969, a small residential pocket of development had clustered south of the primary school to cater or the growth within the community. Building on this, the development consolidated further to form the present Longview Close and Cottages area of the settlement.

Village Profile

Loughlinisland rests within the Seaforde Ward within rural county down. The settlement expresses a slightly more youthful population with 18.50% of residents aged 16 or under whereas 15.69% of the population are aged 65+. Building on this, future development to village amenities and services must take into consideration the needs and requirement of each demographic sector within the village community.

Settlement Development Limit

The designated Settlement Limit is drawn to prevent encroachment on the setting of Loughlinisland Churches to the east and allow for limited expansion of the settlement on suitable low lying lands.



Loughlinisland Road



St. Macartan's PS. Credit: Eric Jones



St. Macartan's Chapel. Credit: Eric Jones



Loughlinisland GAC Grounds. Credit: Loughlinislandgac.com



St. Macartan's Chapel. Credit: Eric Jones



Parish Hall, Loughlinisland

Future Development

A key role of the Ards and Down Area Plan is to designate and zone land for future residential and housing development for the settlement. Building on this, the village of Drumanness has two key residential zonings at lands south east of Hillside via Old Park Road along with lands South of Cumber Road and Cumber Park. Having established this, the demand for residential development within the village has been realised with residential development schemes being implemented onto the designated sites.

Having established this, future housing growth within the settlement will be extremely limited under the current area plan, however with the emergence of the new local development plan, future demand for housing may be catered for.

Recent Developments

Housing Development. Planning Ref. LA07/2016/0571/O Status: Permission Granted

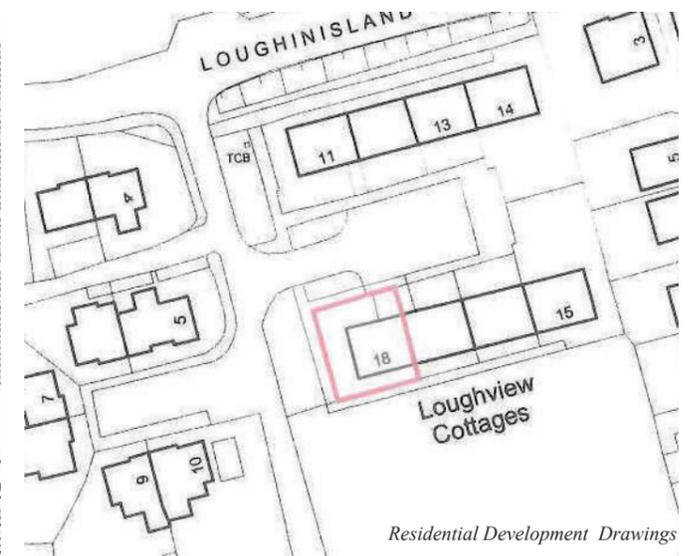
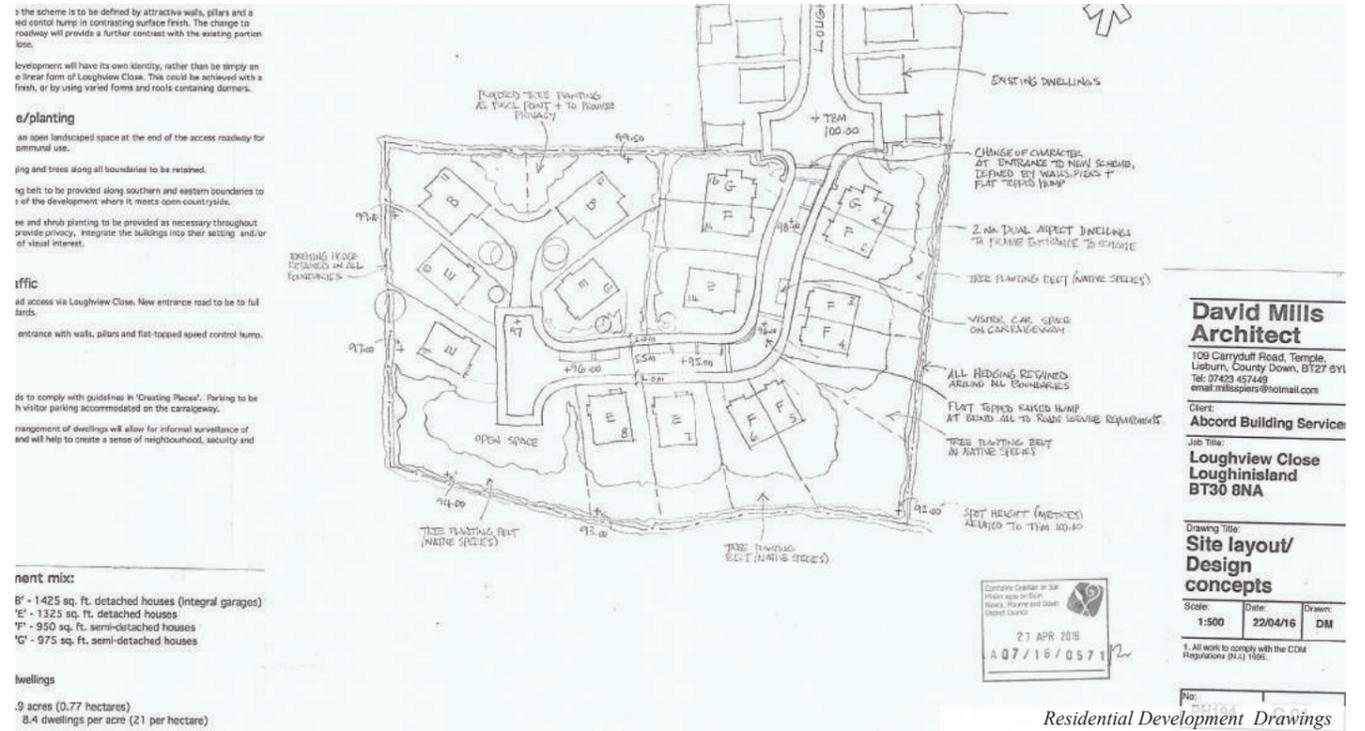
Housing development consisting of 16 dwellings, 8 detached and 8 semi-detached along with associated garages, roads and landscaping at land south of Loughview Close and Loughview Cottages.

