

CASTLECONNELL LOCAL AREA PLAN 2022-2028

My name is Anne O'Flynn and I have lived most of my life at Main Street Castleconnell

My comments are as follows:

Population and Housing:

Over the past 10 / 15 plus years there has been an explosion of housing in Castleconnell with few amenities for socialisation i.e. not enough play areas or facilities for young teenagers to congregate, lack of green spaces to even kick a football. Existing housing should be looked at with a view to improving recreational areas particularly for young people on their own estates. I note another 48/52 new houses are to be built in Castleconnell in the near future so its imperative that proper facilities are looked at in a timely fashion.

The type of housing required in Castleconnell should be in keeping with our beautiful village and a good mix of social affordable, high standard quality housing is required. Provision for green area similar to the green in the centre of Scanlon Park and proper pitches needs to be a key component of any future plan.

Retail Commercial Employment Health and Safety and Amenities

There is a huge requirement to have more shops, restaurants, etc to meet the needs of the population. Currently people residing in the village and its environs go to work, shop on their way home and as far as I can see don't participate in or contribute to village life to any great extent. There is no restaurant open in the village after 4.30pm. The Castle Oaks is the only place at present. Many locals travel to Matt the Thrashers in Birdhill for food. Citing Supervalu, Church, Credit Union, Post Office, Butcher and local shop does not fulfil criteria of "good amenities". Much more thought is required to create a vibrant village.

Health and |Safety

Currently there are huge parking issues and health and safety issues with traffic in the village. Traffic calming measures need to be undertaken as a matter of urgency as currently scooters and cars not stopping on exit from Brook na Shionna in the middle of the street is very dangerous and an accident waiting to happen. Also traffic at Lees corner is another matter of great concern. eScooters are speeding on the footpaths and I personally and my four year old granddaughter have had a few "near misses" as we don't even realise that a scooter is on the path such is the speed at which they are travelling.

Traffic on the road to the World's End is also a matter of concern. Some people delivering off children and young people to the Rowing Club and boating competitions are travelling way too fast. Lots of young children and their parents/guardians use this road when cycling and a proper cycle lane/footpath should be provided. It is not pleasurable presently to walk to the World's End from the village at weekends in particular and practically any day over the Summer holiday season.

Travel

A train service running in a timely fashion would be of great benefit to people working in the City. There is little point in having a train leaving the village at 08.15 and returning at 17.10 as most people would need to leave their place of work in the city too early to use this service. 17.45 would be a more appropriate time and I am aware that some discussions have taken place around this

matter but it's a slow burner. Personally I would use the train if it was running on a more frequent basis as I am retired and am interested in the environment and using my car less often..

Thank you for the opportunity to articulate my views.

Anne O'Flynn

Main Street, Castleconnell Co. Limerick

