



Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

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Topic

Compact Growth - Housing - Population Growth

Submission

Hello, my name is Megan Tyrrell and I am [REDACTED]. My family have lived in Blessington for generations and I currently have 3 aunts working at [REDACTED]. I believe Blessington has a chance for greatness and economic prosperity if the town council focuses on growth, urban development and the focus on residents, not the cars that pass through the town. My apologies for the messy notes, I did not take the time to write a proper distinct argument and I am sorry for that. Thank you for reading this.

- Focus on brownfield sites instead of greenfield. Plenty of blessington is wasted with abandoned plots and poorly used single-family homes.
- Mixed development areas and the loosening of zoning laws will allow for greater economic growth and improved community spaces.
- The people of Blessington should not have to drive to reach the shops, schools or doctors. Bringing these services closer to the residents is key for a healthy town.

Topic

Regeneration of Communities & Places - Healthy Placemaking - Urban Design - Opportunity Sites in Blessington

Submission

- The square by Dunnes needs improvement.
- Avon ri should provide better facilities to walkers.
- Glending quarry should be tidied and used.
- Town allotments, filled with public access fruit trees and recreation areas.
- A town flower show, allowing shops to compete with their displays. This idea is taken from the English town of Haslemere, who has yearly shop display competitions. This encourages the maintenance of shopfronts and increased visits.
- Improvements to st josephs hall, encouraging events such as markets, fairs, and dances. Furthermore, new community halls could be constructed altogether.
- The removal of parking around Dunnes, instead replacing it with mixed development shops and housing. Leaving any green space for improved parks, native flowers and fruit trees.
- Improved walkway to town graveyard, along with a re-greening of the area
- Recreation centres for teens and young adults
- Improved child play areas around the town. bordered with shrubbery and fences to create a barrier with car traffic
- Removal of parking along main road. beside disabled parking. Increase shopfront space, along with wider pavements and bicycle paths.
- Slower speed, and purposeful winding of main road to encourage careful driving.
- less single family homes. More terraced/ town houses
- Park and ride centres, perhaps using the existing quarry sites. This will allow access to nearby towns, along with Dublin and Tallaght.

Topic

Economic Opportunity - Tourism - Shops & Services - Community Facilities

Submission

- Improvements to the lakeshores, including tidying up rubbish and better facilities.

- A public swimming pool and gym would help boost the town's health and economics. A collaboration with the local schools to allow for swimming lessons. Along with larger pools for adults.
- Hotels.
- Investment into town cafes, childcare
- New Schools.
- Creation of new economic hubs within housing areas. Mixed land use to prevent driving distances to reach services.
- Encourage local artists to partake in this revamp, statues, stained glass, murals and more. Place these along cycle paths and woodland walks to create Sculpture paths.
- The town of Blessington must make use of the lakes as a form of income. Through tourism, walkways or lakeside summer activities. This could be achieved through the construction of safe swimming spaces around the lakes.
- Blessington's youth are in clear need of facilities. Implement youth hubs, play parks for a range of ages and allow spaces for teenagers and young adults to hang out comfortably and safely.
- Blessington's aging population is incredibly dear to me. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Better pavements, facilities and an increase in disabled parking spaces would help immensely.

Topic

Heritage - Biodiversity- Green infrastructure- Climate Action- Energy

Submission

- More Trees!
- Regreen the Glending Quarry, creation of a protected forest area. Use existing roads as cycle routes/public bridleways to encourage visiting the local area.
- Use of old forest growth techniques instead of tree farms to encourage biodiversity.
- Solar panels on all new build roofs. Along with non grass lawn based recreational areas. Focus on Wicklow native plants.
- Nature walks. Hire local artists to build sculptures and displays to find along the walkways. These walks should connect to the Glending Quarry, the lakeshores and Blessington main street.
- In terms of Blessington's heritage, I believe more local museums are needed. Focusing on the lake, town and its people as Blessington has a rich history that must be shared and taught to the younger generations.
- To prevent urban sprawl from connecting Tallaght and Blessington with single-family home estates, the council should implement green corridors between towns to prevent the spread of suburbs.

Topic

Infrastructure - Sustainable Movement - Transportation

Submission

- More pedestrian crossings and less main street parking, to encourage drivers to use the ring road.
- The main road junction needs traffic lights.
- Increased bus transit, larger pavements and more separation between cars and pedestrians/cyclists
- cycle lanes
- Build new bridges that include pavements, cycle lanes and nature passages.
- Greater bus, tram and cycle connections to nearby towns. Reduce need for car traffic.
- Extend luas or reintroduce the Blessington tram down the main street.
- Upon interviewing my grandfather, who has lived in Blessington [REDACTED], I have reached the idea that Blessington main street should be residential only. (Not including disabled people) This will allow the street to slow down (20mph), have less parking and car lanes and become a quiet sociable spot.

Topic

Other topics for you to have your say on! - Environmental Assessment - Plan Implementation -Plan Delivery

Submission

The council must focus on consistent building with continuous updates to the town's people. Support will fall through if positives are not seen quickly. Counteract construction noise or road closures with quick fixes. (Flower beds and boxes, improved seating, services and art installations). Keep notice boards fresh, maintain cleanliness around the site and get the job done well.
Thank you for listening, and please try your best to make Blessington a town for its residents, not those passing through.

File

