

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report - Enniskerry Playground

For Enniskerry Playground Committee

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Legislation and Background	3
3. Guidance	3
4. Methodology	4
4.1 Site Visits and Desk Study	4
4.2 Site specific survey work	4
4.3 Author's Qualifications and Expertise	4
4.4 AA Screening Methodology	5
4.5 Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment	5
5. Overview of Proposed Project and its Receiving Environment	5
5.1 Description of Proposed Project	5
5.2 Description of the receiving environment	6
6. Provision of Information for Stage One Screening	7
6.1 Zone of Influence of the Proposed Project	7
6.2 Relevant European Sites and Qualifying Interests	8
6.3 Results of site-specific survey	9
7. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Sites	9
7.1 Likely Direct, Indirect or Secondary Impacts	9
7.2 Likely Changes to European Sites	11
8. Effect of the Project in Combination with Other Plans or Projects	11
8.1 Conclusions on Information Provided for Stage One Screening Assessment	11
8.2 Appraising Likely Significant Effects of the Proposed Project on Relevant European Sites	12
Appendix 1	13
Appendix 2	22

1. Introduction

This report, which contains information required for the competent authority to undertake a Stage One Screening Assessment ('AA screening') in respect of a construction project of a playground in Enniskerry Village, County Wicklow (Sep 2021) was prepared by Stephanie Quinn and Alan Lauder of *Alan Lauder Consulting* on behalf of their client, Enniskerry Playground Residents Committee.

This report provides information to the competent authority and appraises the potential for this project to have significant effects, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on any Natura 2000 sites (hereafter 'European sites').

2. Legislation and Background

Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter 'the Habitats Directive') requires that, any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to AA of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

The possibility of there being a significant effect on a European site will generate the need for an AA to be carried out by the competent authority for the purposes of Article 6(3). Accordingly, a screening for AA in respect of an application for consent for proposed development must be carried out by the competent authority in order to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the proposed project, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on any European site.

Stage Two of an AA is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that a proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site. The Screening (Stage One) operates to determine whether an AA (Stage Two) must be undertaken on the implications of the plan or project for the conservation objectives of relevant European sites.

This document comprises information to enable the competent authority to perform a Stage One Screening for AA.

3. Guidance

This AA screening report has been prepared with reference to the following guidance documents where relevant:

- Appropriate assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010 revision)
- Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10
- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological Guidance on the Provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission Environment Directorate-General, 2001)
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000 updated draft April 2015)
- Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest,

Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence. Opinion of the European Commission (European Commission, January 2007)

- Guidelines for Good Practice for Appropriate Assessment of Plans under Article 6(3) Habitats Directive. Findings of an international workshop on Appropriate Assessment in Oxford, December 2009

4. Methodology

4.1 Site Visits and Desk Study

The information collected for this report, to assist the competent authority to screen the proposal for AA, was based on a desktop study and detailed site inspection. The site visit was carried out on 14th September 2021, to examine the habitats present and characteristics of the areas to be utilised by the operations and to inspect the areas for the likely presence of EU priority species, protected species, qualifying interests and red listed species, within the footprint of the operation or within areas which could be affected by the operational activities or processes.

Information relied upon included the following information sources, which included maps and ecological data:

- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from www.osi.ie
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from www.npws.ie
- Information gleaned from a method statement and map provided by the client regarding the approach to the operations (Appendix 1)
- Information on the status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland (National Parks & Wildlife Service)
- Online data available for boundaries of relevant designated sites

4.2 Site specific survey work

A site-specific survey of the area was carried out to check for the presence of any features of the plan or project which may give rise to significant effects on Natura sites and their qualifying interests.

This short survey of the planned extent of the project and the general environment of the project was carried out on 14 September 2021.

It is noted that:

- The site is not designated
- The site extends over amenity grassland and a small area of ruderal vegetation on the edge of deciduous woodland.

4.3 Author's Qualifications and Expertise

This report has been prepared by Alan Lauder, Owner/Principal at Alan Lauder Consulting¹, supported by Stephanie Quinn, Graduate Ecologist at ALC.

