

Castleconnell Local Area Plan First Issues COMMENTS SHEET

Name NICOLA MCNAMARA
Address [REDACTED] CASTLECONNELL
Organisation [REDACTED] Contact [REDACTED]

We would like your views on the proposed Local Area Plan for Castleconnell. Write your comments in the space provided or on a separate sheet and return to the address below by close of business **on the 28th of March 2022**.

Please send to: Forward Planning Section, Economic Development Directorate, Merchants Quay, Limerick or email to forwardplanning@limerick.ie

Please see attached.

GDPR note: Please note that by giving your contact details you agree to the Council contacting you further regarding the Castleconnell Plan. Also, your name will be printed in the Chief Executives Report which will issue to the Elected Members and will be in the public domain.

Castleconnell Local Area Plan - First Issues

Comments Sheet

Nicola and Adrian McNamara, [REDACTED], Castleconnell [REDACTED] Contact: [REDACTED]

Retail, Commercial, Employment and Enterprise

It is essential that the Main Street in the village retains its position as the focus of village life so we strongly support the idea of encouraging and protecting it as a centre for shops and local businesses.

Community, Amenity and Recreation

The River Shannon contributes to the heritage of Castleconnell and as such its potential should be captured as a place for people to visit and enjoy. The Ferry car park situated by the playground has 30 car parking spaces and is used not only by parents and children but also by those undertaking water sports eg. kayaking. The council should make an allowance in the LAP for a larger car park to service a linear community park and forest walk along the side of the river with full Universal access.

Built and Natural Heritage

Castleconnell is famous for its castle and while it remains in private ownership, any conservation measures should be actively supported.

Active Travel, Transport, Infrastructure and Utilities

Parking is a major issue in the village centre, particularly for residents. Chapter 6 of the 2013 LAP states 'on-street parking takes place in the village particularly along Main Street. Overall traffic congestion is not a major issue in the village.'

This is clearly no longer the case as the Main Street in Castleconnell is now home to Sunny Lane creche, Shannon House community centre and restaurant, a café, the church and parish hall, the post office, the former Worralls Inn public house and access to Bruach na Sionna housing estate which includes retail premises.

Public Transport -

Castleconnell railway station provides parking for up to 8 vehicles. As 'Park and Ride' has future potential from the village, this facility needs to be upgraded and enlarged. Castleconnell is also serviced by an increasing number of bus routes but there is a noticeable lack of bus stops and signage both in and approaching the village.

Accessibility

The arrival of Enable Ireland into the village has highlighted the need to improve our amenities to provide a more accessible environment for people with disabilities, including wheelchair users and those with mobility problems. We should be looking at wider pavements, safer crossing points, and more accessible walkways and pathways along the river for example, the gravelled pathways to the footbridge and access to the bridge itself could be improved.

March 2022