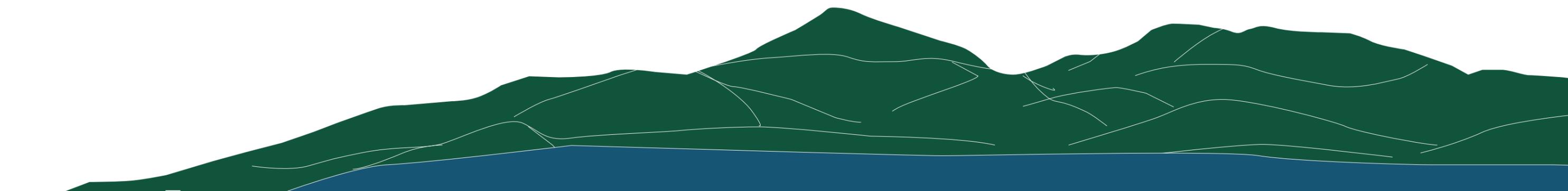


Meigh Village Renewal Plan

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council





Meigh Aerial View



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Meigh Aerial View

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 Meigh. 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.





Forkhill Road

02 | Context

Village Location

Meigh is a small rural settlement in rural Co. Down. Located 4.5 miles south-west of Newry. The Village is strategically located due to its links with the republic of Ireland resting a 10 miles North of Dundalk, Co. Louth. The Village offers effective linkages with its surrounding rural settlement network whilst also benefitting from its location nearby the A1, crossborder motorway.

Village Character

Similar to many rural villages, the village of Meigh is highly shaped by its road infrastructure, primary concentrating its residential development along the key transport routes to the north, along Chapel Road and West along Forkhill Road which connect to form the Village centre. Building on this, the crossroads of the Village comprises the heart of the community expressing the commercial offer within Meigh.

Meigh contains an extremely successful community centre situated to the west of the Village along Forkhill Road with a recently developed Pharmacy and GP. To the rear of the community centre rests Bearna Park, an open recreational space within the heart of the community. The Village of Meigh offers a strong character and local heritage through its historical monuments and significant cultural assets. Building on this, Bell's Castle, St. Moninna & Clonlum Memorials along with the Killeavy Old Church and St. Joseph's Chapel offer and express a strong cultural narrative for the Village of Meigh. Additionally, the Village rests within the shadow of the stunning Slieve Gullion range providing Meigh a truly mystical and unique surrounding landscape.

Today, the character and essence of the village is supported and maintained through a strong community spirit within the Village. The character and vibrancy of the community allow for the Village to sustain a multiple array of local groups ranging from a successful drama group, youth and walking group with intention to establish a village football club. Additionally, the distinctive culture and heritage of the Village is expressed through a wide range of highly skilled residents who specialise in Blacksmith, artistry and sculptural activities. Additionally, the Village comprises an extremely active community who benefit from the surrounding provision of walkways and paths, in particular, those associated with the Flagstaff viewpoint.



Murphy's Bar (Credit: Eric Jones)

History and Development of the Village

In relation to growth and morphology, the development of Meigh has been highly influenced by the historical movement of people and goods passing through the Village. The key lines of transport and communication had influenced the early development of the settlement and by 1832, Meigh had established a small linear community Westerly spanning a small proportion of the current day Forkhill Road with a small clustering of development at the crossroad. At this time, Meigh benefitted greatly via the establishment of multiple schools and churches located to the western boundary of the settlement such as the Killeavy Rectory, Graveyard, Adavoile School and School House. Furthermore, to the North of the settlement, St. Joseph's Primary School and the Parochial House offered similar service to the growing community.

As time progressed, the settlement maintained a similar form and layout, however by 1905, the Meigh began to consolidate its development at the Village core whilst developing a considerable residential offering at St. Moninna Park. Moving forward the settlement gradually increased development consolidating the settlement further by increasing the Village population along Forkhill Road and Chapel Road. Today, the village of Meigh comprises a compact rural form and layout with an established and thriving community within the rural hinterlands of Newry City.