Replacement residential Dwelling. Planning Ref. R/2012/0543/F Status: Permission Granted

Planning application to seek permission for a replacement dwelling at 49A Loughinisland Road.

Private residential improvements. Planning Ref. R/2013/0575/F Status: Permission Granted

Proposed single storey extension to side of dwelling at 18 Loughview Cottages.



03 | Policy Analysis

3.1 Planning Policy

Regional Development Strategy 2035 'Building a Better Future'

The Regional Development Strategy (RDS) is a statutory plan, and sets the spatial vision for the region up to the year 2035. One of the central aims of the RDS is to support our towns, villages and rural communities to maximise their potential.

Our rural areas including our towns and villages have a key role in supporting economic growth. They offer opportunities in terms of their potential for growth in new sectors, the provision of rural recreation and tourism, their attractiveness as places to invest, live and work, and their role as a reservoir of natural resources and highly valued landscapes (RDS, p19)

The RDS sets out Strategic Guidance for the economic, society and the environment. RG7 highlights the need to support rural renaissance which is about revitalising the centres of small towns and villages so that they meet the immediate needs of the communities they serve.

The RDS emphasises the need to sustain rural communities living in smaller settlements and the open countryside and to improve accessibility for rural communities.

Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) 'Shaping a Better future'

The SPPS covers the whole of Northern Ireland and sets out the strategic policies for the sustainable development of the region, which it defines as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

The policy objectives for development in the countryside are to:

- manage growth to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development which supports a vibrant rural community;
- conserve the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of pollution;
- facilitate development which contributes to a sustainable rural economy; and
- promote high standards in the design, siting and landscaping of development.

Ards and Down Area Plan 2015 (ADAP 2015)

The ADAP was adopted in October 2009 and sets out a number of site specific statutory policies relevant to Jonesborough village that should be taken into consideration by developers, landowners, the Council and the local community in the forward planning of the Village.

Due to its strategic location, there is a natural pressure to accommodate residential expansion of the village. In relation to residential growth within the village, the current area plan outlines that no designated sites to accommodate significant residential expansion within the village.

ADAP identifies a Local Landscape Policy Area within the settlement located at Loughinisland Churches, Lake and surrounding Environs.

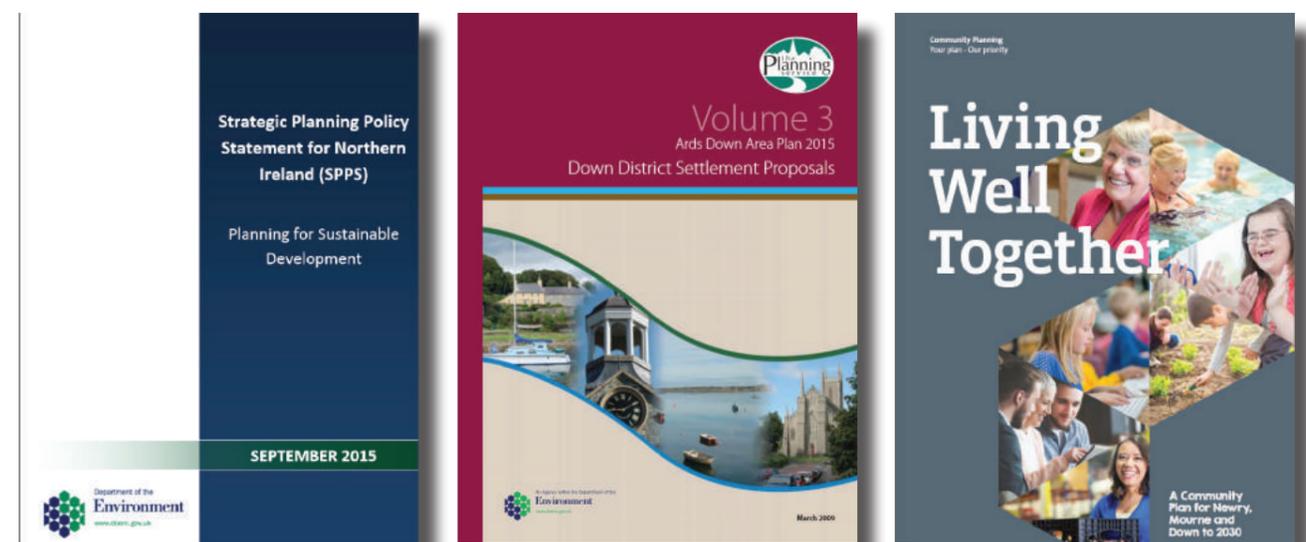
Living Well Together: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Community Plan (2016)

Community planning is a new function of Councils here in Northern Ireland since the reorganisation of local government in 2014. Councils have a requirement to create a Community Planning Partnership for their District whose role is to work in collaboration with all partners to achieve the aspirations of the Community Plan.

The overarching principles of the Plan are ensuring effective community engagement in the planning and delivery of services, utilising the strengths and resilience within communities, promoting equality and tackling inequality, adopting a preventative approach, driving efficiency and performance improvement, supporting a sustainable approach to development, holding each other as partners to account for delivering the community plan outcomes in collaboration and creating a Partnership Board responsible for monitoring and directing impact.

Emerging Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan (LDP) will deliver a 15-year plan framework to support economic and social needs in the District, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The new Local Development Plan will be the key consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the Council area. The next stage of the LDP process is the publication of the preferred options paper which will contain a series of options for dealing with key issues in the District, as well as the Council's justification for its proposed approach. The POP will indicate the Council's preferred options for growth and development in the District. The POP will be subject to public consultation. It is at this stage in the plan preparation process, that the public and stakeholders will have their first opportunity to put forward views and influence the LDP.



