

Ballymoyer & Whitecross Cluster Village Renewal and Development Plans

Final Report
July 2012



Prepared for



Department of
**Agriculture and
Rural Development**
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Revision Schedule

Ballymoyer & Whitecross Cluster – Renewal and Development Plan
July 2012

Rev	Date	Details	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
01	14/06/12	First Draft Report	Karen Crawford Landscape Architect	Richard Heasley Principal Planner	Richard Heasley Principal Planner
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Appendix A Community Consultation Advertisement

1 Introduction

The Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme (NIRDP) 2007-2013 was launched to build capacity within local communities and provide support for community economic development in the most disadvantaged rural areas. The NIRDP is part financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and is managed by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. A core principal of the approach to broader rural development in Northern Ireland has been and continues to be that the communities which most closely experience problems should be involved in the design and delivery of projects and programmes to tackle such problems and, thus, improve their quality of life.

The NIRDP contains a number of measures under each axis. These measures are specific areas where support is to be targeted. Each measure was selected from a menu of options provided by the European Union in order to target the aspects of rural life that are most important to Northern Ireland. Measure 3.5 targets Village Renewal and Development with the aim of “creating long term visions for villages and surrounding areas and to support initiatives promoting cross-community development”.

The objective is to enable and encourage residents of villages and surrounding areas to create a vision and an integrated action plan to ensure the full potential of their area is achieved and also to support integrated village initiatives.

1.1 How is the Programme administered at a local level?

The Southern Organisation for Action in Rural areas (SOAR) is the Joint Committee and Local Action Group for the Craigavon, Armagh and Newry & Mourne Council areas. They are responsible for the administration of the NIRDP within the rural areas of Craigavon, Armagh and Newry. SOAR local action group is comprised of local Councillors and Social Partner Representatives. Craigavon Borough Council acts as the Lead Council with responsibility for all financial and administrative matters.

1.2 Village Renewal and Development

Newry and Mourne District Council secured funding under Measure 3.5 for the preparation of Village Renewal and Development Plans for 13 pre-selected villages and clusters across the Newry and Mourne District Council Area.

URS were commissioned by Newry and Mourne District Council to facilitate the development of these plans. The plans will be prepared between February and June 2012, with potentially a second stage which will involve selected projects being taken forward to the stage of submitting an outline planning application, making a submission for funding or being ready to feed into an economic appraisal.

1.3 Methodology

This Village Renewal and Development Plan has been developed by the community for the community. The methodology was strongly consultation based and allowed a range of stakeholders including NMDC, local Councillors, community and voluntary groups and the general public to get involved.



Programme for Government (PfG) and the Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland (ISNI). The Strategy takes account of key driving forces such as population growth and movement, demographic change, the increasing number of households, transportation needs, climate change and the spatial implications of divisions that still exist in our society. The RDS is not operational planning policy which is issued through Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) published by the Department of the Environment (DOE).

The RDS has a statutory basis under the Strategic Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, and the Order requires Departments to “have regard to the regional development strategy”.

The Strategy has four key elements:

- A Spatial Development Strategy which divides the region into 5 components based on functions and geography;
- Guidance at two levels;
 1. Regional level that is to be applied to all parts of the region, and
 2. Specific guidance for each element of the Spatial Framework
- A Regionally Significant Economic Infrastructure section which identifies the need to consider strategic infrastructure projects;
- Implementation.

The aims of the RDS:

- Support strong, sustainable growth for the benefit of all parts of Northern Ireland;
- Strengthen Belfast as the regional economic driver and Londonderry as the principal city of the North West;
- Support our towns, villages and rural communities to maximise their potential;
- Promote development which improves the health and wellbeing of communities;
- Improve connectivity to enhance the movement of people, goods, energy and information between places;
- Protect and enhance the environment for its own sake;
- Take actions to reduce our carbon footprint and facilitate adaption to climate change; and
- Strengthen links between north and south, east and west, with Europe and the rest of the world.

1.4 Policy Context

1.4.1 Regional Development Strategy 2035 ‘Building a Better Future’

The RDS provides an overarching strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide the public and private sectors. It does not redefine the other departments’ strategies but compliments them with a spatial perspective.

The RDS 2035 revises the original strategy published in 2001 and amended in 2008. The RDS influences various government strategies including the

Chapter 3 of the RDS sets out the strategic guidance for the region focusing on the key principles of the economy, society and the environment. The guidance is also split into Regional Guidance (RG) and Spatial Framework Guidance (SFG).

There is a dedicated section regarding Rural Northern Ireland and the key guidance is set out below:

SFG13: Sustain rural communities living in smaller settlements and the open countryside

- Establish the role of multi-functional town centres
- Connect rural and urban areas
- Revitalise small towns and villages
- Facilitate the development of rural industries, businesses and enterprises in appropriate locations
- Encourage sustainable and sensitive development

SFG14: Improve accessibility for rural communities

- Improve the overall connectivity of rural communities to services and other parts of the Region by exploring innovative ways of bringing these services to the communities
- Integrate local transport

1.4.2 Rural White Paper Action Plan (Draft)

The Rural White Paper Action Plan is an Executive initiative aimed at addressing key issues and challenges facing rural communities. The development of the Action Plan is being led by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Public consultation on the draft Action Plan commenced on 13 March 2011 and finished on 13 June 2011, with the final Rural White Paper Action Plan anticipated to be published in early 2012.

The draft Rural White Paper Action Plan has been developed following extensive consultation with the Rural White Paper Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The RWP has been developed to provide a strategic framework for rural policy for the next ten years and will help guide the work of the Executive in this significant and challenging area.

The RWP identifies the Rural Vision:

Our vision is of a fair and inclusive rural society where rural dwellers enjoy the same quality of life as all others in the region. We envisage **vibrant, strong rural communities**, resilient and receptive to global trends through **strong inter-linkages with urban areas** and market towns.

Our vision is for rural economies adapting to global trends and **improved infrastructure and transport systems** to ensure rural dwellers can avail of employment opportunities and **key services**.

Our vision is for rural areas that maintain their distinctive features as places of agricultural production, areas of outstanding beauty, places of social, historic and cultural uniqueness and places with a **strong community infrastructure** which can avail of **economic, social and cultural opportunities**.

Our vision is for the continuing development of **linkages between rural and urban** areas so that everyone can enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of rural places and the facilities and services of larger towns and cities.

Draft Rural White Paper, p5

In order to achieve the Vision the RWP identifies 5 key themes:

1. Urban / Rural Linkages
 - To support the development of an efficient transport and infrastructure system that facilitates effective rural – urban inter-linkages;
2. Access to Services
 - To promote fair and equitable access to key services for all rural dwellers;
3. Sustainable Rural Communities
 - To promote tolerance, health, well-being and inclusion for rural dwellers;
 - Seek to minimise, where it exists, disadvantage, poverty, social exclusion and inequality amongst those living in rural areas and in particularly amongst vulnerable groups;
 - To maintain a viable economic, social, cultural and physical infrastructure in rural areas and seek to ensure that regional infrastructure disparities are minimised;
 - To preserve the cultural and social uniqueness of rural community life linked to its smaller population settlement;
 - To promote the development of effective and inclusive rural governance structures and sufficient community capacity to engage in these structures;
 - To enhance and refine the Rural Development Programme to ensure the maximum benefit from future Programmes for rural communities;

4. Sustainable Rural Economies

- To provide rural businesses with appropriate support to ensure the development of dynamic and innovative rural economies;
- To seek to maximise employment opportunities for rural dwellers;

5. Sustainable Countryside

- To support the development of a more sustainable agricultural sector, a more competitive agri-food sector and enhanced agri-environmental links;
- To safeguard the beauty and fabric of our rural areas and increase opportunities for all to enjoy the benefits of the countryside.

The RWP does on to set out a detailed Action Plan which is based on the 5 key themes set out above, consisting of some 90 specific actions.

1.4.3 Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Framework 2011-2015

This framework sets out the goals, objectives, priority action areas and outcomes for the Programme for Government commitment to bring forward a package of measures to tackle rural poverty and social isolation.

