

**SUBMISSION TO DRAFT CLARE CO DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-2029; Volume 3(b)
SIXMILEBRIDGE. Proposed amendments to TEXT.**

By Eilis O' Nuallain, [REDACTED] 28/03/2022

The following amendments are put forward for consideration: Green for inclusion Red for deletion. I have lived in Sixmilebridge for over 40 years and the suggestions below are made in the public interest in my opinion.

General Objectives

- **To provide safe, continuous, upgraded pedestrian networks throughout the town and it's historic core.**

Retail Objectives

The town provides a range of local services, meeting the day-to-day needs of its resident and catchment populations, primarily located within the designated town centre area. It is an objective:

- *To support the provision of modern, good quality convenience goods stores, of an appropriate scale, and associated retail and service units to enable Sixmilebridge to meet the needs of their local catchment population **in accordance with CDP 7.7(b)***

Mixed Use within the Town Centre

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*MU2 South of Clonlara Road This site is considered appropriate for a mixed use scheme incorporating housing, retail and commercial uses, with good pedestrian permeability, soft landscaping and linkages to the town centre. **All development proposals to have regard to the important Protected Structure within MU2 in order to support the sustainable re use of the building.***

ENT1 Cappagh Lodge

*This flat greenfield site is located on the Shannon Road at the edge of the town, in close proximity to the existing railway station.that runs through the site and access/egress onto the R471 shall be taken via same. The design of any scheme shall ensure that the established residential amenities along the north-eastern boundary are protected. **A Masterplan should be prepared for the site looking at options for incorporating other uses. ie Funeral Home.** (The current location in the Square is problematic in terms of extreme traffic congestion at certain times. More space would allow development of a suitable facility close to station)*

Transportation, Active Travel and Connectivity

*Sixmilebridge is situated within the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area and forms part of the study area for the draft Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040.....The pedestrian environment around bus stops and the train station should be improved. **Safe, continuous, upgraded pedestrian networks should be provided throughout the town and it's historic core to encourage walking as a means of movement thus cutting down on short car journeys.***

Transport Objectives

- *To proactively pursue the provision of additional carparking in or adjoining Sixmilebridge town centre **subject to survey.***
- *To maximise opportunities for the town provided by the rail link to Limerick, Ennis and Galway;*

Comment: This objective is being undermined by the presence of an unauthorised encampment in the station carpark. People are reluctant to avail of the carparking facility and certain areas have become degraded and unsanitary. Significant effort and funds went into the opening of the station 2010. It would be a serious backward step for Sixmilebridge, its connectivity and it's role in LSMATS if the rail service were to lose support. It is proposed that a second stone pillar be erected at the entrance as provided for in the Part 8. The installation of an openable overhead barrier, such as at Scarriff Harbour, could prevent the carpark from being used for unauthorised overnight parking.

Erect an openable barrier at the entrance to the station carpark.

Place Making and Regeneration

Sixmilebridge has a compact town centre however, the pedestrian environment is of mixed quality ...

*There is also an opportunity to develop a town park on **OS1 or OS3.....** The core areas need to incorporate safe continuous footpaths linked to wellsigned carparking areas. Suitable development on the eastern side of the square would help to define and rebalance the form of the town. Frederick Square requires a strategy and design scheme to create **safe footpaths on both sides**, to make more efficient use of the open space and realise the amenity potential of the area. **Main Street has equal potential for improvement.** (Main Street has had a significant upgrade due to TVR funds at end of 2021)*

Sincerely



Eilis O' Nuallain

MRIAI IPI (Retired)