



Doonass Kiltenanlea Graveyard Committee, Clonlara

January 2022

Dear Planning officers,

We are seriously concerned about the continued diversion of walkers from a 'de facto' Right of Way that has now been obstructed at Doonass for nearly two years. The situation compromises both the sacredness and safety of our graveyard with a number of disturbances reported when walkers and anglers tried to access the river and were impeded.

Graveyard visitors and workers traditionally had safe access to river water at the stepping stones directly in front of the 'Anglers Rest' property. With this path blocked, they're forced to call into neighbouring houses and to disturb the tranquillity of the nearby St. Senan's Holy Well.

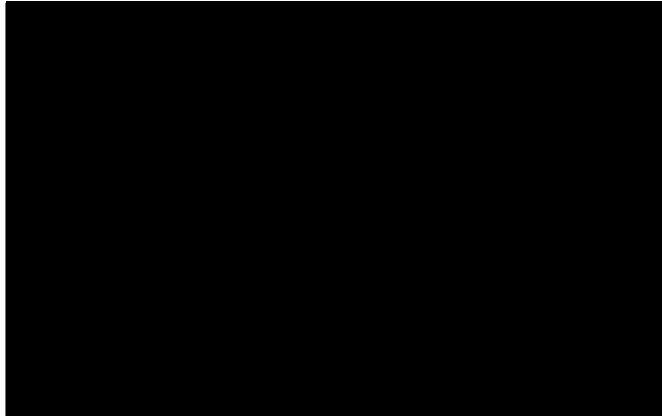
Furthermore, walkers visiting the graveyard from the other side of the nearby 'Cead Mile Failte' stile are now blocked from accessing the graveyard there. This is at a late stage in their walk where they're unlikely to turn back. Instead, walkers (including the elderly) are scaling a steep embankment in the graveyard which is slippery under foot even in dry weather. This presents high risk as it is both probable that there will be an accident plus that any injuries sustained will be of a serious nature.

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For these reasons, we urge the Council to act decisively and protect this Right of Way with its inclusion in the County Development Plan 2023-2029.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Meskell



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