Alan gained an honours degree in Ecology from The University of Stirling in 1989 and is an experienced ecologist, nature conservation and habitat management specialist with over 30 years professional post-graduate experience. His relevant professional experience includes extensive planning related casework for state and non-governmental organisations within Scotland and Ireland, input to and

¹ More information at www.alanlauderconsulting.com

preparation of site designations, Environmental Impact Statements & Assessments. He has extensive knowledge of survey and conservation management of a wide range of habitats gained from over 30 years managing designated sites and nature reserves in Ireland and Scotland.

Alan currently carries out a wide range of relevant ecological work for a wide range of commercial, NGO and state clients as an independent consultant including management planning for designated sites, ecological assessment and advisory works. He has attended a range of relevant training courses throughout his career including training in Appropriate Assessment from CIEEM (2016).

Stephanie Quinn is Graduate Ecologist with ALC since May 2021 and has supported completion of several AA screening reports. She has an MSc in Wildlife Conservation and Management from University College Dublin.

4.4 AA Screening Methodology

The above referenced guidance documents set out a staged process for carrying out AA, the first stage of which is referred to as "Screening". This stage identifies the likely significant impacts on a Natura site, if any, which could arise from a proposed project either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. If the conclusions at the end of screening are that there is no likelihood of significant effects occurring on any European sites, as a result of the proposed plan or project, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, then there is no requirement to undertake AA.

However, even if screening makes a finding of no significant effects, and therefore concludes that AA is not required, these findings must be clearly documented in order to provide transparency of decision-making, and to ensure the application of the 'precautionary principle' where this may be required.

Screening for AA involves the following:

1. Determining whether a project or plan is directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites
2. Describing the details of the project/plan proposals and other plans or projects that may cumulatively affect any European sites
3. Describing the characteristics of relevant European sites
4. Appraising likely significant effects of the proposed project on relevant European sites

4.5 Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment will only proceed if there is assessed to be no likelihood of significant effects occurring on any European sites, as a result of the proposed project, either along with or in combination with, other plans and projects and where there is no requirement to apply the 'precautionary principle'.

5. Overview of Proposed Project and its Receiving Environment

5.1 Description of Proposed Project

The client method statement and site map are contained at Appendix 1.

These documents detail key aspect of the proposed operations, which is summarised below.

The project consists of construction of a children's playground at 'the Bog Meadow' in Enniskerry Village, County Wicklow.

Operations will include excavation of a grassy roadside verge area to resurface and levelling of the ground, terracing, and drainage works, clearance of overgrown scrub, and refurbishment of a new pathway to the river. Rubber is the proposed surface for the playground, with natural surfaces such as bark in the surrounding areas.

The project will consist of four main zones. Zone 1 as a zip-wire, Zone 2 as a transition area, Zone 3 as the main playing area, and Zone 4 as a smaller play area. All playing equipment will use natural materials where possible. The project will also incorporate a picnic bench and fitness equipment.

The project will have a natural theme with a focus on biodiversity. Actions and features will include the planting of native wildflowers, erecting bird nest boxes, bee hotels, and interactive information points. This gives the potential for a net gain in benefits to biodiversity.

There are no key features of the operations that are of particular relevance to the SAC site. The Glencullen river is downstream of the Knocksink Wood SAC. All operations are on non-qualifying, amenity or peri-urban habitats.

5.2 Description of the receiving environment

The project is in a very small limited footprint of grassy roadside verge, of improved grassland (amenity), a total of approximately 675m².

The site of the project is located adjacent to a roadside, with a carpark on the northern side and the Enniskerry Youth and Sports Centre to the eastern side. The Glencullen river runs through a patch of woodland on the southern side of the proposed project. There is a concrete path leading down the steep slope to the woodland edge and river bank.

There are a line of large non-native conifers on a patch of grass within the zone of operation.

The Knocksink Wood SAC is to the north-east of the site. This site is designated for its Old Oak Woodlands, Petrifying Springs and Alluvial Forests².