Village Profile

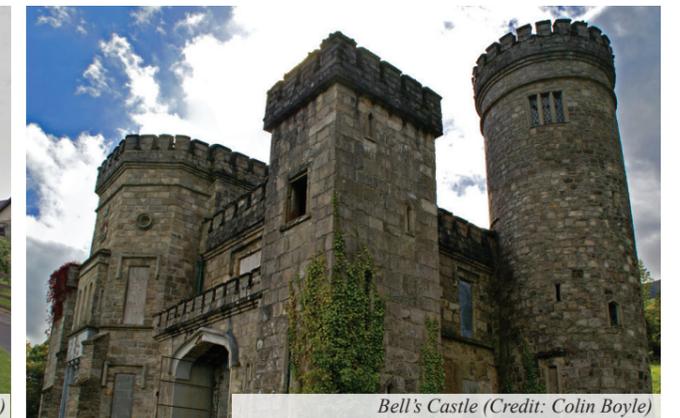
Meigh has a predominantly youthful population with 27.31% of residents under 16 years of age whilst the older population (ages 65+) comprises only 11.44% of the total resident population. Building on this, the majority of the population within Meigh are within the economically active population (16-64). Having established this, any future development and enhancement to services and amenities within the village must consider the needs and requirements of each demographic cohort.

Settlement Development Limit

The designated settlement development limit is designed to take account of land with existing planning permission for housing and sites that have not yet been approved but which are at a stage in the planning application process where there is a reasonable expectation that planning approval will be duly granted.

Additionally, the settlement development limit also takes account of the role of the settlement whilst protecting its natural surrounding setting.

The settlement development limit for the Village of Meigh is designated to ensure that the views and settings of locally significant buildings and vistas are protected whilst also restricting further ribbon development and unnecessary expansion into the surrounding rural landscape.



Future Development

The Banbridge, Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 having designated a number of new sites for housing growth, a number of these have yet to be realised and/or may be subject to change as the new Local Development Plan for the District comes forward.

There has been significant growth of the Village as shown in recent census data, and below highlights a number of new developments that have/are seeking planning permission within Meigh. It is important that this plan takes into account any new or proposed developments so that the future needs of new residents can also be taken into consideration in the plan development.

There is clear development pressure in Meigh due to its proximate location close to Newry and Armagh. As well as below, there are a large number of applications for single dwellings in the countryside, outside of the main settlement development limit. It is important that this potential sprawl of development does not impact negatively on the character and amenity of the main village centre through issues such as traffic and congestion and that these considerations are built into future population growth in the area.



Recent Housing Development

Recent & Future Housing Development

A residential housing development within the Village located at lands adjacent and south of 20 Drumintee Road and to rear of 48-52 Drumintee Road will increase the quality, standard and provision for residential housing within the Village. Planning Ref. P/2014/1024/F. Status: Permission Granted.

A proposal to increase the quality, quantity and provision for residential units within the Village of Meigh.

Erection of residential development with associated access provision and site works, comprising 1 block of 3 terraced dwellings and 12 semi-detached dwellings. Estate road layout, main access arrangement along Drumintee Road and communal open space. Planning Ref. P/2014/0150/F. Status: Permission Granted.

A proposal to increase the provision for housing within the Village at Drumintee Road.

Community Services

The development of a medical surgery and pharmacy within Meigh has increased the quality, access and standard of healthcare provision within the community. Planning Ref. P/2014/0352/FLA07/2016/1192/F. Status: Permission Granted and complete.

A recently developed Community Pharmacy and GP within the Village offering improved access and provision to high quality health care within Meigh.



Meigh Pharmacy



Recent Housing Development (Credit: Property Pal)

The development above highlights the growing need for services and amenities within the village to facilitate the continuous population growth of Meigh and the wider rural area.

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.

Banbridge / Newry and Mourne Plan 2015 (BNMAP)

The BNMAP was adopted in October 2013 and sets out a number of site specific statutory policies relevant to Meigh village that should be taken into consideration by developers, landowners, the Council and the local community in the forward planning of the Village.

BNMAP identifies the strategic location of the village with a natural pressure to accommodate residential expansion of the village. In relation to residential growth within the village, the area plan outlines residentially zoned sites at Hilltown / Old Road which have been committed and Lands West of Tobar Blinne for a minimum of 15 dwellings.