The framework aims to:

- Build on the work of the Rural Anti-Poverty / Social Inclusion Framework 2008-2011;
- Provide the necessary tools to identify the needs of vulnerable people / groups in rural areas;
- Develop programmes / interventions to help alleviate poverty / social isolation amongst vulnerable people / groups in rural areas;
- Complement and add value to existing government strategies aimed at tackling poverty and social isolation;
- Empower rural communities to help themselves.

1.4.4 Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

The NI Rural Development Programme was approved by the European Commission in July 2007 and has three key elements:

Axis 1 – improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors by supporting restructuring, development and innovation. Key measures include vocational training, adding value to agricultural products and marketing, farm modernisation and improving the supply chain. The upskilling and reskilling

opportunities in this axis are a means of targeting farmers income and potential to be more competitive both within farming, or outside if that is more appropriate.

Axis 2 – improving the environment and countryside by supporting land management. Key measures include agri-environment programmes and less favoured area compensation schemes.

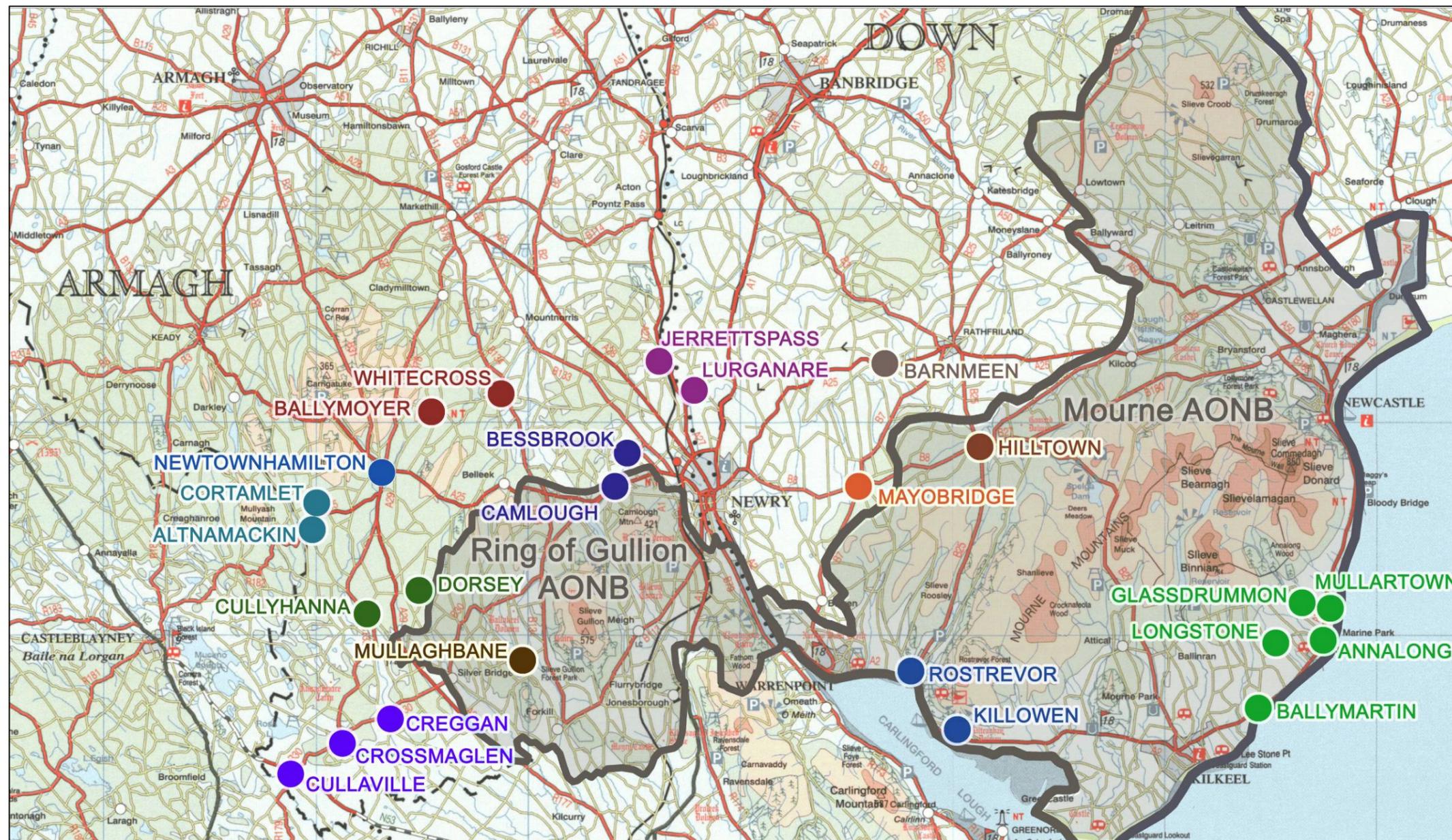
Axis 3 – improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging the diversification of economic activity. Key measures include business creation, farm diversification, encouragement of tourism activities, support for basic services for the rural economy, village renewal and conservation / upgrading of the rural heritage.

1.4.5 INTERREG IV Programme (Cross Border Rural Development)

The INTERREG IV Programme focuses on the strategic development of the North and border counties of the South. The funds are targeted towards those disadvantaged rural communities that are most in need of cross border support.

2 Overview of the cluster

The Ballymoyer and Whitecross Cluster comprises of the two villages. It was highlighted early in the Plan process that the settlements have their own separate characteristics and issues which must be addressed. However it was stressed that there are projects which can benefit the cluster and that improvements in one of the settlements could have secondary benefits for the other settlements.



3 Ballymoyer



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3.1 Village Profile

3.1.1 Background

Ballymoyer is a small village located 3 miles north east of Newtownhamilton in county Armagh. It consists of a small number of dwellings clustered around a road junction.

National Statistical Research Agency

Information about the settlements was obtained from the Northern Ireland Statistics Research Agency (NISRA). NISRA classified Ballymoyer as a “Small Village, Hamlet and Open Countryside”. The NISRA statistics revealed that the population of Ballymoyer was recorded as under 50 No. according to the 2001 census. Due to the small population no additional information is available on the demography.

3.1.2 Planning Policy Context

The settlement limits outlined in the Banbridge / Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 recognise the role of the settlements while protecting their natural setting. This is particularly evident in the case of Ballymoyer Designation BR 01 Settlement Development Limit:

“There are two nodes to Ballymoyer. The settlement development limit is designated to take account of land with extant planning permission for housing and sites that have not yet been approved, but are at a stage in the planning application process where there is a reasonable expectation that planning approval will be granted. The settlement development limit also takes account of the role of the settlement whilst protecting its natural setting.”

There are no other planning designations within Ballymoyer.

Listed Buildings

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) database revealed that there are no listed buildings designated within the study area.

Planning History

The planning history search revealed that there are no recent planning applications within the village which would have an impact on the village plan.

3.2 Deprivation

The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 report was published on 26th May 2010. The NIMDM 2010 updates and replaces the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005 as the official measure of spatial deprivation in Northern Ireland.

Newtownhamilton Super Output Area encompasses Ballymoyer and is ranked as the 293rd overall most deprived in Northern Ireland. The individual NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 Ranks for Newtownhamilton are broken down as follows: Income: 298; Employment: 343; Health & Disability: 353; Education Skills and Training: 291; Proximity to Services: 120; Living Environment: 451; Crime and Disorder: 258; Income Deprivation Affecting Children: 359 and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People: 223.

3.3 Consultation Process

STAGE	CONSULTATION METHOD	DATE	VENUE	ATTENDANCE / RESPONSES
Information Gathering	Village Action Group Meeting	Monday 12 th March 2012.	St. Killian's GAC, Whitecross	12
	Baseline Questionnaires	March 2012	N/A	None
Draft Proposals	Open display for Councillors	16 th March & 20 th April	Council Offices Newry	N/A
	Public Exhibition	30 th April to 11 th May	St. Killian's GAC, Whitecross	N/A
	Public Consultation Questionnaires	May 2012	N/A	12

Draft Village Renewal and Development Plan	Draft Plan presented to Project Steering Group	21 st June	Council Offices Newry	N/A
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Consultation with key stakeholders and statutory agencies was also undertaken in the development of the plan. Newry and Mourne District Council, Planning Service NI, Roads Service, Department for Regional Development - Street Lighting, British Telecom, Northern Ireland Electricity, Northern Ireland Water, Translink and Northern Ireland Environment Agency were all consulted.