² Knocksink Wood SAC site details – Available at: npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000725

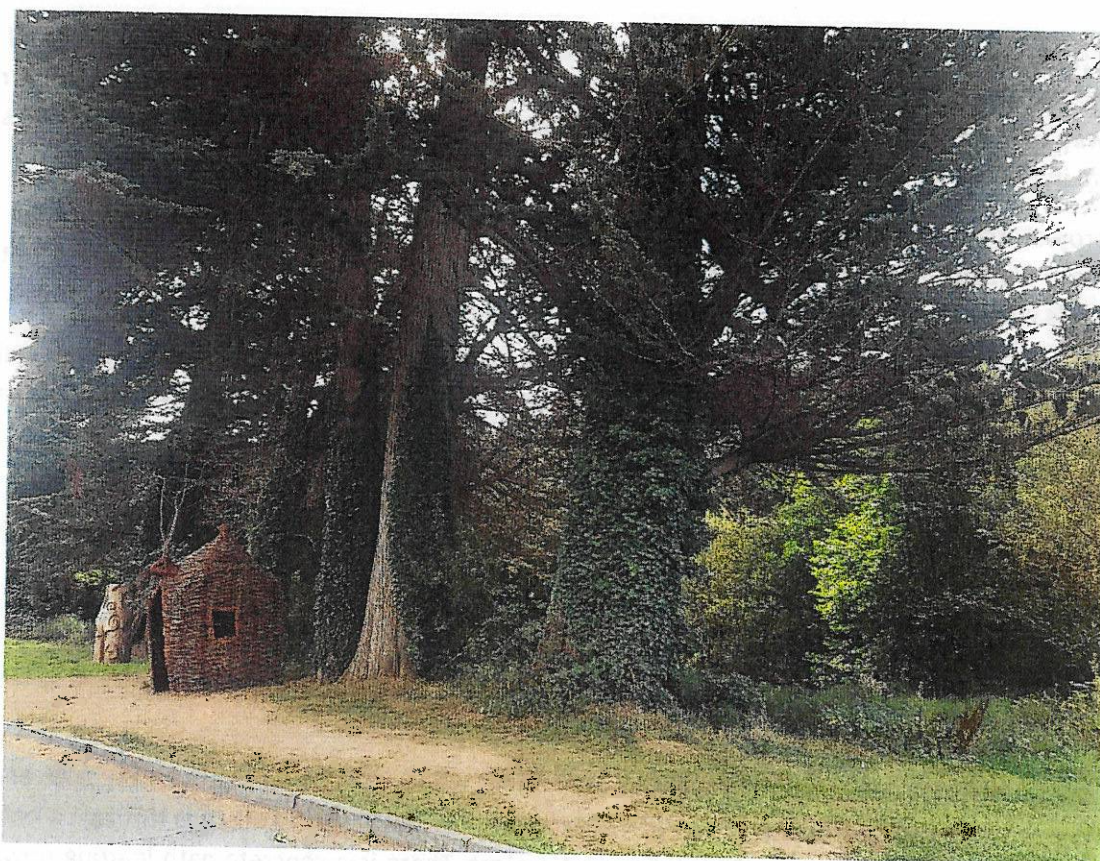


Figure 1. Line of non-native conifers along the grassy verge in the zone of operation

The project zone of operation in relation to the Knocksink Wood SAC is indicated in Appendix 2.

The site is easily accessed via the Monastery Road which his just off the R117.

6. Provision of Information for Stage One Screening

6.1 Zone of Influence of the Proposed Project

While there is no recommended distance from a proposal for which European sites are considered as being relevant for AA, national guidance (DCHG, 2010³) recommends that the distance should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with reference to the nature, size and location of the project, the sensitivities of the ecological receptors and the potential for in combination effects. As a general rule, it is often considered appropriate to look at European Sites which fall within 15km of a project for typical moderate scale development projects such as buildings and energy developments, however, those which might introduce significant ecological or environmental factors such as significant permanent traffic changes or pollution risk for example, may require sites to be examined at greater distance through potential catchment effects. Similarly, where large scale territories or ranging of important birds may take them beyond the boundaries of a designated site then a development in excess of 15km may have the potential to impact upon qualifying interests of a European site.