3.2 Other Strategies, Plans and Initiatives

This plan seeks to align with wider strategies and plans for the District, taking into account the importance of the Mourne Mountains in encouraging tourism and economic development into the area, and finding areas of complementarity where different stakeholders could work together to deliver such shared ideas and projects. Below is a snapshot of the strategies and plans that have been taken into consideration in the development of the Loughinisland Village Plan.

NMDDC Corporate Plan 2015-2019

The Newry Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan for 2015-2019 aims to envisage a new era for the District. The plan strives to strike a balance between the ambitions of the district whilst taking account of key issues which can influence the future of the district area and its population. Additionally, the corporate plan aims to create opportunities for local people and local communities to thrive by supporting sustainable economic growth over time and helping them to lead fulfilling lifestyles. The visionary stance of the strategy aims to create a district that is that is attractive to visit and do business, where people and communities can unlock their enterprising spirit as well as play their part in contributing to its social and economic development along with a district that facilitates and encourages healthy lifestyles. By 2019, the corporate plan will aspire to create a premier tourism destination for the island of Ireland, attract investment and support the creation of new jobs and support the improved health and well-being of its people.

Economic Regeneration & Investment Strategy 2015-2020

The Strategy aims to develop the Newry, Mourne and Down region to be recognised as a vibrant, dynamic and connected region of enterprise and economic growth; a place of sustainable natural beauty and a premier tourist destination encompassing excellence in culture and arts and enabling and creating opportunities for all. The Strategy is developed around five themes: 1.) Economic Development, 2.) Tourism Development, Marketing, Promotion and Events, 3.) Urban Development and Regeneration, 4.) Rural Development and Regeneration, 5.) Arts, Culture and Heritage. The strategy aims to develop a synergy between the five themes that need to be developed in the period to 2020. Within each theme we have a number of strategic priorities which will be delivered against.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Tourism Strategy 2017-2022

The Tourism Strategy for Newry, Mourne and Down aims to maximise tourism growth for the district area by adopting a new and fresh approach that recognises the distinctive elements and strengths which sets the district apart to other destinations. The Tourism Strategy focuses on a key thematic headline 'Mountains, Myths and Maritime' which outline the core elements that shape a distinctive and strong image for Newry, Mourne and Down.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Sports Facility Strategy (October 2016)

The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a framework for the future prioritisation, development and provision of sports facilities at a local level, to meet identified community need. The plan strategy identifies the need for improved sporting and general facilities at Loughinisland GAC for requirements of upgrade within year 1 (Walking Trail / Outdoor Gym), 2 (Grass Pitch) and 3 (Artificial Grass Pitch) of the plan.

The aim of the club is to dramatically improve its sporting and general facilities to include;

- Provide top class playing facilities for the development of our Gaelic
- Football Club and to enhance the facilities available to the local community.
- Maintain and grow the membership of the Club.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Play Strategy 2017-2022

The purpose of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Play Strategy is to establish an effective strategic framework for decision making as it relates to the development, maintenance and roll-out of play opportunities (both fixed and non-fixed) across the district.

At the core of the strategy is a recognition that play is a natural, fundamental part of children and young people's lives that supports growth and development, enhances health and well-being, supports social and intellectual development, and enables children and young people to develop essential life skills. Importantly for children, play is fun..





- Coastal Path
- NI Future Greenways Network
- Mourne and R.O.G. Public Art Trail
- MCDR Trail
- MCDR Links
- MCDR stop off sites
- On coastal path route
- Close proximity to path route
- Visitor Walking Hub



Village Letter Box. Credit: Albert Bridge

04 Consultation Process

The Loughinisland Village Plan has been developed in collaboration with the local community. Key aspects of the process are outlined below.

Village Walkabout

A village walkabout took place on 23rd May, 2017 with representatives of the Council, the consultant team, and several key representatives from the local community. The intention of the site visit was to understand the background and context of the Village, key assets, issues and potential ideas for how the Village could be improved.

Community Event

A public consultation event was held on the evening of 28th September in St. MacArtan's Primary School. The purpose of the event was to present the findings of the desktop research, site walkabout, together with draft proposals for actions and priorities for tackling the issues identified by the local community and village analysis work.

The event was publicly advertised via the Council's website and social media. Council officers also distributed details of the event to community and voluntary groups in the area, and a public advertisement was placed in the newspaper.

This draft Village Plan was then prepared and published for public consultation in January 2018.



Consultation Venue - St. Macartan's PS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 150 members fishing - Anglers - Spring Club - School / Playgroup - Settling - Shop / Bar - Churches - Community spirit - Hub @ GAA <p>Sold by farmer</p> <p>Youth club well attended. (8-15)</p> <p>Several Group / Clubs</p> <p>Youth Football Club in</p>	<p>STRENGTHS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No access to Lake. - No Central Hub - Nearest com Hub - Long waiting list to fishing club - 20-30 people - No Park - (small one @ pre-school) - Nothing for teenagers - No public Transport - Nothing for older population - 2 bowling clubs <p>WEAKNESSES</p>
<p>A. Development of Community map & association.</p> <p>Open to rep from all clubs / groups</p> <p>① To reuse Hall @ PS - LOCATE PLACE HERE ALSO.</p> <p>② Check what land MITC own</p> <p>③ FOOTPATH To STOP - 3rd party land - Feasibility / Costing needed.</p> <p>④ Walking Tons from Com Hub</p> <p>⑤ Agencies making together opening of Rights of way</p>	<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>① To reuse Hall @ PS - LOCATE PLACE HERE ALSO.</p> <p>② Check what land MITC own</p> <p>③ FOOTPATH To STOP - 3rd party land - Feasibility / Costing needed.</p> <p>④ Walking Tons from Com Hub</p> <p>⑤ Agencies making together opening of Rights of way</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safety - Footpaths - Ongoing / Car accidents - Girl Guides - sports for small mobile room - forced to cut - No scout group / - Parking for school. - None traffic since bridge @ kilmore expanded