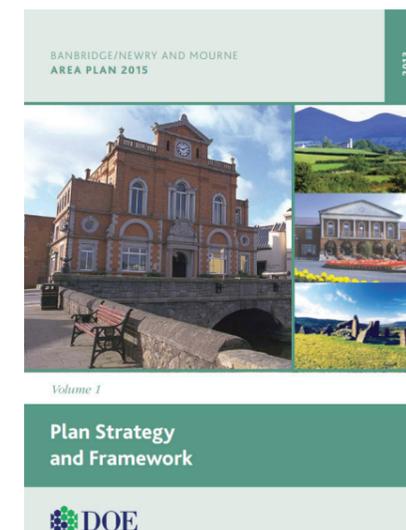
Living Well Together: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Community Plan (2016)

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

The Village 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 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 Sports Facility Strategy 2016

The purpose of the Strategy is to identify the strategic need for Sports facilities in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. This is one of 11 Local Strategies to be developed in the context of the NI-wide work. A consistent approach to developing the Local Strategies has been undertaken. The same methodology for applying supply and demand standards for sports halls, swimming pools and health and fitness facilities have been used in all 11 Local Authority Strategies and agreed with Sport NI. The Strategy rationale is to develop a framework for the future prioritisation and development of sporting facilities within the district.

Newry, Mourne and Down Play Strategy 2017-2022

The play strategy for NMDDC identifies need for new or upgraded play facilities in the Borough. In it, the play area at the Meigh Community centre scored 75 in the play value assessment highlighting a need and requirement to upgrade and renew the play provision within the Village. The analysis to determine the underlying demography and household placement indicate that the play area is still required for the wider community. Given the low play value and level of demand it is recommended that the play area be upgraded and enhanced to increase the play value rating. Furthermore, indicative costs for the enhancement and improvement of the play area ranges between £25,000 - £65,000 within year one of the plan.

Department for Infrastructure Strategic Plan for Greenways (July 2016)

The purpose of the strategic plan is to explore the potential for the development of Greenways. An extensive and connected Greenway Network can deliver environmental, social and economic benefit to a village whilst also increasing physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. A greenway to connect Newry with Craigavon passes the village to the east with onward potential to connect South towards Dundalk Co. Louth.





LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH

North Down & Ards

ROWALLANE

STRANGFORD LOUGH

ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE & CRAIGAVON

DOWNPATRICK

SLIEVE CROOB

THE MOURNES

CROTLIEVE

SLIEVE GULLION

NEWRY

IRISH SEA

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

- 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

Lisburn

Belfast

Newtownards

Dungannon

Aughnacloy

Craigavon

Armagh

Monaghan

Banbridge

Darragh Cross

Derryboye

Stridley

Killyleagh

Crossgar

Kilmore

Drumaness

Teconnaught

Annacloy

Strangford

Loughinisland

Ballyalton

Lowtown (Dechomet)

Clough

Dunsford

CHAPELTOWN

Ballyhornan

Coney Island

Ardglass

Belleek

Newry

Ballyholland

Burren

Meigh

Killeen

Killeavy

Drumintee

Jonesborough

Silverbridge

Forkhill

Warrenpoint

Annalong

CARLINGFORD LOUGH

Ballymartin

Greencastle

Dunneval Area

Cranfield

Dundalk



Meigh Village Centre



05 | Site Analysis



Strengths

- Historic Monuments and Heritage – *Meigh expresses diverse and unique culturally enriched sites*
- Scenic Beauty – *Situated within the Ring of Gullion AONB*
- Slieve Gullion – *Frames the unique rural and picturesque setting*
- Strategic Location – *Meigh offers excellent linkages with Newry, Armagh and republic of Ireland*
- Community Spirit – *Community expresses a strong community spirit and integrate working*
- Community Healthcare – *improved access to high quality healthcare provision*
- Community Centre – *Meigh comprises a successful and popular community centre*



Weaknesses

- Road Safety – *Speeding is a primary concern for Village Safety within Meigh*
- Lighting - *Quality, condition and standard of lighting is extremely poor within the Village*
- Access to Slieve Gullion – *Linkage with Slieve Gullion is a concern due to road safety concerns*
- Poor Signage – *Quality, condition and standard of wayfinding signage is in need of improvement*
- Transport – *the Public Transport service is extremely limited within the Village.*
- Paving – *The quality, condition and standard of paving within Meigh is extremely poor*