In this case the proposed project is:

1. Not occurring on a designated site
2. Limited in scale, footprint and with modest construction requirements.

³ Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2010 revision)

For significant effects to arise, there must be:

1. A risk from a 'source' (e.g. construction works at a site)
2. A 'receptor' (e.g. a Natura site or its qualifying interests)
3. A pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a blockage obstructing a flightpath to or from a Natura site)

The presence of a pathway does not necessarily mean that significant effects will arise. The likelihood for significant effects will depend upon the characteristics of the source (e.g. removal or exclusion of qualifying Natura features), the characteristics of the pathway (e.g. water quality status of a watercourse receiving run-off from construction) and the characteristics of the receptor (e.g. the level of sensitivity, condition or robustness of the European site and its qualifying interests).

6.2 Relevant European Sites and Qualifying Interests

Given the notes regarding the nature of the project (section 5) and its zone of influence (Section 6), the only European site of relevance is:

Knocksink Wood SAC [000725]

The scale and the nature of the project is small and localised. Potential sources of risk are low or localised, and a receptor is either absent or separated from any significant risk by significant distance, and therefore do not create a clear pathway.

Table 6.2.1 Relevant European Sites and Qualifying Features of Interest

Site Name	Qualifying Interest Features	Distance	Direction
Knocksink Wood SAC	The site is designated for the following habitats and species (* denotes a priority habitat); [91A0] Old Oak Woodlands [7220] Petrifying Springs* [91E0] Alluvial Forests*	80m approx.	North / North-East

Table 6.2.2 outlines the qualifying interests or features associated with the site in addition to identified sensitivities of each outlined within their Natura 2000 forms or statutory instruments.

Table 6.2.2 of European Site with Associated Conservation Objectives and Identified Threats and Pressures

Knocksink Wood SAC	
Conservation Objectives	Identified Threats and Pressures
To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected * denotes priority habitat	(From natura 2000 form) Threats include discontinuous urbanisation; paths, tracks, cycling track; camping and caravans; roads, motorways; forest planting on open ground;

[91A0] Old Oak Woodlands	disposal of household / recreational facility waste; interpretive centres; vandalism; missing or wrongly directed conservation measures; walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicle; improved access to site; artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees); removal of forest undergrowth; invasive non-native species; grazing
[7220] Petrifying Springs*	
[91E0] Alluvial Forests*	

Threats and pressures may arise during the course of activities which are assessed to have either; likely significant impact or unlikely to have significant impact. This may vary due to the nature, extent, design, location or manner of operation of an activity

6.3 Results of site-specific survey

Table 6.3.1 Presence/absence of Natura qualifying features

Feature	Status	Results
[91A0] Old Oak Woodlands	QI/Annex I habitat (SAC)	Not present in the operational area
[7220] Petrifying Springs*	QI/Annex I habitat (SAC)	Not present in the operational area
[91E0] Alluvial Forests*	QI/Annex I habitat (SAC)	Not present in the operational area

7. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Sites

The following assessment is in line with the structure detailed in Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive (EC, 2001).

7.1 Likely Direct, Indirect or Secondary Impacts

Table 7.1.1 indicates the likely impacts from the proposed development on relevant European Sites. There are no elements of the proposed project that are considered as having potential to give rise to a Likely Significant Impact (LSE) on a European Site

Table 7.1.1 Likely Effect of the Proposed development on the European Sites

Size and Scale	Very limited scale – approx. 675m ²
Land Take	No land take from European Sites
Distance from the European Site or Key Features of the Site	<100 metres
Resource Requirements	None required from any European Sites
Emissions	Limited to vehicles and construction machinery
Excavation Requirements	No excavation required from European Sites

Transportation Requirements	Limited to construction workers and personnel with access via main road, not accessing a designated site
Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning	To be confirmed – the nature of the site and project would not require avoidance of any particular season or period
Cumulative Effects with other Projects and Plans	None – see section 9

Table 7.1.1 identified that there are no direct, indirect or secondary impacts on the SAC due to the small-scale nature and location of the project.