3.4 Consultation Findings

3.4.1 Information Gathering Stage

Site Visits

This section of the report provides a summary of the key points and issues observed during our site visits in February 2012.

- There is a lack of Public Services i.e. no post office or local shop etc.
- There are only three public buildings St Malachy's Primary School, St Malachy's Roman Catholic Church and St Luke's Church of Ireland Church.
- Ballymoyer Forest is an important natural asset which is in close proximity to the village centre.
- The area has a rich cultural history. The Church Ruins form an important landmark for locals and visitors.
- The vehicular signage within the village is very poor. There is no signage identifying local pedestrian routes.
- There is no entrance sign for Ballymoyer.
- The speed of vehicular traffic passing through the village is a concern for local residents.
- The street furniture within the village is in need of repair i.e. Telephone Box.
- All houses within the village centre are occupied and there is no problem of dereliction which is experienced in other local villages.
- The existing pedestrian routes are not properly connected. At present there is no footpath connecting the footpath along the Ballymoyer Road and Brae View.

- The grass area opposite House numbers 1 to 4 Brae View is the only public open space within the village. The quality of this space could be improved, as at present it consists of a grass area with a boundary fence.

SWOT Analysis

The SWOT Analysis below is a summary of the information gained during the early information gathering stage. The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were identified during the initial consultation workshop and the initial questionnaire which was circulated throughout the community. The questionnaire addressed a range of factors, focusing on 3 general themes of Planning and Infrastructure, Essential Services and Economic and Community Development.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to natural resource of Ballymoyer Forest. • Adjacent to resource of the Church Ruins which has historical / heritage value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Signage to Ballymoyer Forest. • Signage poor – no entrance sign for village. • Lack of footpath to join two existing footpaths.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway Signage & Artwork. • New Pavement & Lighting along the Ballymoyer • Road to link the village together and join the existing pavements on Lower Aghincurk Road & Ballymoyer Road. • Planting beds adjacent to grass area. • Refurbished Street Furniture i.e. Phone Box. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume and speed of vehicle traffic through the village. • Increased traffic and ongoing parking issue adjacent to St Malachy's Primary School.

Key Issues / Opportunities

The list below is a summary of the main issues and opportunities that have come to light as part of this process and particularly during the Village Action Group Meeting.

- Gateway Signage & Artwork.
- New Pavement & Lighting along the Ballymoyer Road to link the village together and join the existing pavements on Lower Aghincurk Road & Ballymoyer Road.
- Planting beds adjacent to grass area.
- Refurbished Street Furniture i.e. Phone Box.

3.4.2 Draft Proposals

The draft Plan was put on public display in St Killian’s Gaelic Athletic Club for a two week period from Monday 30th April until Friday 11th May 2012. In order to gain feedback from the public a questionnaire was available for completion.

In total there were 12 questionnaires returned, from a mixture of members of the community group and members of the public. The response was extremely positive with almost all the recipients ‘liking’ all the proposals, with only one individual stating that they ‘disliked’ a proposal regarding traffic calming measures along the Ballymoyer Road.

The questionnaire also encouraged people to rank the projects and proposals in order of importance to help establish the key priorities. Clearly different members of the community have different opinions on what they feel are priorities for their area, this is understood. However there are also key issues which people are clearly agreed upon. For example, the extension of the footpath along the Ballymoyer Road was a proposal that the majority of individuals rated as the highest priority. All projects identified within the plan were noted by at least one respondent as being of the highest priority. A summary of the questionnaire responses is shown overleaf.



**‘Village Renewal and Development plans’
Newry Villages Community Questionnaire**



Ballymoyer

1. What is your interest?

Business	Community Group	1	Individual	11
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Section 1 – Proposals

2. Please select how you feel about the following proposals:

Ref.	Proposal	Like	Dislike	No Opinion
A	Gateway Signage & Artwork.	12		
B	Introduction of Planting Beds adjacent to grass area.	12		
C	Extension of Footpath along Ballymoyer Road to join existing footpaths on the Lower Aghincurk Road and Ballymoyer Road.	12		
D	Lighting Provision along proposed footpath extension.	12		
E	Refurbished Street Furniture.	12		
F	Traffic Calming Measures along Ballymoyer Road.	11	1	

If you wish to provide additional comments about any of the above proposals please expand on your answers below or on a separate sheet:

Definitely need footpath and traffic calming on Ballymoyer Road urgently.

Put light around Priestbush road (Whitecross)

Turn the Happy Inn into a drop in centre (Whitecross)



**‘Village Renewal and Development plans’
Newry Villages Community Questionnaire**

Section 2 – Prioritising the Proposals

3. Please identify in the table below how you would prioritise the following proposals (i.e. 1 = Highest Priority , 5 = Lower Priority):

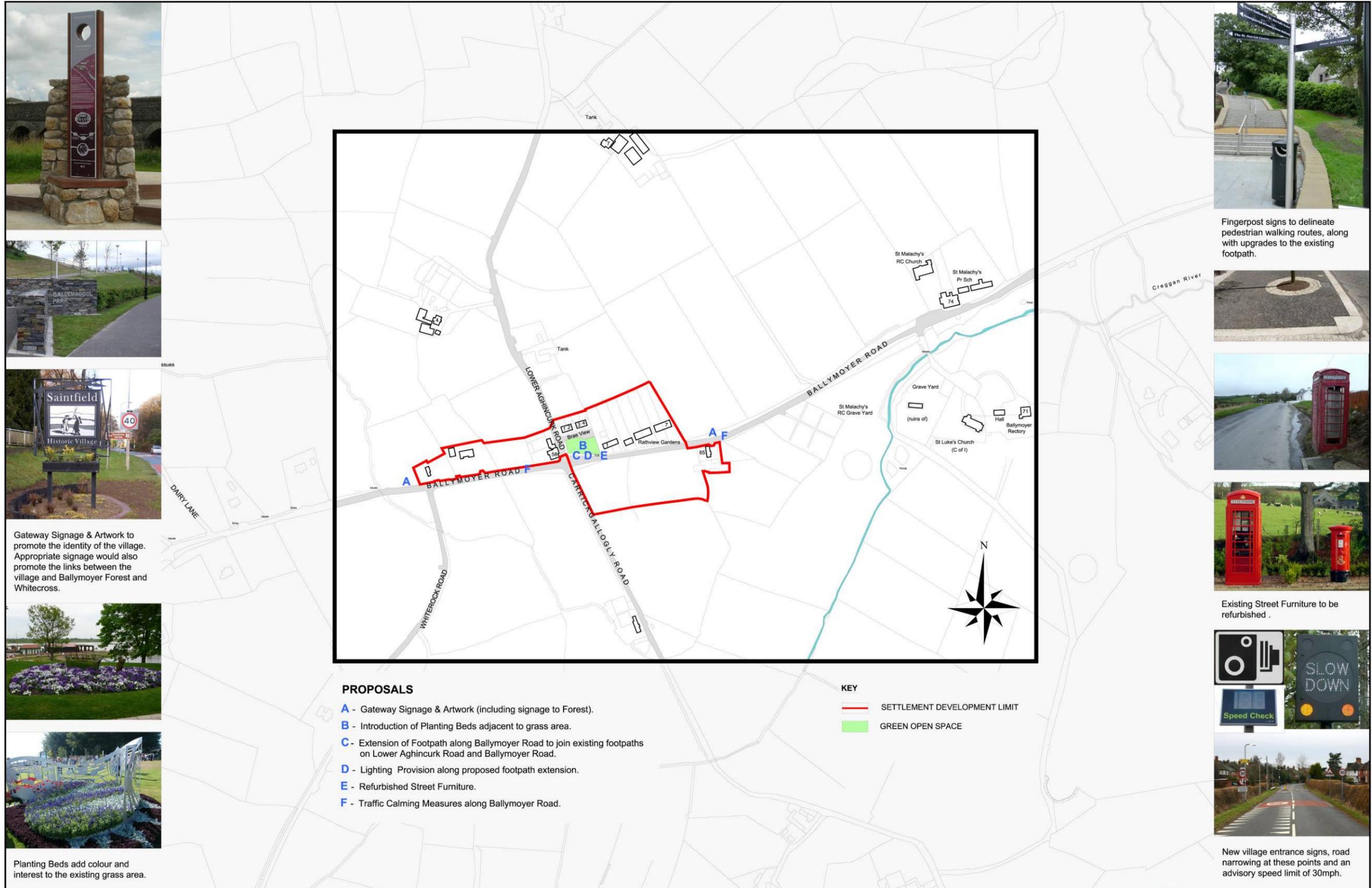
Ref	Proposal	Rank Order					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
A	Gateway Signage & Artwork.	7	1	1	2	1	
B	Introduction of Planting Beds adjacent to grass area.	7		3	1	1	
C	Extension of Footpath along Ballymoyer Road to join existing footpaths on Lower Aghincurk Road and Ballymoyer Road.	10	2				
D	Lighting Provision along proposed footpath extension.	7	3	1		1	
E	Refurbished Street Furniture.	8		1			2
F	Traffic Calming Measures along Ballymoyer Road.	8	2	1		1	

Section 3 – Additional Comments

4. Is there anything which you feel you would change / modify in the Village Plan? Or any additional proposals which you would like to see included? (Please provide details below or on a separate sheet):

Park to stay open later (Whitecross).

