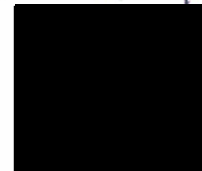


Submission Re: Development Plan Review

Date Submitted: 16/11/2020



Development Plan Review,
Planning Department,
Aras Chontae an Chlair,
New Road,
Ennis
V95 DXP2



The Miltown Malbay Community Enhancement CLG in conjunction with Miltown Malbay Development Company wish to make a submission regarding the Clare County Development Plan 2022 – 2028. This Development Plan is the most significant of the past thirty years. It will provide a roadmap for recovery from the Covid 19 period but also lay the foundations for the Transition to a more sustainable holistic approach to living and working in Rural Ireland. The current transition driven namely by Climate Change and Population decline has been accelerated by the Global Pandemic. The economic fallout and its impact on Rural Ireland has highlighted the vulnerabilities within our Region, particularly on Tourist dependant locations. The quest for sustainability and recovery are now married together, they must run in tandem as they will form the blueprint that will shape Rural Ireland for years to come.

Communities know their Strengths, Weaknesses and where Opportunities lie and should be given greater opportunity to select locations and zonings for Public Infrastructure so that the aspirations of the Development Plans can become a reality.

Each of the Villages and Towns in County Clare are at different stages of development with regard to infrastructure and economic performance. Service Towns have received far greater investment than the surrounding areas and this needs to change. A balance must be struck where investment can be provided so that nowhere is left behind.

Items from Miltown Malbay Community Enhancement CLG

Regeneration Strategy

We are requesting that Clare County Council formally implement a regeneration strategy for Miltown Malbay and that the Local Area plan be partly based on that Strategy.

Rural Development Funding

The billions of Euro which are being borrowed to fund National Lockdowns will eventually have to be paid back. It is difficult to see how this will not require some form of austerity. Can Clare County Council seek a commitment from National Government that the current funding streams be ring fenced and protected so that Balanced Regional Development can be maintained.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

The existing plant is wholly inadequate releasing large volumes of untreated waste into the Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point Special Area of Conservation. A dangerous precedent has been

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set by granting the Part VIII for 27 Local Authority Housing Units. Such practices should be examined by An Bord Pleanála. Sustainable development is being stagnated and simply cannot be provided with the existing infrastructure. We are requesting that the Upgrade of the WWTP be prioritised and carried out at the earliest opportunity.

West Clare Railway Greenway

The development of the Greenway will be a game changer for our County. The Greenway Development should be accelerated and the New County Development Plan should include all necessary provisions to streamline the process.

Sustainable Travel

The new Development plan should include provision of a sustainable public transport system linking to the larger towns and cities such as Ennis and Limerick. The system must be fit for purpose and responsive to people's needs.

Items from Miltown Malbay Development Company

1. Development of the West Clare Railway line as a walking & cycling route. This route would have sustainable spin-offs to all areas along the coast of Clare and be an added tourist attraction to attract domestic and international tourists to spend longer in the area, especially those that come to visit the Cliffs of Moher.
2. Upgrade the church car park to make it more accessible and user friendly for users e.g. pedestrian and disabled access through the council houses .It's not practical to expect people to use the present exits
3. Upgrade of the town's sewerage system which is holding back development in the area and polluting our ocean.
4. Rework of Road signage to ensure Miltown properly identified on approaches from Killimer Car ferry/ Kilrush from the south and Lisdoonvarna/Cliffs of Moher from the North. Despite the fact that Miltown is on the N67 the road signage is poor. With the Wild Atlantic Way bypassing the town it is important that the town is identifiable to tourists.