Table 7.1.2 provides an analysis of all qualifying interest features in the context of their receptors and pathway, a brief analysis of the works incurring a Likely Significant Effect (LSE).

Table 7.1.2 Analysis of relevant European sites/qualifying interest

Knocksink Wood SAC			
Qualifying Interest or Feature	Potential receptor/pathway	Analysis of likelihood of impact	LSE
[91A0] Old Oak Woodlands	Not present in the zone of operation	No impact likely as habitats are not present and there is no indirect pathway	NONE
[7220] Petrifying Springs*	Not present in the zone of operation	No impact likely as habitats are not present and there is no indirect pathway	NONE
[91E0] Alluvial Forests*	Not present in the zone of operation	No impact likely as habitats are not present and there is no indirect pathway	NONE
Knocksink Wood SAC (Site Integrity)			
Qualifying Interest or Feature	Receptor/pathway	Analysis of likelihood of impact	LSE
Site integrity ⁴	Removal or destruction of key	The project is small-scale and limited in footprint.	NONE

⁴ Site integrity refers to the ecological context of the site as a whole including its constituent features which support designated qualifying interests, by definition in case law of 'the lasting preservation of the constitutive characteristics of the site concerned that are connected to the presence of a priority natural habitat whose preservation was the objective justifying the designation of that site' (See case C-258/11 Peter Sweetman, Ireland, Attorney General, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Local Government v An Bord Pleanála (Sweetman) at para 43; also Article 6(1) Habitats Directive's reference to the 'ecological requirements' of designated features; and Commission Note on Setting Conservation Objectives for Natura 2000 Sites, 23/11/2012, p. 5, part 4, 2nd para)

	features which support QI	And is downstream of the SAC	
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7.2 Likely Changes to European Sites

Any potential changes to the European Site is described in the table below.

Table 7.2.1 Likely Changes to European Sites

Reduction of Habitat Area	No proposed reduction of qualifying habitats on any relevant European Site
Disturbance to Key species	No disturbance of key species
Habitat or Species Fragmentation	None predicted
Reduction in Species density	No proposed reduction in species density
Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value	No proposed changes
Climate Change	The site is not predicted to be significantly impacted by the proposed project. While climate change may affect the site in the long term through changes to habitats, this will not be apparently exacerbated or accelerated by this project

8. Effect of the Project in Combination with Other Plans or Projects

The small scale nature and limited footprint of the project means it is unlikely to interact with or combine with other plans or projects to create significant impacts.

To reiterate the main points:

- The proposed project is not on qualifying habitat and will not impact on any qualifying interests of a Natura 2000 site.
- The project is very small scale with minimal construction
- search of the planning database of Wicklow County Council (on 27 Sep 2021)⁵ indicated no other plans or projects of a nature or location which could, in combination with this project, increase any impact risk to 'significant' within the zone of influence.

8.1 Conclusions on Information Provided for Stage One Screening Assessment

Determination of whether a project or plan is directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of any European sites.

This project does not form part of the activities to manage the site for conservation but does not impede the achievement of those objectives.

⁵ <http://www.eplanning.ie/WicklowCC/searchtypes>

8.2 Appraising Likely Significant Effects of the Proposed Project on Relevant European Sites

An analysis of the project and its potential to interact with or impact negatively upon the relevant SAC qualifying interests is provided in Section 6. In light of the analysis provided here using all available information and in light of site-specific survey work, it is concluded that there will be no likely significant negative effects on the features of conservation interest or site integrity of the relevant European sites.

There is a high degree of certainty that the project will be able to be operated as described to ensure no negative impact on the designated site. Further ecological advice or supervision is available should the client or competent authority require it.

Given the high degree of certainty and absence of significant risk to the sites, it is recommended that the precautionary principle need not be applied in this case.

In view of the analysis provided here it is recommended that this project is screened out for appropriate assessment

Appendix 1

Enniskerry Playground Project Plan

Enniskerry is a village in Co. Wicklow and is situated on the Glencullen River in the foothills of the Wicklow Mountains, just 5 minutes south of the Dublin border and some 24 km south of Dublin city centre. The R117 road, colloquially known as "The Twenty-One Bends" connects the town to the main N11 road to Dublin. The 185 Go-Ahead Ireland route connects the village hourly to Bray, the nearest large town. The 44 Dublin Bus route connects the village with Dublin City Centre.