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.



3.5 Initiatives

3.5.1 Extension of Footpath & Refurbishment of Street Furniture

The extension of the footpath in Ballymoyer village is critical to creating a sense of cohesion within the village. The proposed footpath indicated in grey on the image below would clearly link the other existing footpaths within the village. This initiative along with lighting and improvements to the street furniture would greatly enhance the centre of the village.



Location of proposed Footpath



Street Furniture to be refurbished

3.5.2 Traffic Calming Measures

The speed of the traffic along the Ballymoyer Road was identified as a major concern during the initial consultation. In order to address this significant issue it is proposed that traffic calming measures are introduced. This would involve consultation with DRD Roads Service and traffic calming measures may include speed cameras, speed bumps and / or revising the speed limit.

There are also indirect measures which can influence the speed of traffic when it is travelling through the village. For example in the case of Ballymoyer there is inadequate signage to warn motorists that they are approaching the village. This problem could be overcome with strong gateway features.

Gateway features are also extremely important when providing first impressions of the area. The proposal of the introduction of a gateway feature was welcomed by the majority of respondents during the public consultation process.



Road markings, signage and speed humps

3.6 Action Plan

ACTION PLAN						
Initiative	Key Stakeholders	Priority	Timescale	Potential Funding Opportunities	Actions	Indicative Costs **
Gateway Signage & Artwork.	WBCA, NMDC, Priv, PS, RS, DCAL, AC	M	S	NMDC, RDP, AC	Feasibility study, design work, statutory approvals, installation of gateway signage and artwork.	£70,000 - £90,000
Introduction of Planting Beds adjacent to grass area.	NMDC, WBCA, Priv, RS	M	S	NMDC, Lot, RDP	Installation, Management and Maintenance.	£5,000 - £25,000
Extension of Footpath along Ballymoyer Road to join existing footpaths on the Lower Aghincurk Road and Ballymoyer Road.*	NMDC, RS, WBCA	H	S	RS	Design and installation of new footpath surfacing.	£30,000 - £70,000
Lighting Provision along proposed footpath extension.	DRD, WBCA, NMDC, RS	M	M	NMDC, RS	Design and installation of new street lighting.	£15,000 - £20,000
Refurbished Street Furniture.*	WBCA, NMDC	H	S	RDP, NMDC	Undertake refurbishment works.	£2,000
Traffic Calming Measures along Ballymoyer Road.*	RS, NMDC, WBCA	H	S	RS	Review of feasibility of traffic calming measures. Consultation with RS, road improvement works.	£3,000 - £10,000

Priority: H = High
M = Medium
L = Low

Timeframe: S = Short (1-3yrs)
M = Medium (3-7 years)
L = Long (7-15years)

Delivery Agents, Funders and Stakeholders:

AC	Arts Council	NITB	Northern Ireland Tourist Board
MNDC	Newry & Mourne District Council	Priv	Private Sector
DCAL	Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure	PS	Planning Service
Lot	Lottery Funding	PSNI	Police Service of Northern Ireland
RS	Roads Service	SHSCT	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
RDP	Rural Development Programme	SELB	Southern Education and Library Board
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency	SNI	Sport Northern Ireland
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	DOE	Department of Environment
DRD	Department for Regional Development – Street Lighting	WBCA	Whitecross and Ballymoyer Community Association.

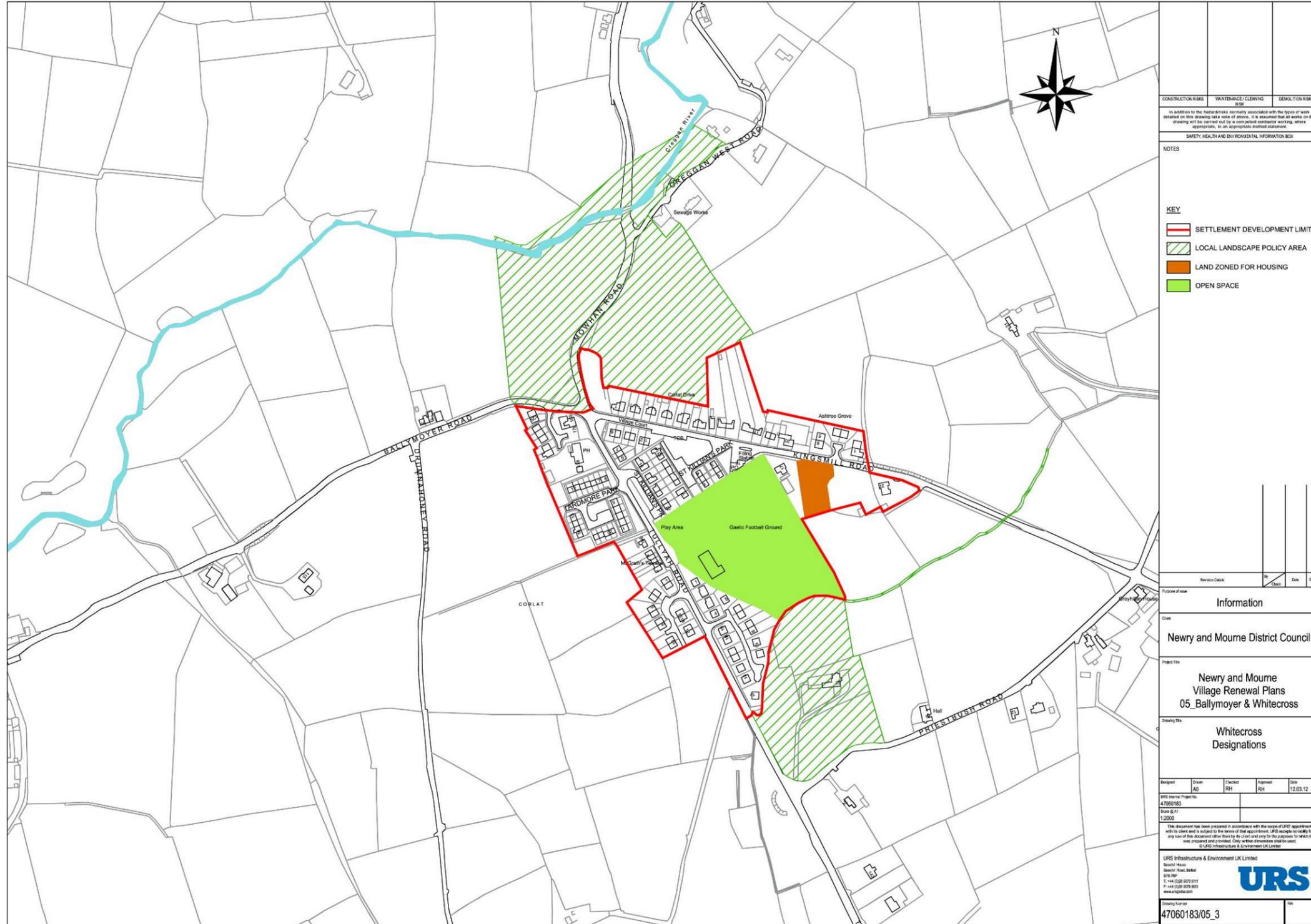
* Projects which have been identified by the community as a High Priority are outlined in more detail in the Initiatives section of this report.

