**County Development Plan Submission**

From: Joe McGivern []

Sent: 10 August 2020 16:34

To: cdp

Subject: Submission re: County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

Re: Submission to Leitrim County Council - County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

Introduction

I hereby tender this submission for and on behalf of Aughoo Trail Blazers. Primarily, we are a

walking group established in January 2020. The purpose of our group was to promote healthy

outdoor exercise and general wellbeing. Our group initially consisted of 8 which has now

increased to 22.

Our general route was access via ‘The Loop’, an off-road walkway adjoining the Shannon/Erne

waterway adjacent to Lock 5. It is a stretch of approximately 1.9km, ending at Aughoo bridge on

the R204.

Purpose

Continuing such walk along the R204 from Aughoo Bridge to Ballinamore has proved to be

hazardous and a threat to the safety of those who walk such a route. The increasing volume of

traffic on that roadway has increased such risk as the lack of area on which to walk safely on this

route is insufficient.

Our proposal is for the new development plan is to consider constructing a walking trail in order

to continue ‘The Loop’ from Aughoo bridge, into Ballinamore and link back to Lock 5 via the

current walkway at Kiltymooden. Such loop would also encompass a walkway around the

community hospital on the outskirts of the town.

Advantages

In addition to such walking trail being utilised as a scenic loop adjacent to the canal, it has the

added advantage of providing a safe walkway/cycle path for the many children, visitors and

citizens who use the swimming pool and gymnasium at Riversdale House - the only location in

the immediate area that offer such facilities. Many of the local schools also use this facility

during the school term. It is also a tremendous asset to the community in hosting Water Safety

Week each summer. In addition, such walking trail provides a direct walking access to Glenview

Folk Museum, situated next to Aughoo Bridge.

Conclusion

We believe our submission addresses all 4 themes, as outlined in the Corporate Plan. Such project

would promote safe accessibility to continue a much cherished and utilised walking trail and in

doing so, provide a means for our children and visitors to safely access the wonderful facilities

we have to offer in Ballinamore while promoting health and wellbeing in the continued use of

such a facility.

Yours Sincerely,

Joe McGivern