The population according to the 2016 census was approximately 1900 people. Since then there has been further development of lands at Parcnasilloge (Sika Woods) which comprises of 47 large homes and Kilgarron Hill (Redwood) with another 8 large homes. There is also currently a large development of lands proposed in Kilmolin/Parcnasilloge comprising of 200 units.

It has been recognised since 2009 by Wicklow County Council in their Local area plan for the village that there was a need for enhancement of play and sports facilities. It was identified that a playground of no less than 400sqm should be provided.

There are three primary schools and three pre-schools in the village which comprises in total of 360 children who mainly live locally, not to mention children younger than three years of age who would also use the playground.

Child development

Playgrounds are a critical component in a child's physical, intellectual, creative, and social development. Through active play, children gain first-hand information about themselves, their bodies, their peers, and their environment. Without it, they are too often stuck indoors with mind-numbing video games and television.

Play also develops increasingly complex behaviors as children grow and socialize, preparing them to function as healthy, confident adults. A community playground also provides a meeting area where parents and other adults can gather to support each other's parenting needs and discuss family issues.

Committee Aim

The Enniskerry Playground committee is a group of residents who have come together to work with Wicklow County council to provide our community with a playground for the children in the area.

The committee endeavors to fundraise €20,000 (currently raised €16,000) of the total budget with match funding coming from Wicklow County Council and the rest of the estimated €200,000 coming from funding streams and grants applied for in the coming months.

This figure is based on the average with the recently installed Roundwood, County Wicklow playground costing €175,000 and Greystones South Beach, Co. Wicklow costing €250,000. The timeframe depends largely on funding but it would be hoped the playground would be completed within the next 18 months.

Site & Equipment

A site has been identified in the Bog Meadow sports and recreation facility in the village of Enniskerry. It will be a community playground in Sylvan Riverside setting where the site is level and slopes down towards the river. The compound enclosure should surround all play equipment and associated works; the design should complement the setting and exploit the topography of the site.

The equipment and other elements should be robust and rustic in character appropriate to the rural nature of the location. The playground should be totally inclusive, challenging and fun for children of all abilities under the age of 12.



Key elements for playground

- Natural theme and resources to incorporate into the landscape of the area
- Creativity with use of space of playground, the flow of playground space should be enticing for children to explore the next section Inclusivity should be foremost in the design for the playground, we want children under the age of 12 and all abilities to be able to come together and interact in a meaningful way
- Interesting/unusual equipment
- Area for baby and toddler age group
- Wheelchair accessible equipment, where possible all equipment should have some level of accessibility
- Nature obstacle area
- Picnic Table and bench x 1
- Wheelchair accessible gate, self-closing
- The equipment "finishes the loop", so that children with mobility impairments or wheelchair users finish a play route near to where they began
- Colour contrast is used to distinguish entrances, access onto equipment, steps and areas such as the ends of slides and the position of swings
- At least one each of the main play activities swinging, sliding, rocking, climbing is accessible to children with mobility, learning and sensory

Biodiversity

It is important that nature is at the core of the design, is visually attractive and enhances habitat for native biodiversity. This may include new planting and a diversity of features such as climbing logs and wooden play equipment.

The Bog Meadow is well used by local people in a wide variety of ways as a place to play sports, community games, tennis, rest and relax or enjoy a walk along the river trail and to link over to Knocksink Woods. The Bog Meadow is also richly diverse in its habitats and microhabitats, making it a magnet for birds and insects in particular.

The children's playground will bring vibrancy to the Bog Meadow. The next phase of improvement works to include clearing of scrub waste, new pathway and walking trail leading down to the river and new plantings. (Zones surrounding 3 & 4.



We consider the Bog Meadow as a flagship for Biodiversity. The new planting selected where possible to be 75% pollinator friendly. Pollinators will in turn attract birds. Bird requirements of Food, Shelter, Water and place for Nesting are provided. The planting and design for the planting is considered with the intention to harmonise with the all of the bog meadows user requirements, be they people, birds or pollinating insects.