Opportunities

- Tourism – *The Village attains a high tourism potential due to natural surrounding assets*
- Safer Linkage with Slieve Gullion – *Opportunity to create a safer walkable linkage with Slieve Gullion*
- Litter – *Community clean-up initiative and improved provision for public bins*
- Revitalise Green Spaces – *An opportunity to revitalise the open, green and recreational spaces*
- Environmental Improvement Scheme – *A project to enhance and improve the physical quality*
- Gateway enhancements – *A project to improve the quality and appearance of the Village Gateways*
- Play Area improvements – *Opportunity to improve the play area within the Village*



Threats

- Linkage with Slieve Gullion – *Problem will remain an issue if not addressed*
- Road Safety – *Will remain a concern if not adequately addressed*
- Fly-Tipping – *Significant levels of rubbish dumping along main road*



Meigh : Village Analysis

	Restaurant		Village Gateway
	Bus Stop		Primary Road
	Chapel		Secondary Road
	School		Archaeological Site Monument (Unscheduled)
	Open Space		Archaeological Site Monument (Scheduled)
	Landmark		Archaeological Site Monument (state Care)
	Pharmacy		Major Area of Existing Open Space
	Community Centre		Land zoned for Housing
	Post Office		Local Landscape Policy Area
	Key View		Train Line

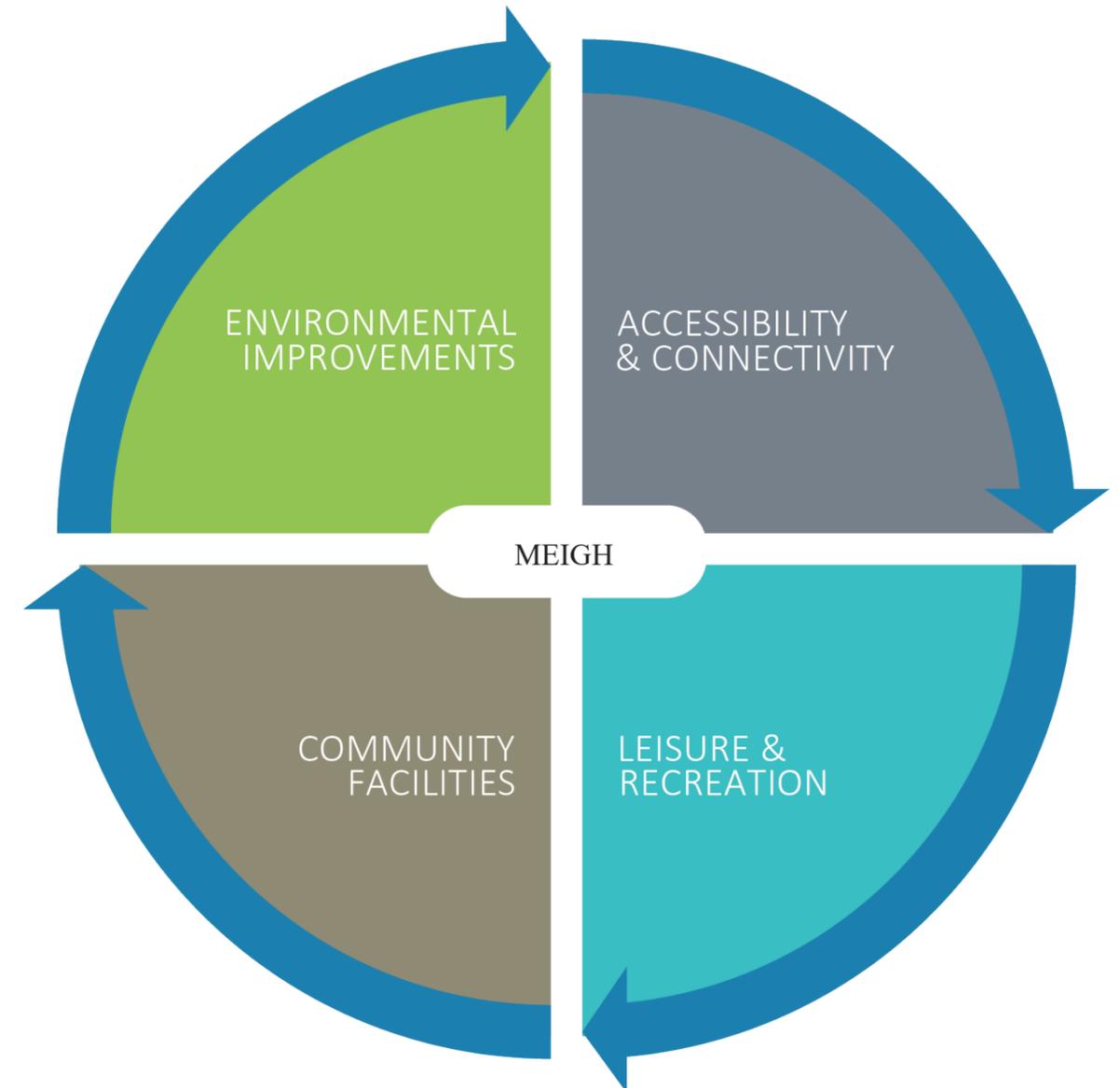
Note - The entire area of this map lies within the Ring of Gullion Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