Ancient Church Ruins. Credit: Liam McCormick

05 | Site Analysis

Strengths

- Angling – a popular activity throughout the community
- School – a successful primary school and play group within the village
- Setting – a mystical, unique and enchanting rural landscape
- Village Services – the village shop, bar and lounge offer key community services
- Churches – distils rich character and setting
- Community Spirit – Strong passionate and engaging community
- GAC – offers a key social and community Hub for Loughinisland
- Youth Services – Youth club well attended for ages 8-15
- Community Groups – several successful community groups within Loughinisland

Opportunities

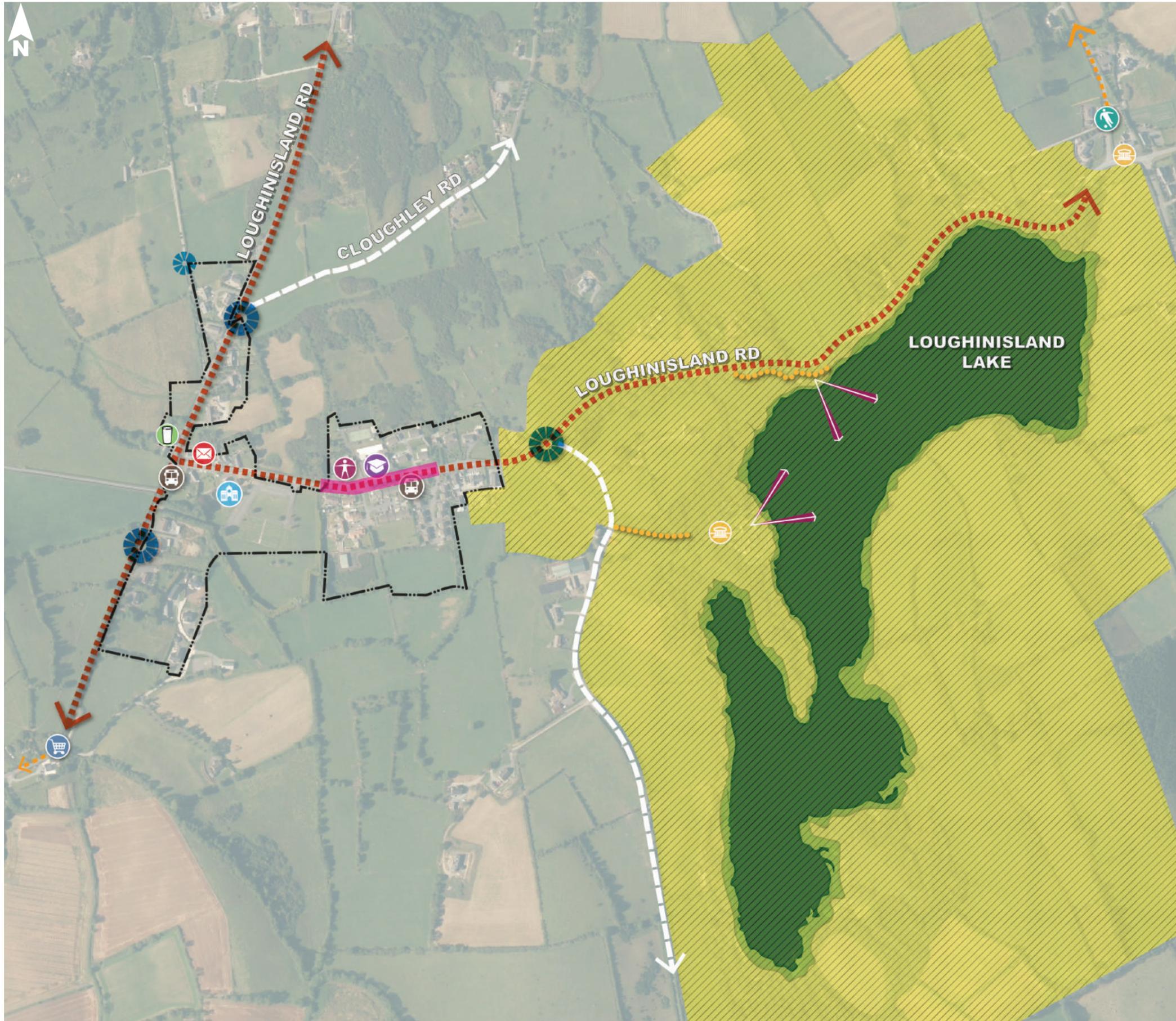
- Community Development Association – opportunity to progress a designated community development group
- Primary School Hall – Opportunity to reuse hall and integrate a new play park into lands
- Access to Shop – opportunity to develop a footpath connecting the shop with the village core
- Community Facility – A designated and dedicated space for the community
- Walking tours – Starting at community HUB, walking tours to explore surrounding culture and heritage
- Rights of Way – opportunity to improve inter-agency working
- Gateways – Opportunity to enhance the physical condition of the gateway sits within the village
- EIS – An opportunity to uplift and revitalise the environmental standard of Loughinisland

Weaknesses

- Access to Lake – poor public access to lake
- Community HUB – absence of shared and dedicated community HUB
- Fishing Club – Long waiting list for new members
- Play Facilities – No public play park within the village
- Teenage services – Lack of services for teenagers within the village
- Transport – No form of public transport serving the village
- Elderly Activities – Lack of actives for elderly population within community

Threats

- Safety and connectivity – Urgent attention needed to improve footpath within settlement
- Community Space – lack of space for community groups
- Parking – Lack of parking at Primary School
- Funding – Lack of potential future funding for certain projects
- Collaboration – Potential lack in integrated community working



