



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Niamh Brophy
Reference:	DBLESSLAP-082217
Submission Made	December 10, 2024 12:46 PM

Topic

Community Development (incl. sports facilities & schools, etc.)

Submission

Firstly, congratulations to Wicklow County Council on the publication of a draft plan for the town.

This submission is in relation to the planning for and provision of active recreation infrastructure for outdoor athletics. Lakeshore Striders are a locally active club who currently train in the Community College. With the extension of the school and the expanding nature of the club, a more bespoke public facilities is required. Amend BLESS27 to add the text in brackets.

'To facilitate and encourage the delivery of new open spaces, parks and multi-purpose sport, (including a 400m athletics track and ancillary facilities), close to the built-up area of Blessington, including covered spaces.

In particular, - To require the delivery of significant areas of outdoor play space on lands zoned AOS as part of SLO-2 and SLO-4. - To require the delivery of public parks on lands zoned OS1 in SLO-1 and SLO-8.

Add an objective to Section B.5 to state 'To facilitate and support the development of an athletics track and ancillary facilities with the LAP lands'

Rationale: Provide a clear delivery path for athletic facilities as part of the AOS area under SLO2 and also, provide an objective to facilitate and support development of same.

Topic

Infrastructure (incl. Infrastructure Delivery Schedule)

Submission

Under Social category in Section 5, please extend the funding proposal for the social infrastructure to include State, WCC and the Developer.

Rationale – Opportunities to address phasing restrictions can be met through State funding via URDF/RRDF with support from WCC and/or developer.

Topic

Land Use Zoning / Specific Local Objectives / Land Use Zoning Map

Submission

1. Under SLO2 – Blessington Demesne (West) on page 67/68 of the draft plan, please amend the 6th bullet point to add in the Green text

'The development of sports facilities, including a 400m athletics track and ancillary facilities on lands zoned Active Open Space, as agreed with the Planning Authority. The active open space should be suitable for the needs of, and shared use by, potential future educational uses on the site reserved for such within this SLO. Car parking to serve the AOS lands should also be of a sufficient size, layout, and location to serve as an alternative car park for access to Glen Ding via the (under construction) green link that passes through the SLO from the town park. Permission for residential development will not be considered unless this sport ground will be completed and available for use upon the occupation of the 1st house'

Rationale – Provides clear expectation to a future design team of the requirement to incorporate an athletics track into the AOS zoned lands at SLO 2. Celbridge Athletics track is a good comparison for Blessington. A c2.4ha facility as part of the 14.9ha zoned AOS under SLO2. (See uploaded file for reference photograph).

2. Amend the description of the AOS zoning to include direct reference to athletics facilities as a subset of sports grounds.

Subject to the protection and enhancement of natural biodiversity, to facilitate the further development and improvement of existing active open spaces, formal exercise areas, sports grounds (including athletics facilities), playing pitches, courts and other games areas and to facilitate opportunities for the development of new high quality active recreational areas.

Rationale – provide clarity that athletics facilities are considered as part of the sports grounds land use.

File

Celbridge AC Aerial.docx, 1.6MB