06 Opportunities

Following consultation with the community of Meigh, 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 enhanced gateway sites to improving the environmental quality of the village along with the potential to improve the walkable connection with Slieve Gullion. One of the key projects identified aims to address the poor quality of the Village Gateways within Meigh by enhancing the visual aesthetic and appearance of the key entry points to the village. A further opportunity which would be of substantial benefit to the community is to revive the quality and appearance of the key areas within the Village. The Village of Meigh is a settlement which has the potential to improve its environmental quality through improved landscaping, signage and improvements to public realm. By enhancing the quality, condition and visual appearance of the Village, overall levels of community spirit, safety and ownership will be improved. Additionally, a project to improve the walkable connection between the Village and Slieve Gullion will aim to reduce concerns surrounding road safety when accessing the Slieve Gullion on foot.

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





Meigh : Opportunities

- A Gateway Enhancement**
- B Environmental Improvements (Inc. Traffic Calming at Key Areas)**
- C Improvements to Play Park**
- D Enhancement of Play Space**
- E Strengthen Linkage with Slieve Gullion**
- Strengthened Linkage** (represented by a yellow dotted line with arrows)
- Highway to Health** (represented by a yellow solid line with arrows)
- Village Gateway** (represented by a red dashed circle)

Note - The entire area of this map lies within the Ring of Gullion Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

06 Opportunities

A | ENHANCED GATEWAYS

An initiative to explore the potential to revitalise the key gateway sites upon entry to the Village to provide an improved first and lasting impression of Meigh. The project will aim to enhance the condition, quality and standard of the access corridors leading into the village whilst expressing a clear, distinctive and attractive 'Village feel'.

The project will comprise the delivery of improved landscaping, floral planting, boundary treatment and signage at key entry points within the settlement. Currently, the condition of the gateway sites leading into the Village are extremely tired and unkempt requiring urgent attention.

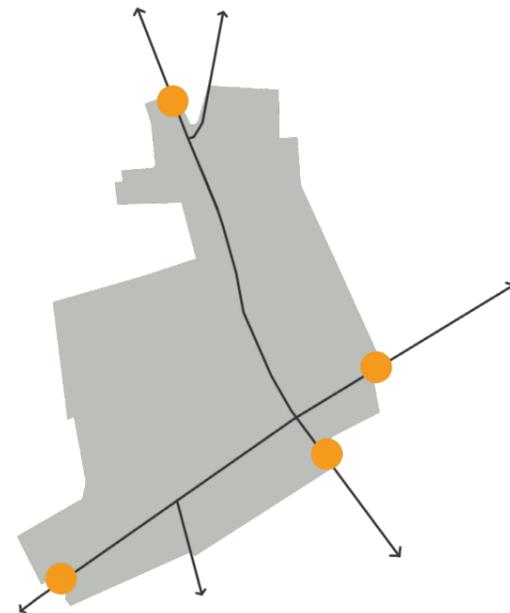
In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicative costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



North Eastern Gateway (Indicative Illustration)