LOUGHINISLAND SITE ANALYSIS

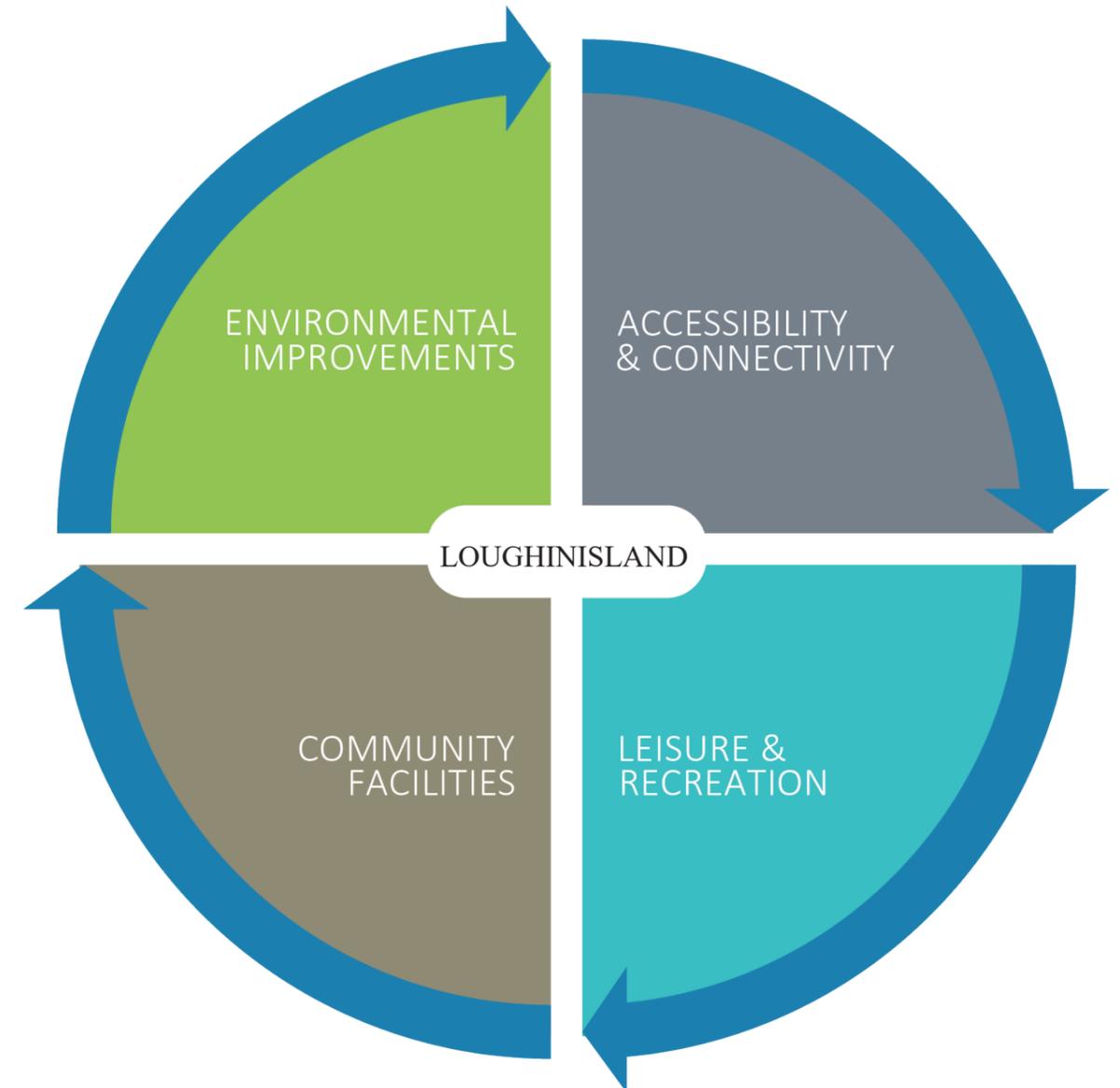
-  Settlement Boundary
-  Water Course
-  Primary Circulation Road
-  Secondary Circulation Road
-  Primary Gateway
-  Secondary Gateway
-  Village Core
-  Informal Walking Route
-  Monument (Loughinisland Churches)
-  Post Office
-  Bus Stop
-  Church
-  School
-  Shop
-  Loughinisland G.A.C.
-  Parish Hall | Community Centre
-  Scenic Views
-  **Local Landscape Policy Area**
 Considered to be of greatest amenity value, landscape quality or local significance and must therefore be protected from undesirable or damaging development.