It is clear from visiting the bog meadow, as it is now, how people, young and old enjoy engaging with and observing the natural habitat on the river trail. The new planting improvements will build on the bog meadows existing diversity, bringing beauty, additional seasonal interest and sustainability. The walk and rest opportunities leading down to the river with new planting surrounding will provide a rich seasonal display which also creates new complementary habitats for water birds and pollinating insects.

Actions for pollinators

Taking actions for pollinators will lead to general biodiversity enhancement.

We see a great opportunity to create an educational amenity for local schools in the form nature walks which utilise the existing trails surrounding the bog meadow enriched with biodiversity in the form of native planting encouraging native animals and insects to thrive.

- Identify and protect existing areas that are good for pollinators
- Ensure flowers bloom between March - October that can provide food for pollinators
- Add bee hotels to the existing bug hotel
- Provide nesting habitats
- Pollinator friendly planted containers
- Reduce use of pesticides



- Raise awareness of pollinators in the area
- Put up signage to identify pollinator friendly habitats



- Prioritise native plants

Native plants for pollinators

Example of Trees & Shrubs - Woodland,

Hedgerow

- Crab apple
- Elder
- Hawthorn
- Hazel
- Rowan
- Willow
- Wild Cherry

- Meadow buttercup
- Ox-eye daisy
- Wild carrot
- Wild marjoram
- Yarrow
- Angelica - Wetland areas
- Fleabane
- Purple Loosestrife
- Marsh marigold
- Mint

Example of wild flowers

- Cowslip
- Creeping buttercup
- Dandelion
- Red clover
- Wild strawberry
- Foxglove
- Herb Robert Hogweed
- Lady's Bedstraw
- Ramsons

General Requirements

Clearing of self-seeded scrub woodland. Ground Works - preparations reducing levels, terracing, subsoiling
i.e. French drains / SUDs type solutions as appropriate.

Surfaces

Surface to be fully accessible with firm surface between and beneath play items and access routes. Rubber mulch is the most accessible and safest playground surface. It absorbs falls from the greatest height and wheelchairs can easily move over it. It requires little ongoing maintenance. This can be accompanied by planting and more natural surfaces in the



Proposed Bog Meadow Site Sketch

*The most usable area has been split into four zones
(This sizing may increase if additional scrub land was cleared)*

These, as a suggestion, could be set out as follows:

Zone (1) : Ideal for Zip Wire (150m²),

Zone (2) : Could be used for transition area between Zones 1, 3 and 4.

Space could accommodate things like the Bug Hotel, info panels etc. (40m²),

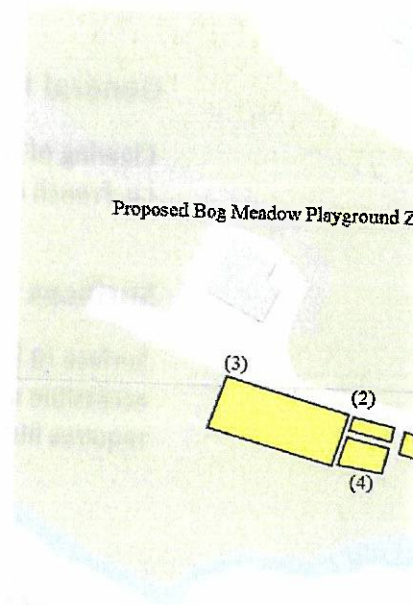
Zone (3) : Main play area (400m²),

Zone (4) : Possible quiet sensory play area (85m²).

All in this would total 675m².

All of Zone (4) will require to be raised or dropped (whichever is most desirable or required by available f

Approximately 15% of Zone (3) will require to be raised.