** Capital cost estimates have been produced in the absence of any design information and are purely indicative of costs for works of this nature. All figures are exclusive of VAT, Inflation, Professional Fees, Statutory Authority Charges and Land Purchase.

4 Whitecross



CONSTRUCTION RISKS	MAINTENANCE / CLEANING RISK	DEMOLITION RISKS										
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NOTES												
<p>KEY</p> <p> SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT LIMIT</p>												
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Revision Details</th> <th>By</th> <th>Check</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Scale</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Revision Details	By	Check	Date	Scale					
Revision Details	By	Check	Date	Scale								
<p>Purpose of plan: Information</p> <p>Client: Newry and Mourne District Council</p> <p>Project Title: Newry and Mourne Village Renewal Plans 05_Ballmoyer & Whitecross</p> <p>Drawing Title: Whitecross Existing</p>												
<p>Designed: AAD</p> <p>Drawn: RHI</p> <p>Checked: RHI</p> <p>Approved: RHI</p> <p>Date: 12.03.12</p>	<p>URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited</p> <p>Head Office: Broomfield Road, Belfast BT9 7LP</p> <p>Tel: +44 (0)28 9070 9111</p> <p>Fax: +44 (0)28 9070 9999</p> <p>www.ursinfrastructure.com</p>											
<p>This document has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the appointment with its client and is subject to the terms of that appointment. URS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided. Only written dimensions shall be used.</p> <p>© URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited</p>												
<p>Drawing Number: 47060183/05_2</p>												



4.1 Village Profile

4.1.1 Background

Whitecross is a small village located 2 miles from Ballymoyer and is 5 miles north east of Newtownhamilton in county Armagh. The village has a vibrant GAC, youthful population and there is evidence of good community spirit.

National Statistical Research Agency

Information about the settlements was obtained from the Northern Ireland Statistics Research Agency (NISRA). NISRA classified Whitecross as a “Small Village, Hamlet and Open Countryside”. The NISRA statistics revealed that the population of Whitecross was 285 No. with 96 No. Household Spaces and Communal Establishments as recorded in the 2001 census.

4.1.2 Planning Policy Context

The settlement limits outlined in the Banbridge / Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 recognise the role of the settlements while protecting their natural setting. This is particularly evident in the case of Whitecross:

“The limit is drawn to protect the important landscape to the north of the settlement along the Creggan River corridor and the setting of the locally significant dwelling to the south.”

The Banbridge / Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 designates, two Local Landscape Policy Areas (LLPA’s) within Whitecross. These are WS 03 Local Landscape Policy Area North of Whitecross and Designation WS 04 Local Landscape Policy Area South of Whitecross. The features or combination of features that contribute to the environmental quality, integrity or character of these LLPA’s are listed below:

- “River corridor including associated vegetation;
- Ruins of mill complex with chimney;
- Rising landform which provides views and setting of the settlement;
- River corridor including associated vegetation;
- Locally significant building with associated vegetation.”

There are no other planning designations within Whitecross.

Listed Buildings

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) database revealed that there are no listed buildings designated within the study area.

Planning History

The planning history search revealed that there are three recent planning applications within the village. These applications are listed below and are indicated on the accompanying map. The applications indicate that the village is expanding with increased housing and the expansion of a retail unit.

PLANNING HISTORY – WHITECROSS					
No.	Planning Application Code	Site Location	Proposed Development	Decision	Expiry Date
W1	P/2010/0791/F	15 Kingsmill Road, Whitecross, Newry.	Proposed extension to and renovation of existing shop unit (amended scheme).	Approved	11/10/2015
W2	P/2010/0086/F	No.15 Kingsmill Road, Whitecross, Newry.	Extension to and Renovation of existing Shop Unit.	Approved	23/04/2015
W3	P/2008/0948/F	Land between no 17 and 27, Kingsmill Road, Whitecross, Newry.	Proposed erection of 20 No. Dwellings (amended scheme)	Approved	23/06/2016



4.2 Deprivation

The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 report was published on 26th May 2010. The NIMDM 2010 updates and replaces the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005 as the official measure of spatial deprivation in Northern Ireland.

Tullyhappy Super Output Area encompasses Whitecross and is ranked as the 476th overall most deprived in Northern Ireland. The individual NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 Ranks for Tullyhappy are broken down as follows: Income: 483; Employment: 518; Health & Disability: 623; Education Skills and Training: 501; Proximity to Services: 111; Living Environment: 265; Crime and Disorder: 634; Income Deprivation Affecting Children: 488 and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People: 447.

4.3 Consultation Process

STAGE	CONSULTATION METHOD	DATE	VENUE	ATTENDANCE / RESPONSES
Information Gathering	Village Action Group Meeting	Monday 12 th March 2012.	St. Killian's GAC, Whitecross	12
	Baseline Questionnaires	March 2012	N/A	None
Draft Proposals	Open display for Councillors	16 th March & 20 th April	Council Offices Newry	N/A
	Public Exhibition	30 th April to 11 th May	St. Killian's GAC, Whitecross	N/A
	Public Consultation Questionnaires	May 2012	N/A	12
Draft Village Renewal and Development Plan	Draft Plan presented to Project Steering Group	21 st June	Council Offices Newry	N/A

Consultation with key stakeholders and statutory agencies was also undertaken in the development of the plan. Newry and Mourne District Council, Planning Service NI, Roads Service, Department for Regional Development - Street Lighting, British Telecom, Northern Ireland Electricity, Northern Ireland Water, Translink and Northern Ireland Environment Agency were all consulted.

4.4 Consultation Findings

4.4.1 Information Gathering Stage

Site Visits

This section of the report provides a summary of the key points and issues observed during our site visits in February 2012.

- Whitecross is predominantly a commuter settlement.
- There is the provision of a limited number of public services including a post office and village shop (costcutters) which the village is able to sustain. There are no restaurants in the village but there is a Public House and Chinese takeaway which contribute to the evening economy.
- At the centre of the village is a well established Gaelic Athletic Club (St Killian's) with good facilities.
- There is a modern playground adjacent to St. Killian's GAC which contains a variety of equipment and thus play interest for local children.
- The speed of vehicular traffic passing through the village is a concern for local residents. This is particularly an issue at the junction of Kingsmill Road and Tullyah Roads where the Bus stop is located.
- The pedestrian routes through the village centre are in need of repair. At present there is no pedestrian signage within the village.
- There are a few derelict properties and building sites present within the village centre. These could reduce the aesthetic appeal of the village over time.
- There is good community cohesion and community capacity as demonstrated by the active community association and previous projects that have been undertaken.
- The entrance to the village is unattractive and there is no entrance signage.
- There are no tourist attractions present within the village.

SWOT Analysis

The SWOT Analysis below is a summary of the information gained during the early information gathering stage. The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats

were identified during the initial consultation workshop and the initial questionnaire which was circulated throughout the community. The questionnaire addressed a range of factors, focusing on 3 general themes of Planning and Infrastructure, Essential Services and Economic and Community Development.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing Youth Facilities and GAC which is well used and supported. • Adjacent to natural resource of Ballymoyer Forest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of litter bin provision. • Poor surfaces to roads and pavements. • Entrance to Village from Ballymoyer unsightly. • Lack of health services.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway Signage & Artwork. • Traffic Management Scheme. • Replacement of Bus Shelter & Road Signs. • Pavement from St Killian's Park to gate of GAC. • All weather pitch / Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). • Drop in centre at No. 166 Tullyah Road. • Planting beds adjacent to grass areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing Bus stop design and signage could pose H&S risk to children / elderly. • The increase in traffic and the speed at which it passes through the village / main junction. • The Hall at No. 19 Priestland Road & the site at the corner of Mowhan Road pose a health and safety risk as they are not secured.

Key Issues / Opportunities

The list below is a summary of the main issues and opportunities that have come to light as part of this process and particularly during the Village Action Group Meeting.

- Gateway Signage & Artwork.
- Traffic Management Scheme.
- Replacement of Bus Shelter & Road Signs.
- Pavement from St Killian’s Park to gate of GAC.
- All weather pitch / Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).
- Drop in centre at No. 166 Tullyah Road.
- Planting beds adjacent to grass areas.