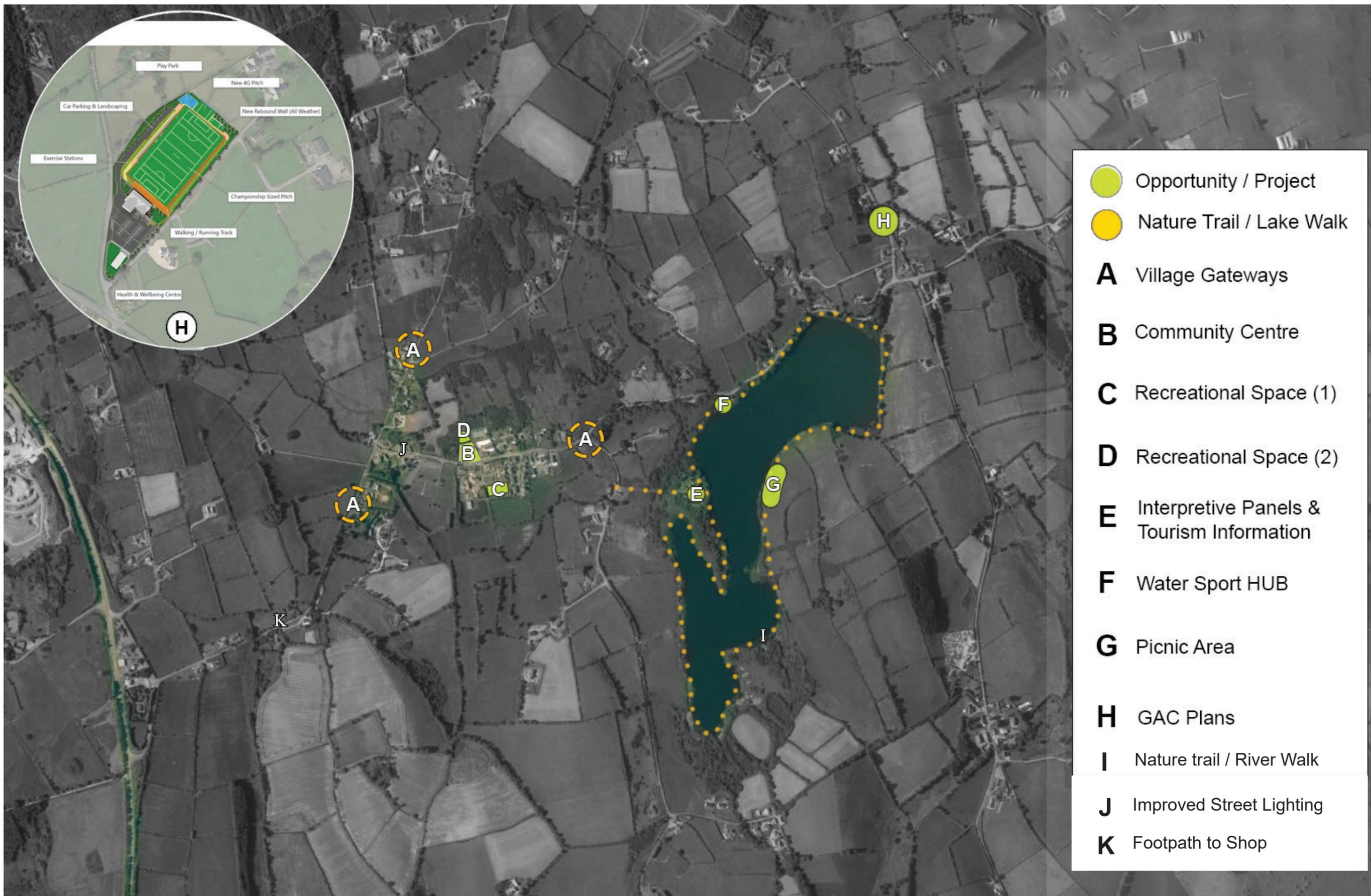
06 Opportunities

Following consultation with the community of Loughinisland, various projects have been identified which could contribute to the social and physical renewal of the village. The projects outlined in this draft plan are aspirations which are achievable with the relevant support. Constraints will face all the projects identified such as land ownership, funding and the requirement for statutory consents. However, such constraints can be addressed and overcome through dedicated and ongoing work by the community and other key stakeholders.

The opportunities presented in this plan range from gateway and traffic calming measures to community HUB and improved access between the village and the shop. One of the key projects identified aims to address tired, unkempt and dated condition of the gateway sites within Loughinisland by providing enhanced, upgraded and improved quality to key entry points for the village. A further opportunity which would be of substantial benefit to the community is to create a designated community facility. The village of Loughinisland expresses a close-knit, passionate and engaging community with a wide range of active groups and societies. A project to deliver a dedicated community space would offer a service and functional facility for the growing demand within the village.

Please note that all illustrations within this plan are conceptual. Any improvements to Loughinisland will require the development of detailed designs through consultation with local businesses and residents.





- Opportunity / Project
- Nature Trail / Lake Walk
- A** Village Gateways
- B** Community Centre
- C** Recreational Space (1)
- D** Recreational Space (2)
- E** Interpretive Panels & Tourism Information
- F** Water Sport HUB
- G** Picnic Area
- H** GAC Plans
- I** Nature trail / River Walk
- J** Improved Street Lighting
- K** Footpath to Shop

06 Opportunities

A | GATEWAYS & TRAFFIC CALMING

A project to revitalise and improve the visual and physical condition of the village gateways to improve the appearance of Loughinisland upon entry. The village comprises multiple gateway sites or entry points due to its natural layout and form. Building on this, the village comprises three primary gateways, all of which rest upon the Loughinisland Road to the East and West of the village.

The project will include the revitalisation of the village gateway sites by improving their visual quality and condition by implementing improved welcome signage, landmark features, landscaping and boundary treatment the gateway sites can uplift the key access points to Loughinisland. A key gateway for the village is located to the West of Loughinisland Road, immediately south of the Heights Bar. This gateway site harnesses a strategic visual position within the village in relation to wayfinding and orientation. The vacant space at the junction could benefit the wider village through enhanced landscaping and landmark features to offer a revitalised entry point for the settlement. This site could implement improved traffic calming measures such as rumble strips to help ease traffic approaching the village.

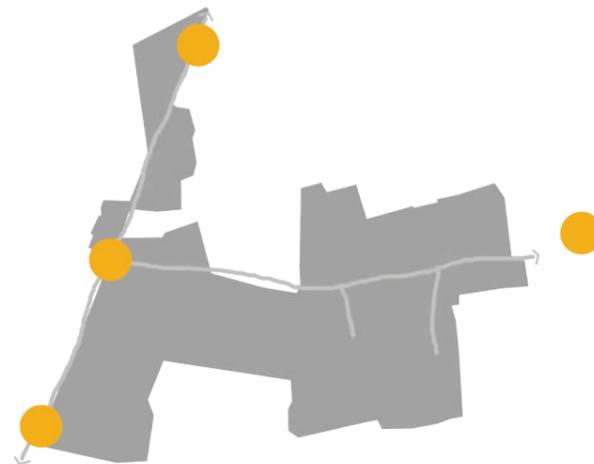
The village gateway to the east of Loughinisland could benefit greatly via improved traffic calming and gateway improvements. The project could dramatically enhance this gateway site through improved landscaping, renewed welcome signage and upgraded speed restrictive coloured surfacing.