Village Gateways



ENHANCING THE GATEWAY

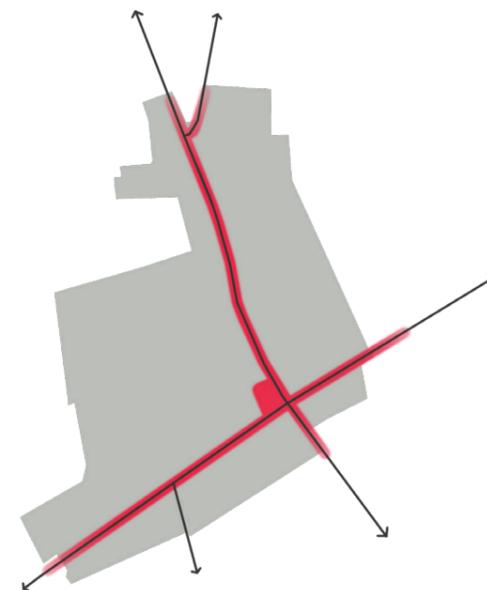
The quality of the physical environment of a Village gateway has the ability to express the character of the village. A project which aims to enhance the Village entry points to revitalise the unique and picturesque setting of the Village.

B | ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

A project to enhance, improve and revitalise the environmental and physical quality of the Village core and spinal routes. The Village of Meigh expresses a rich cultural character through its heritage and surrounding historical assets, although the environmental quality of the Village core is in urgent need of improvement and attention. Upon consultation, the community had firstly stated that the condition of lighting The environmental quality of the Village is reduced via the absence of street planting and landscaping.

An environmental improvement scheme has the potential to enhance the physical quality and appearance of the Village via the insertion of high quality floral planting and landscaping. Additionally, upon consultation, the community had raised their concern surrounding the poor quality and condition of footpaths within the Village. The condition and quality of paving reduces levels of access and connectivity within certain areas of the village, in particular the acute angle of the footpath on the northern side of Forkhill Road is extremely dangerous when wet or in frosty conditions. Finally, the environmental improvement scheme may have the potential to slow traffic upon entry to the Village. Building on this, the enhancement of the Village appearance will alert drivers that they are entering a built up area, thus reducing speed upon entry.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicative costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



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.



C | LINKAGE TO SLIEVE GULLION

A project to improve the walkable access between the Village of Meigh and Slieve Gullion in order to address concern surrounding road and pedestrian safety along the primary linkage route. The community had voiced their concern surrounding the current condition of the route used, in order to access Slieve Gullion from the Village. Currently, the provision for a safe walkable connection is marred by an absence of a designated pathway which in turn reduces road and pedestrian safety significantly.

This project will designate and formalise a safe pathway connecting the Village with Slieve Gullion, would benefit both the community and the tourist economy by safeguarding levels of safety whilst using the pathway. In order to successfully deliver this project, further consultation with the community, statutory approval and relevant funding would need to be secured.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicative costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



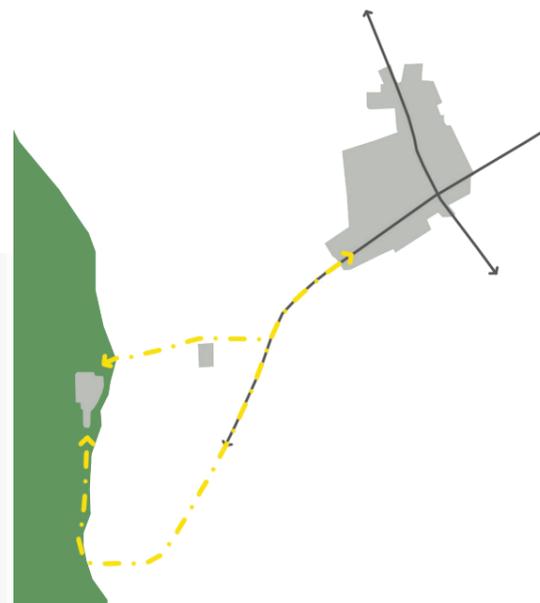
Indicative Illustration



Improved Footpath Quality



Pathway Lighting



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



Drumintee Road

D | HIGHWAY TO HEALTH

Meigh expresses a highly active community. This project compliments community aspirations to develop a designated highway to health around the grounds of the sporting pitch would increase active living amongst a wide cohort of the community.

The community had stated that walking conditions throughout the wider Village are extremely dangerous due to the condition of lighting, paving and general levels of safety discouraging people from walking on a regular basis. A designated Highway to Health project around there perimeter of the Village sports field lands would provide a safe, walkable and popular highway for residents and members of the community, benefitting standards of health throughout the wider Village.

In order to successfully implement this project, further consultation with the community and key stakeholders would need to be undertaken. The feasibility of the project should then be explored further including indicaitve costs. Detailed design would need to be undertaken and statutory approvals / funding would need to be secured.