4.4.2 Draft Proposals

The draft Plan was put on public display in St Killian’s Gaelic Athletic Club for a two week period from Monday 30th April until Friday 11th May 2012. In order to gain feedback from the public a questionnaire was available for completion.

In total there were 12 questionnaires returned, from members of community groups and members of the public. The response was positive with most of the recipients ‘liking’ all the proposals. However it should be noted that some respondents stated that they had ‘no opinion’ regarding particular proposals. The questionnaire did result in some ‘dislike’ comments for particular proposals.

The questionnaire also encouraged people to rank the projects and proposals in order of importance to help establish the key priorities.

Clearly different members of the community have different opinions on what they feel are priorities for their area, this is understandable. However there are also key issues which people are clearly agreed upon. For example 5 out of 7 respondents noted the Traffic Management Scheme as the number one priority.

A summary of the questionnaire responses is shown overleaf.



**‘Village Renewal and Development plans’
Newry Villages Community Questionnaire**



Whitecross

1. What is your interest?

Business	Community Group	6	Individual	6
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Section 1 – Proposals

2. Please select how you feel about the following proposals:

Ref.	Proposal	Like	Dislike	No Opinion
A	Gateway Signage & Artwork.	4	1	1
B	Introduction of Planting Beds.	2	2	2
C	Extension of footpath along the side of the playground to join St Killian’s Park and St Killian’s GAC entrance.	6		
D	Drop in Centre.	4	1	1
E	Replacement of Bus Shelter and Creation of Community Garden.	4	1	1
F	Traffic Management Scheme including traffic calming measures along Tullyah Road and Kingsmill Roads. Also replacement of road signs.	6		1
G	Improvements to pedestrian access routes and pavements.	6		
H	All weather pitch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).	6		

If you wish to provide additional comments about any of the above proposals please expand on your answers below or on a separate sheet:

A really good drop in centre, lots of games and everything.

Section 2 – Prioritising the Proposals

3. Please identify in the table below how you would prioritise the following proposals (i.e. 1 = Highest Priority, 5 = Lower Priority):

Ref	Proposal	Rank Order							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	Gateway Signage & Artwork.		2	2	2			1	
B	Introduction of Planting Beds.			1	1	3		1	1
C	Extension of footpath along the side of the playground to join St Killian's Park and St Killian's GAC entrance.	3	2				2		
D	Drop in Centre.	2	2			2			1
E	Replacement of Bus Shelter and Creation of Community Garden.	2	2		1	2			
F	Traffic Management Scheme including traffic calming measures along Tullyah Road and Kingsmill Roads. Also replacement of road signs.	5		2					
G	Improvements to pedestrian access routes and pavements.	3	2	2					
H	All weather pitch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).	4	2		1				

Section 3 – Additional Comments

4. Is there anything which you feel you would change / modify in the Village Plan? Or any additional proposals which you would like to see included? (Please provide details below or on a separate sheet):

Allow park to stay open later than 8 o'clock especially on weekends.
Because people complain about children walking about and where or what else are they supposed to do or go.
Allow park to stay open later than it does. Thanks.
Have a better play park / Have a big trampoline / Have tunnel slides in the play park / make everything better.

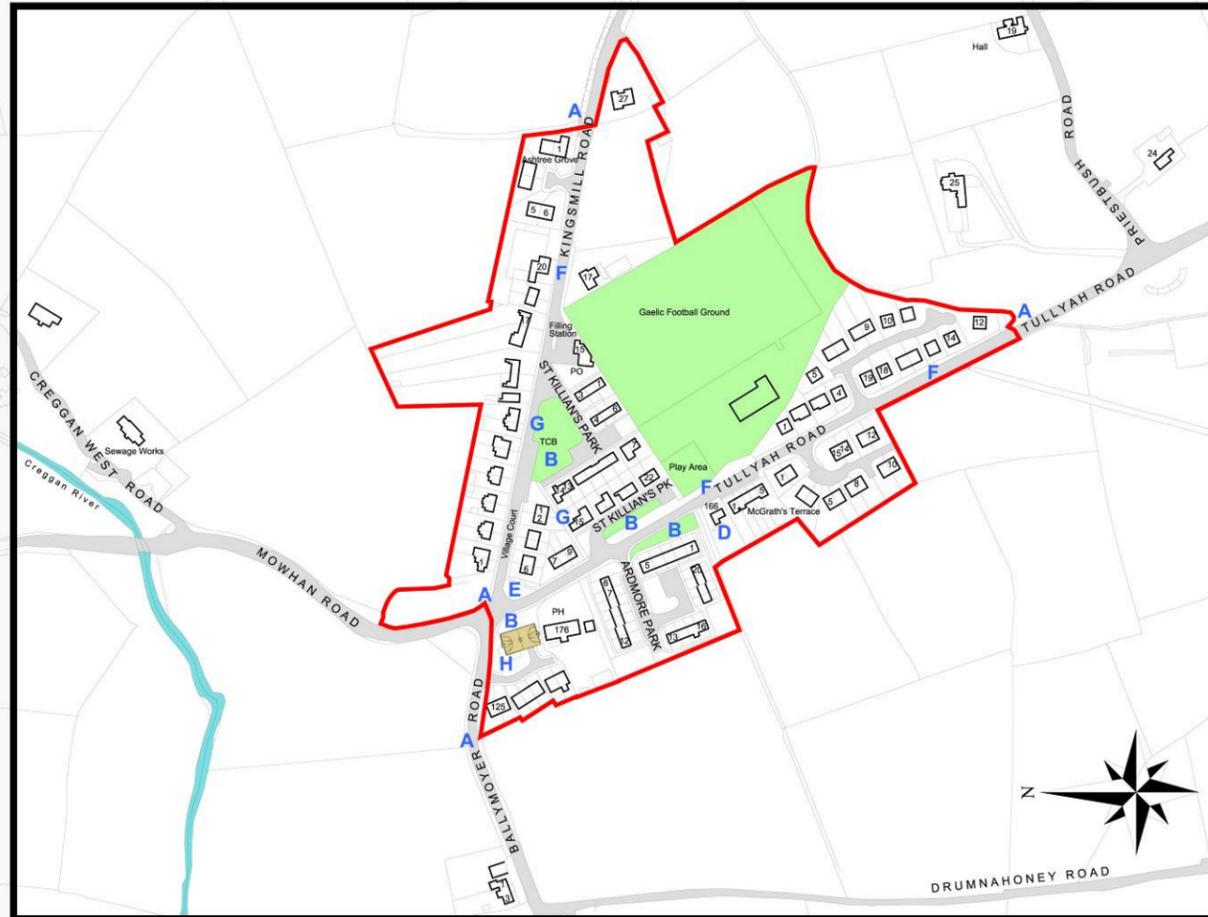
Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.



Gateway Signage & Artwork to promote the identity and highlight the entrance to the village. Local residents to contribute to the design of the artwork. Artwork could be incorporated into seating / walls and planters.



Planting along the edge of the main roads and at the entrance to the village to enhance the appearance of the village.



PROPOSALS

- A** - Gateway Signage & Artwork.
- B** - Introduction of Planting Beds at cross roads and in grass areas adjacent to roads.
- C** - Extension of Footpath along the side of the playground to join St Killian's Park and St Killian's GAC entrance.
- D** - Drop in Centre potentially at no. 166 Tullyah Road.
- E** - Replacement of Bus Shelter & Creation of Community Garden.
- F** - Traffic Management Scheme including traffic calming measures along Tullyah Road and Kingsmill Roads. Also replacement of road signs.
- G** - Improvements to pedestrian access routes and pavements.
- H** - All weather Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).

KEY

- SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT LIMIT
- GREEN OPEN SPACE



Replacement of existing Bus Shelter and Creation of Community Garden.



Improvements made to pedestrian routes including the extension of footpaths and safe crossing points.



New village entrance signs, road narrowing at these points and an advisory speed limit of 30mph.



Multi-Use Games Area provides facilities for young people to undertake a variety of sports.