A key area within Loughinisland which is prone to concerns surrounding road safety is the sharp bend in the Loughinisland Road, along the northern most tip of the lake. The project could have the potential to implement cautionary speed signage along with rumble strips to reduce the speed of traffic passing through this section of road.

To deliver this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders is needed to assess the feasibility and support for such an initiative. Furthermore, a detailed business case, design and feasibility study is required alongside statutory approvals and necessary funding if required.

ENHANCING THE GATEWAY

The quality of the physical environment has the ability to express the character of the village. A project which aims to enhance the physical landscape to revitalise the unique and picturesque setting of the village.



Prominent Gateway Signage



Key Gateway Locations

B | IMPROVED STREET LIGHTING

A project to improve the standard, quality and condition of street lighting within Loughinisland to improve levels of safety and surveillance. The village core and gateway sites would benefit from the installation of improved lighting by replacing the current sodium vapour based bulbs with LED based street lighting. By replacing the current sodium based lighting with LED bulbs, a cleaner, brighter and crisper light will be produced.

The village core would benefit from this project as it has the potential to dramatically uplift the visual quality of the village whilst improving levels of safety and surveillance. The justification for such a project is due to the tired, dated and unkempt nature of the street lighting within the village with urgent requirement to upgrade.

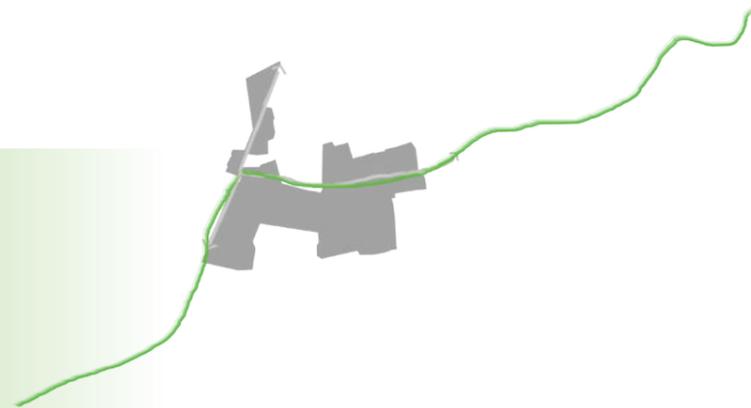
To deliver this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders is needed to assess the feasibility and support for such an initiative. Furthermore, a detailed business case, design and feasibility study is required alongside statutory approvals and necessary funding if required.



Creating a Safer Village

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS

High quality environmental improvements play an important role in creating an improved and safe environment. Both pedestrians and road users are provided with a sense of security and safety.



Current Provision



Enhanced Lighting

C | FOOTPATH TO SHOP

A project to deliver a safe and walkable connection between the village core and the shop located at the A24 and Loughinisland Road. Due to the natural layout and form of the settlement, the displacement between the village core and shop is rather significant on a walkable scale, furthermore the absence of a footpath reduces levels of safety in relation to access and connectivity.

The location of the shop is primarily focused on servicing movement associated with the A24 carriageway in comparison to serving the local community. The need to improve the connectivity between the village and the shop is key in securing a safe, well lit and walkable linkage. Implementation of a safe and walkable footpath with associated landscaping and improved lighting, the reliance upon the private car is reduced, creating a sustainable connection with the village shop.

To deliver this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders is needed to assess the feasibility and support for such an initiative. Furthermore, a detailed business case, design and feasibility study is required alongside statutory approvals and necessary funding if required.



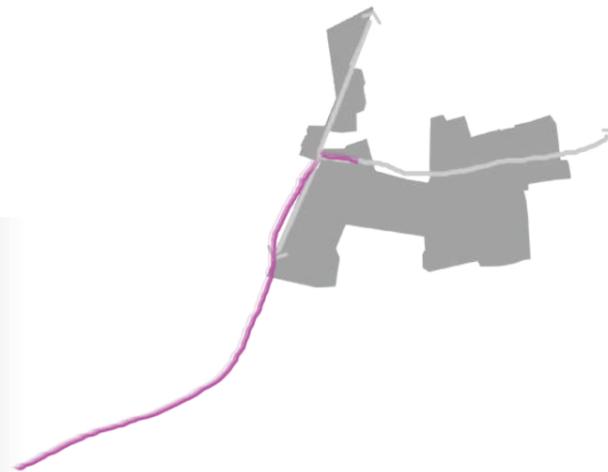
Lack of safety



Safety & Connectivity



Paving



ENHANCING ACCESSIBILITY & CONNECTIVITY

Safety and connectivity are crucially important for community mobility, therefore a project which strengthens the key linkages within the village will improve levels of community safety



Improving Safety Connectivity

D | RECREATIONAL SPACE

A project to deliver a play park within the village to increase and enhance the value of play for current and future generation within Loughinisland. A location for the play park could be integrated into a project to deliver a future Community HUB within Loughinisland at the current Parochial Hall Site. Additionally, A possible site for a play park could be at land south of Loughview Cottages or integration into future redevelopment GAC plans Teconnaught Road.

The play park will deliver state of the art play facilities to facilitate current and future generation by improving the value and quality of play within Loughinisland. The absence of a dedicated play space within the village reduces the opportunity to harness improved social development for the youthful population within the community. This project has the potential to uplift and revitalise the value of play, leisure and recreation for children within Loughinisland.

To deliver this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders is needed to assess the feasibility and support for such an initiative. Furthermore, a detailed business case, design and feasibility study is required alongside statutory approvals and necessary funding if required.