- Natural Materials

Specific Equipment Wish List • Zip Line • Swings x2

- Baby swings
- Monkey Bars
- High slide/activity centre which is a statement piece for the playground to include slide.
- Sensory Area or wall
- Toddler activity/slide/ climbing piece
- Basket swing x1
- Inclusive sandpit incorporating wheel chair access
- Carousel

Multigenerational Fitness Equipment

Additional to the playground, planting and pathways we would like to incorporate fitness equipment. Colourful fitness equipment designed for late teens and adults. That includes ergonomically shaped bars to hold on to for squats or modified wall push-ups; leg presses and recumbent bicycles to build leg, hip, and core muscles; an overhead press to build shoulder and arm strength;

The most obvious benefit of any fitness equipment is also the most significant – exercise. By providing park gym equipment, you can help to encourage people to live a healthy lifestyle, by exercising in an enjoyable, open-air environment.

Outdoor exercise also has various other proven benefits too, including mental wellbeing. Studies have suggested natural environments reduce emotional and physiological stress, with outdoor exercise providing the health benefits associated with physical exertion alongside the advantages of natural light and air. Exposure to sunlight also helps to increase levels of vitamin D, which is important in our overall wellbeing, and cannot be obtained through indoor exercise.

Finally, as well as these various physical and emotional benefits, all of this park gym equipment is fun to use, and most importantly – it's free.



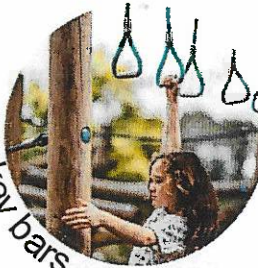
carousel



infant swings



basket swing



monkey bars

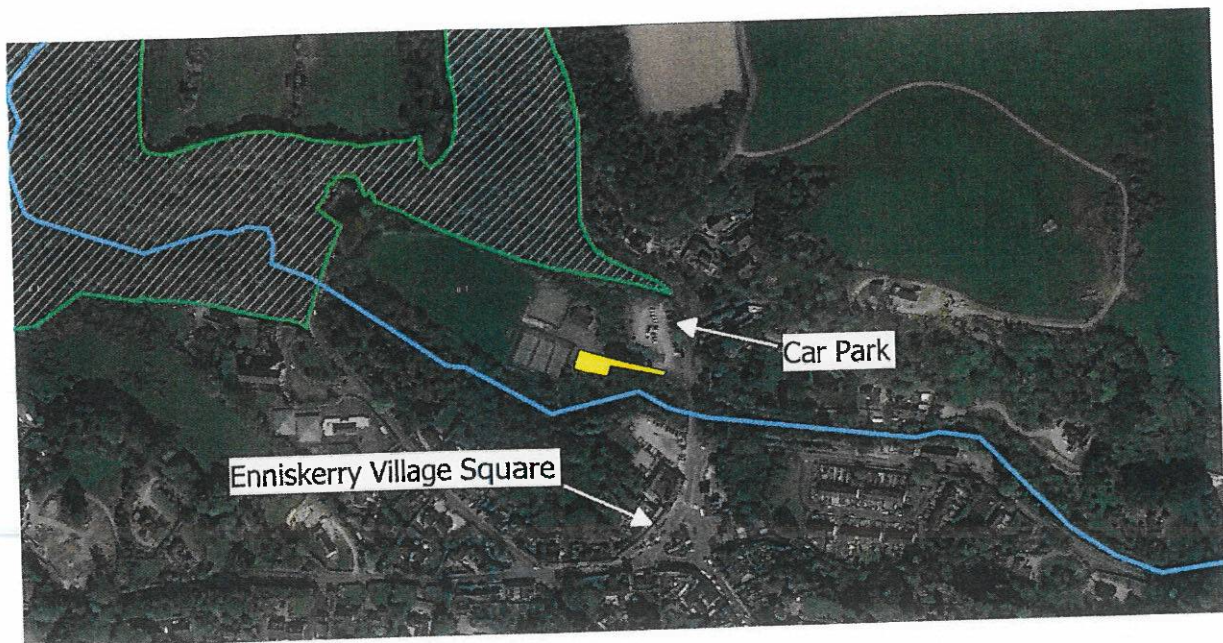


zip line



swings

Appendix 2



Legend

- Zone of Operation
 - Glencullen River
 - Knocksink Wood SAC
- Bing VirtualEarth

0 100 200 m