4.5 Initiatives

4.5.1 Traffic Management Scheme

The speed of the traffic along the Tullyah and Kingsmill Roads was identified as a major concern during the initial consultation. In order to address this significant issue it is proposed that traffic calming measures are introduced. This would involve consultation with DRD Roads Service and traffic calming measures may include speed cameras, speed bumps, a revised road layout and / or revising the speed limit. It was also highlighted that there are safety concerns regarding school children crossing these roads. Therefore the traffic management scheme would also need to address the location and design of bus stops and crossing points to link up with parking areas (used for collecting children from public transport) and existing pedestrian routes.



Tullyah Road

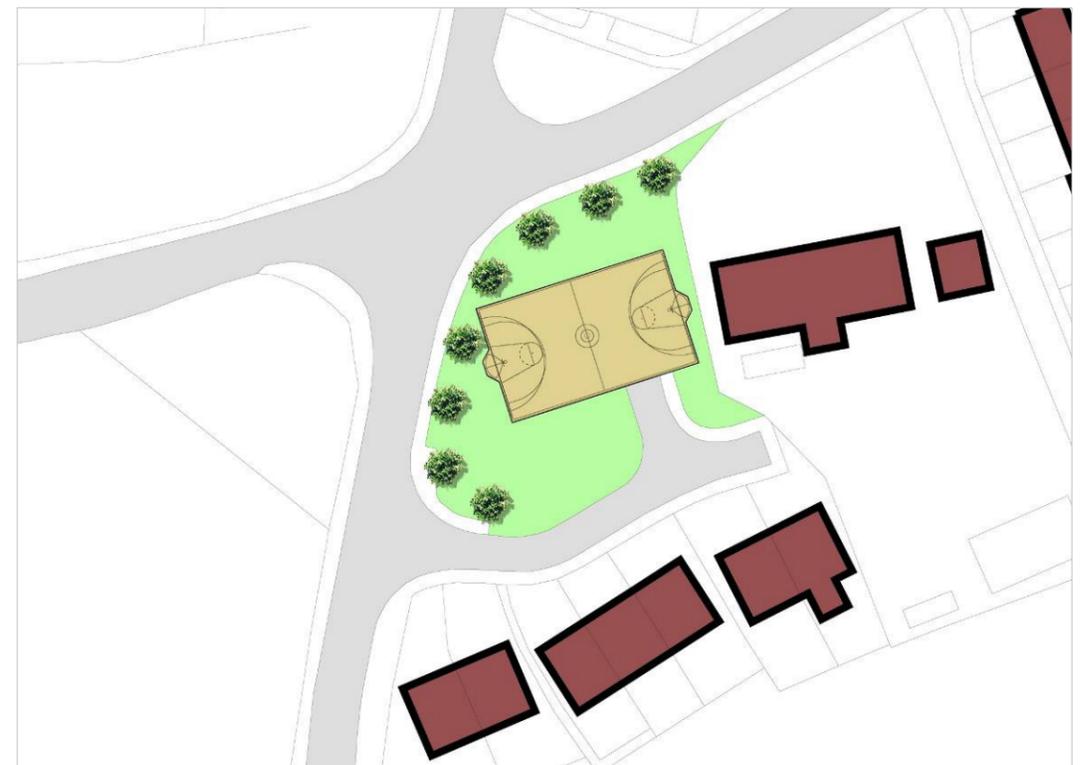


Kingsmill Road



4.5.2 All weather Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

An All weather Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) would provide facilities for young people to undertake a variety of sports. The present GAC club in the town provides indoor facilities and a grass outdoor pitch. This proposal would compliment these existing facilities and provide facilities for other sports. The site for the MUGA is only indicative and a feasibility study would need to be undertaken.



4.6 Action Plan

ACTION PLAN						
Initiative	Key Stakeholders	Priority	Timescale	Potential Funding Opportunities	Actions	Indicative Costs **
Gateway Signage & Artwork.	WBCA, NMDC, Priv, PS, RS, DCAL, AC	L	S	NMDC, RDP, AC	Feasibility study, design work, statutory approvals, installation of gateway signage and artwork.	£80,000 - £100,000
Introduction of Planting Beds.	NMDC, WBCA, Priv, RS	L	M	NMDC, Lot, RDP	Installation, Management and Maintenance.	£10,000 - £25,000
Extension of footpath along the side of the playground to join St Killian's Park and St Killian's GAC entrance.	NMDC, RS, WBCA	M	M	RS	Design and installation of new footpath surfacing.	£25,000 - £35,000
Drop in Centre.	WBCA, NMDC, Priv	L	L	Priv, RDP	Feasibility study to establish the need.	£150,000 - £200,000
Replacement of Bus Shelter and Creation of Community Garden.	WBCA, NMDC, RS	L	M	NMDC, RDP	Feasibility study, design work, statutory approvals, installation of bus shelter and works associated with Community Garden. Translink have advised that at present there are no plans to change bus stops in the near future. They will work with the community if changes are needed to fit into the proposed schemes.	£30,000 - £40,000
Traffic Management Scheme including traffic calming measures along Tullyah Road and Kingsmill Roads. Also replacement of road signs.*	RS, NMDC, WBCA	H	S	RS	Review of feasibility of traffic calming measures. Consultation with RS, road improvement works.	£10,000 - £20,000
Improvements to pedestrian access routes and pavements.	NMDC, RS, WBCA	M	S	NMDC, RDP, RS	Review of feasibility of pedestrian crossing point. Consultation with RS, road improvement works. Design and installation of new footpath surfacing.	£50,000 - £60,000
All weather pitch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).*	WBCA, NMDC, SNI, DCAL, PS	H	S	NMDC, Lot, RDP, SNI, DCAL	Feasibility study, design work, statutory approvals and construction of MUGA.	£60,000 - £90,000

Priority: H = High
M = Medium
L = Low

Timeframe: S = Short (1-3yrs)
M = Medium (3-7 years)
L = Long (7-15years)

Delivery Agents, Funders an Stakeholders:

AC	Arts Council	NITB	Northern Ireland Tourist Board
MNDC	Newry & Mourne District Council	Priv	Private Sector
DCAL	Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure	PS	Planning Service
Lot	Lottery Funding	PSNI	Police Service of Northern Ireland
RS	Roads Service	SHSCT	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
RDP	Rural Development Programme	SELB	Southern Education and Library Board
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency	SNI	Sport Northern Ireland
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	DOE	Department of Environment Whitecross and Ballymoyer Community Association.
		WBCA	

* Projects which have been identified by the community as a High Priority are outlined in more detail in the Initiatives section of this report.

** Capital cost estimates have been produced in the absence of any design information and are purely indicative of costs for works of this nature. All figures are exclusive of VAT, Inflation, Professional Fees, Statutory Authority Charges and Land Purchase.

5 Implementation

5.1 Potential Funding Streams

5.1.1 Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

The European Union has set three main themes within which all Member States are to focus their Rural Development Programmes. These themes (known as axes) are:

Axis 1 – Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry by supporting restructuring, development and innovation

Axis 2 – Improving the environment and countryside by supporting land management

Axis 3 – Improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity

They also require at least part of all Rural Development Programmes to be delivered through a “LEADER-type approach” – under the NI Rural Development Programme 2000-06, numerous partnerships delivered parts of the Programme within their own geographical area.

The Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-13 (the “NIRDP”) contains a number of measures under each axis. These measures are specific areas where support is to be targeted. Each measure was selected from a menu of options provided by the European Union in order to target the aspects of rural life that are most important to Northern Ireland.

SOAR will deliver the following Axis 3 measures under the NIRDP using a ‘LEADER’; approach, that is, local people making local decisions.