Creating High Quality Play Value



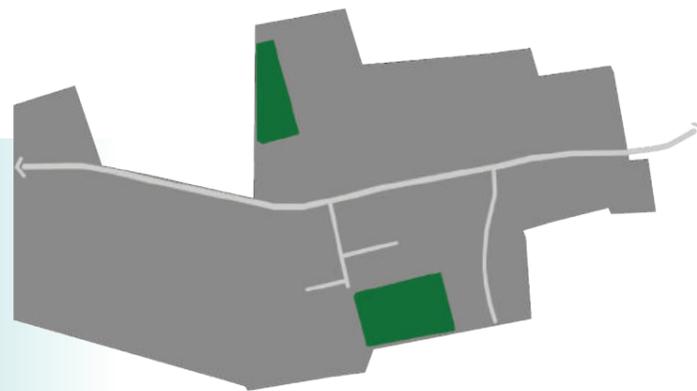
Possible Sites



Indicative Illustration

CREATING RECREATIONAL SPACES

Enhancing recreational space within the village to provide all residents and visitors with the opportunity to benefit from quality open space.

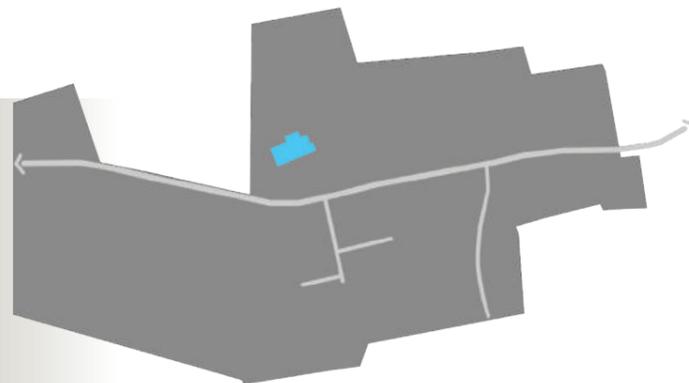


E | COMMUNITY HUB

A project to deliver a designated community facility with Loughinisland to harness the activity and requirement of multiple and growing community groups and organisations. An option for this project could be the redevelopment of the current Parochial Hall within the village core to deliver a viable and vibrant reuse of a community unit.

The need for such a project is evident due to the absence of a dedicated community space within the village. Furthermore, multiple community group and organisations struggle to secure space to facilitates their needs and requirements. Additionally, as demand on current space and services increases, the need for such a project becomes more apparent. By delivering a designated community facility, residents of Loughinisland will have a designated space to develop and guide their current and future needs.

To deliver this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders is needed to assess the feasibility and support for such an initiative. Furthermore, a detailed business case, design and feasibility study is required alongside statutory approvals and necessary funding if required.



PROVIDING QUALITY SPACE

An initiative which aims to enhance, improve and benefit the community by providing a project to harnesses the vibrancy and activity of the village.



Dedicated Community Space



Parish Hall Renovation

07 | IMPLEMENTATION

This plan is designed to improve the social and economic fabric of the area. The Village Renewal Plan provides an indication of the key tasks which need to be undertaken to progress specific projects. This often includes detailed scheme design, preparation of the business case and funding application, and in some cases further feasibility and analysis.

The source of funding will often dictate the order in which tasks need to be undertaken, for example the Rural Development Programme expects all statutory consents to be in place before the funding application is submitted. There are potential sources of funding available for the projects and initiatives set out within this Village Renewal Plan. It is important to note that reference to potential funding is a guidance only. Other funding opportunities may become available during the lifetime of this plan, and all projects will be subject to appropriate eligibility checks, application and assessment procedures as set by each funding body.

The draft Acton Plan (Section 08) provides an indication of the priority level of each project based on discussions with key stakeholders during plan preparation. Alongside this, a lead delivery agent and key stakeholders have also been noted. There may also be other interested groups who should be engaged during project implementation or those whose agreement must be sought, such as a private landowners or statutory bodies. It is also important to recognise that priorities may change as funding opportunities become available.



08 | ACTION PLAN

	Regeneration Initiative	Timeframe for Delivery Short (0-3 years) Medium (3-9 years) Long (9+ years)	Stakeholders	Potential Funding Source
A	Gateway Project	S	TNI, DfI, NMDDC, Com	NMDDC, TNI, DfI, RDP, BIG
B	Community Centre	M	Com, NMDDC, Priv	RDP, Fundraising, NMDDC, BIG, HLF
C	Recreational Space (Option 1)	S-M	Com, NMDDC, Priv	RDP, BIG, NMDDC
D	Recreational Space (Option 2)	S-M	Com, NMDDC, Priv.	RDP, BIG, NMDDC
E	Interpretive Panels and Tourism Information	S	Com, TourismNI, NIEA, NMDDC	TourismNI, RDP, BIG, HLF
F	Watersport / Activity HUB	M-L	NIEA, Com, NMDDC, ORNI	RDP, BIG, NMDDC, Fundraising
G	Pic-Nic Area	S	NMDDC, Com, Priv.	NMDDC, BIG, RDP
H	GAC Redevelopment	M	GAC, Com, NMDDC	Fundraising, RDP, BIG
I	Nature Trail / Lake Walk	M	NIEA, Com, NMDDC	NMDDC, RDP, BIG, HLF
J	Improved Street Lighting	H	NMDDC, TNI, DfI, Com	TNI, DfI, NMDDC, RDP
K	Footpath to Shop	M	NMDDC, TNI, DfI, Com	TNI, DfI, NMDDC, RDP

Com	Community Groups
DfI	Department for Infrastructure
DAERA	Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
NMDDC	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
RDP	Rural Development Programme
BIG	BIG Lottery Funding
HLF	Heritage Lottery Funding
AC	Arts Council
Priv	Private Landowners
TNI	Transport NI
CDRCN	Co. Down Rural Community Network
PSNI	Police Service Northern Ireland
SNI	Sport NI
NIW	Northern Ireland Water
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
HLF	Heritage Lottery Funding

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