Walking to Health



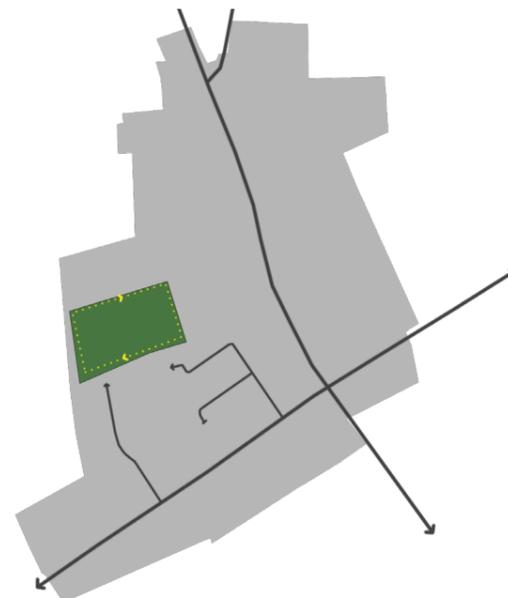
Project Logo



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 | ENHANCED PLAY PARK

A project to enhance the provision and quality for Play within the Village of Meigh. The community expresses a continuously growing and vibrant youthful community placing high demand upon current play facilities within the Village. The continuous and steady growth in population will inevitably increase demand upon current amenities within Meigh resulting in a need to explore potential improvements. The play space at the Meigh Community Centre is highlighted within the Newry, Mourne and Down Play Strategy (2017-2022) as requiring an upgrade in order to protect and increase the quality of play facilities within the Village. Indicative costs for the enhancements to the park range between £25,000 - £65,000.



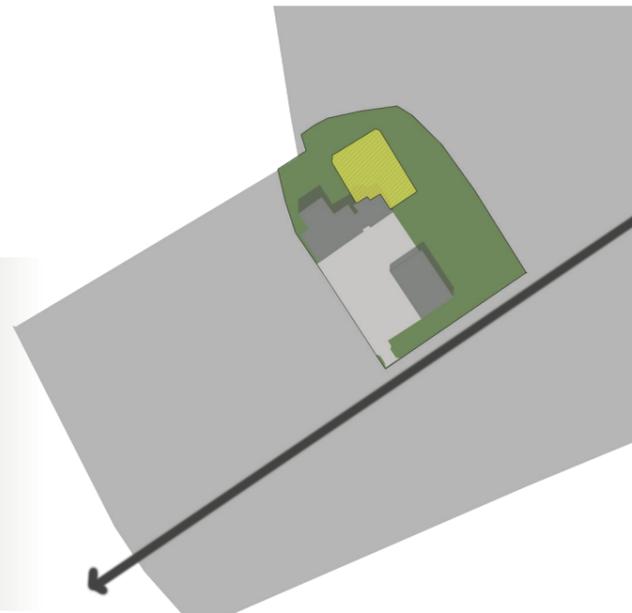
Meigh Community Centre Play Park



Current Condition

PROVIDING QUALITY PLAY 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.



Example of Improved Play Facilities (Great Aycliff, Durham)

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 placed 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 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	Priority Level H- High M-Medium L- Low	Timeframe for Delivery Short (0-3 years) Medium (3-9 years) Long (9+ years)	Stakeholders	Potential Funding Source
A	Enhanced Gateways	H	S	Com, NMDDC, TNI	NMDDC, TNI, RDP, DfI
B	Environmental Improvement Scheme	H	S	Com, NMDDC	RDP, NMDDC, DfC, HLF
C	Linkage with Slieve Gullion	H	S	Com, TNI, NMDDC	TNI, RDP, NMDDC
D	Highway to Health	M	S	Com, NMDDC	RDP, NMDDC, BIG
E	Enhanced Play Park	H	M	Com, NMDDC	NMDDC, RDP, BIG, Fundraising

- 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
- Priv Private Landowners
- TNI Transport NI
- CDRCN Co. Down Rural Community Network
- PSNI Police Service Northern Ireland
- RDP Rural Development Programme
- DfC Dept. for Communities
- BIG BIG Lottery Fund
- HLF Heritage Lottery Fund
- ORNI Outdoor Recreation NI

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This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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