Measure	Objective	Eligible Applicants	Type of Projects
3.2 Business Creation and Development	To create employment opportunities through promoting entrepreneurship and developing the economic infrastructure in rural areas.	Applicant businesses must be located in a rural area and have less than 10 employees (FTE – Full Time Equivalents) and an annual turnover of less than €2 million. These limits apply to individual or linked companies. They may be; private individuals, aged over 18 years; private companies or partnerships social economy enterprises*. This measure will not provide support for applicants eligible under measures 3.1 and 3.3	Activities could be similar to those funded via the Northern Ireland LEADER+ Programme. Types of projects that might be supported under this Measure could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day-care facilities • Waste management facilities • Crafts • Traditional skills • Innovative manufacturing businesses • Light engineering • Innovative services • Renewable energy initiatives (as part of a larger project)
3.3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities	To use the natural resources in Northern Ireland’s rural areas to attract visitors, and create new employment opportunities through the sustainable development of the rural economy.	Applicant businesses must be located in a rural area. They may be; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private individuals, aged over 18 years; • private companies or partnerships • social economy enterprises* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and existing tourism products can be supported under this measure e.g. Activity tourism • Niche/specialist tourism markets/local crafts or produce Eco-tourism • Self-catering accommodation • Rural Signature Projects – enhancement or development of significant tourism infrastructure projects or programmes that impact significantly on rural tourism. Applicants will have to demonstrate

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non departmental public bodies • councils <p>This measure will not provide support for applicants eligible under measure 3.1.</p>	fit with local strategies.
<p>3.4</p> <p>Basic Services for the Rural Economy and Rural Population</p>	To improve or maintain the living conditions and welfare of those living in rural areas, and to increase the attractiveness of such areas through the provision of more and better basic services, for the economy and the rural population.	<p>Applicant businesses must be located in a rural area. They may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private individuals, aged over 18 years • social economy enterprises • social economy enterprises* • councils 	<p>Examples of project could include:</p> <p>Outreach work providing access to a wide range of services (health & well being; education; benefits; jobs; financial and debt counselling)</p> <p>‘Door-step’ delivery of a range of services</p> <p>ICT Services which provide access to information on housing; healthcare; benefits; jobs; financial and debt counselling; education or other services to rural communities</p> <p>Sharing of equipment and premises in order to deliver value for money services</p> <p>Better or multiple usage of existing or new community buildings or other public facilities in providing access to a wide range of services e.g. housing a number of key services such as healthcare; training; IT; childcare; library; community shop; pharmacy or other service provisions in the one building.</p>
<p>3.5</p> <p>Village Renewal and Development</p>	To enable and encourage residents of villages and surrounding areas to create a vision and an integrated action plan to ensure the full	<p>Applicant businesses must be located in a rural area. They may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private individuals, aged over 18 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of projects could include: Village Action Plans • Streetscape improvements • Aesthetic improvements • Promoting greater community inclusiveness/participation • Greater use of existing buildings

	potential of such areas is achieved; To support integrated village initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social economy enterprises* • social economy enterprises* • councils 	
<p>3.6</p> <p>Conservation and Upgrading of the Rural Heritage</p>	To create 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.	<p>Applicant businesses must be located in a rural area. They may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private individuals, aged over 18 years • social economy enterprises* • social economy enterprises* • councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of projects could include: Monument/heritage site conservation and protection • Access/signage/information re heritage sites • Culture, history and heritage

5.1.2 Big Lottery Fund Village ‘SOS’ Scheme

Village SOS began in 2010 when six enterprising UK rural villages won Big Lottery Fund investment of around £400,000 to revive their communities through new business ventures.

Each village could draw on the expertise of their own Village Champion, a business expert who lived in the local area for one year, and use their knowledge and skills to get the local enterprise up-and-running.

Today, Village SOS aims to build on the experience of these ten projects and inspire the whole nation to join in and take the bold step towards starting a new business that will regenerate their own community.

Ongoing support, including expert advice and events, is on offer to help community led business ventures get off the ground, breathe new life into their areas, create new jobs and improve the quality of life of local people.

Funding through this scheme is open to all rural villages or small town with a population under 3,000 therefore Ballymoyer and Whitecross are all eligible.

A community enterprise is a business that is owned and run by the community. With time, a community enterprise should be able to sustain itself without having to

rely on grants or other public funding and any surplus is reinvested back in to the community.

There is a wide range of community enterprise ideas which can be funded, such as village shops, community transport, training schemes, cafes and tea rooms, woodland projects, broadband initiatives, energy schemes and much more besides.

We are interested in original ideas that really take advantage of your local assets, whether human or physical. You should think carefully about the skills and experience local people have; one residents' hobbies or skills could become a successful and sustainable enterprise. And why stop there when you could have a whole range of products or services, all produced or delivered by local people with unique skills. You could also take advantage of local natural resources, technology or buildings.

Voluntary and community groups or organisations, social enterprises and some parish, town and community councils are eligible for funding:

- a registered or unregistered charity
- a community group such as a village committee, association or trust
- a village or community-based co-operatives
- a social enterprise or a company that reinvests any profit back into the community.

More information can be found www.villagesos.org.uk.

5.1.3 PEACE III Programme

PEACE III Programme is a distinctive programme part-funded by the European Union (€225 million from the EU with further national contributions of €108 million) through its Structural Funds programme. The full title of the PEACE III Programme is the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. The programme covers the period 2007-2013.

The main aims of the PEACE III Programme are to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and to promote reconciliation by assisting operations and projects which help to reconcile communities and contribute towards a shared society for everyone.

The programme is divided into two main priorities. These are:

- Reconciling Communities

- Contributing to a Shared Society

It delivers these priorities through “themes” - these themes are:

- To build positive relations at the local level
- To acknowledge the past
- To create shared public spaces
- To develop key institutional capacity for a shared society

PEACE III follows on from the PEACE I and PEACE II Programmes and will carry forward some of the key aspects of the previous programmes. PEACE III has a renewed emphasis on reconciliation. Like the earlier programmes, it also has a focus on cross-border initiatives.

Operations and projects in the PEACE III Programme are delivered by Lead Partners which are public bodies or their equivalent.

There is a new strategic approach to achieve maximum impact from the funding available from the PEACE III Programme. As a result, community and voluntary groups can access PEACE III Programme funding in a new way.

Local Councils in Northern Ireland have formed themselves into eight clusters and play a much more strategic part in the delivery of PEACE III. The six County Councils in the Border Region of Ireland have the same role. Working in partnership with communities, they have developed local Peace and Reconciliation Action Plans.

PEACE III remains committed to a strong emphasis on the “grass roots up” approach to the development of projects which address shared issues and concerns. Community and voluntary groups are encouraged to contact their local authority for information on their cluster’s or County Council’s “Peace and Reconciliation Action Plan”, which may contain a small grants programme and opportunities to tender for the delivery of projects in the future.

Community and voluntary groups which are considering developing projects relating to acknowledging and dealing with the past should contact the Consortium of Pobal and the Community Relations Council (CRC), which has been appointed to deliver this theme.

6 Conclusion

The Village Renewal and Development Plan for Ballymoyer and Whitecross presents an ambitious yet achievable list of projects and initiatives which will help the villages reach their full potential.

At the local scale they are a comprehensive set of projects and proposals which will address the needs of the local communities. The Plans were strongly consultation led and therefore represent the hopes and aspirations of the communities.

Appendix A Community Consultation Advertisement



**COMHAIRLE AN IÚIR AGUS MHÚRN
NEWRY AND MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Newry & Mourne Village Renewal Action Plans
(South Armagh Plans)

*** COMMUNITY CONSULTATION / VIEWING ***

Newry & Mourne District Council and its appointed consultants (URS) are currently working in partnership with a number of pre-selected local rural communities across the region to have a total of 13 Village Renewal Action Plans completed.

Draft proposals for the South Armagh Village Plans are now to be put on display from Monday 30th April 2012 until Friday 11th May 2012 in the following venues;

Crossmaglen / Creggan / Culloville Plan – Crossmaglen Community Centre, Creggan Church Hall & Culloville Youth Club

Cullyhanna / Dorsey Plan – WALD Centre Cullyhanna & Dorsey Community Centre

Mullaghbane Plan – Mullaghbane Community Centre

Whitecross / Ballymoyer – St Killan’s GAC

Bessbrook/Camlough – Bessbrook Community Centre

Jerresspass / Lurganare - Jerresspass Village Hall

Newtownhamilton Plan – Newtownhamilton Community Centre

Altnamackin / Cortamlet – Cortamlet Primary School

Comments sheets will be available for you to have your say. Proposals can also be viewed and commented upon through the Councils Website of www.newryandmourne.gov.uk

Council and Community Stakeholder groups would encourage local communities to come along to view the draft proposals and feed your views into the process.

Signed: Mr T McCall
Clerk & Chief Executive of Council

This project is part funded under the Axis 3 of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 by the European Union and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.