

	Arklow LPF Variation No.5
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- Proposed Changes to Volume 2 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

Local Planning Framework PART A Strategy

- A.2 County Development Plan Strategy for Arklow
- A.3 Factors Influencing Future Development Options

Local Planning Framework PART B Settlement Specific Objectives.

- B.1 Town Centre Regeneration
- B.2 Arklow Waterfront Zone
- B.8 Physical Infrastructure
- B.10 Specific Local Objectives

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Arklow Local Planning Framework Submission; Elizabeth Battye.pdf, 0.08MB

Proposed Variation Number 5 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 –2028

Arklow Local Planning Framework Submission by Elizabeth Battye.

A: 2.3 Town Centre and Retail Development Strategy

- Extend the Parade Ground public realm granite paving eastwards, and subsequently westwards, along the Main street, widening the footpaths and providing segregated cycle paths, with a unified style of lighting, paving, street furniture, event lighting terminals, (Christmas lighting).
- Establish a task group, including AMD council, Arklow Town Team and WCC Planning department, with a one-year task to implement existing retail planning guidelines on no exterior metal shuttering on shop-fronts, eliminating redundant facade furniture and exterior wiring, improving wooden and moulded shopfronts, eliminating plastic and pre-printed signage, improving the architectural integrity of signage, providing professional architectural guidance to owners and retailers, to maintain and reinstate the vernacular and traditional shop-fronts.
- Utilise existing and develop new underground ducting, so that there is no obtrusive cabling, along the main transport spine of the town, through Ferrybank, Main Street and Wexford Road. Implement a policy of underground ducting of cabling as an alternative to the visual clutter of over-head cross-street cabling. Develop a priority sequence for all utilities companies to share and co-ordinate underground ducting.
- Permit access to over-shop residential opportunities.
- Plant suitable trees along the Main street and Wexford Road; add suitable trees to blend with those already planted.

A: 2.6 Social and Community Development

- Further to the Community Infrastructure Development Strategy, to support the creation of functional and healthy public spaces and pedestrian routes, fully functional matching lighting and suitably surfaced and widened footpaths and segregated cycle lanes should be developed. Universal Design for Living should inform all design for inclusion and public safety.

A: 2.7 Built Heritage and Natural Environment

- To protect the natural, architectural and archaeological heritage of Arklow, reinstating thatch in the Fisheries end of Arklow should be an element of the redevelopment of the Arklow Pottery site. It was for centuries the vernacular architectural style of the area; Heritage lighting should replace redundant lighting

that requires replacement, matching the lighting in that area of town; Ormonde Castle remains should be revealed and preserved, with controls instituted so that is not masked by future development.

A: 2.8 Service Infrastructure

- To improve walking and cycling opportunities, lighting should be enhanced to provide energy efficient, reliable and easily maintained lighting infrastructure. Safe and well-lit thoroughfares are necessary to facilitate walking, cycling, and public transport.
- Infrastructure for safe seasonal Christmas lighting should be installed in Ferrybank, the entirety of the Main street and the Wexford road.
- To promote the delivery of reliable and effective energy, the Date Centre in Kilbride should be used as a heating source for a Municipal District Heating System to serve the adjacent residential zoned land. Similar schemes operate effectively in Germany, and examples may be viewed in Wurzburg Municipality.

Service Infrastructure Strategy for Arklow

- To reduce and slow traffic through the town centre, WCC should lobby TII to provide an interchange from the Vale road onto the N11 between junctions 20 and 21.

A: 3.2 Sustainable Transportation

- To make the town centre more active travel friendly, vehicular traffic should be routed away from Main Street. A vehicular traffic route should be built from the Vale Road to skirt the Avoca river, joining the River Walk and providing access to the north-bound carriageway of the 19 Arches bridge. There should be suitable footpaths and cycleways following this route.
- To extend the circularity of this proposal, south-bound traffic from the 19 Arches bridge should be fed into a new road opposite Bridge Street skirting the Abbey graveyard, entering Castle Park towards the Garda Station for distribution. Combining these two measures would allow the Main street to widen footpaths, have one-way vehicular traffic and segregated cycle lanes.
- The proposed pedestrian bridge to the west of the 19 Arches, should provide a continuous cycle route linking schools in Kilbride, Gaelscoil and Gaelcholaiste, and St Joseph's NS, across the river to AGB's Pearse Park, Arklow Rocks, Arklow United FC, Arklow Town FC, the Boxing Club, Arklow CBS, Glenart College and and St

John's NS. The safety of adult and juvenile cyclists and pedestrians should be prioritised.

A: 3.4.1 Northern Waterfront Zone

- Arklow's key public recreational asset, its' Running Track, should be prioritised for a professional track surface. A polyurethane, multi-layered, durable, weather-resistant, with optimal performance characteristics, shock absorption and energy return, running track should be prioritised. VOCs, heavy metal volatile organic compounds, should be avoided. Water-based binders and proper drainage should be engineered into the design of a new running surface.

A: 3.4.2 Southern Waterfront Zone

- Adjacent to Site E, pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to South Beach should be installed.

B: 1.3 Arklow Town Centre Objectives

- ARK 2
- A public realm redevelopment along the South bank of Arklow should occur, with suitable paving, lighting and seating.
- ARK 3
- Traditional shop fronts should be retained, reinstated and refurbished. Following the An Taisce report on the derelict state of Arklow Main Street, efforts should be made to find funding to guide and assist with the costs of improving the facades of retail premises. The removal of all exterior metal shuttering on retail premises should be prioritised by a task group comprising Arklow Municipal district, Arklow Town Team and WCC Planning department, with a one-year deadline for completion.

B:1.4 Opportunity Sites in Arklow Town Centre

- Remove the preservation order on Ormonde Cinema as the architectural significance of the Art Deco facade lacks merit.
- Opportunity Site 1 – Access to and vistas of the Anglo-Norman Ormonde Castle ruins should be prioritised.

Objectives OP1

- Any development of Opportunity Site 01 should open walking, cycling and vehicular linkages between Vale road, Avoca Riverwalk to the 19 Arches Bridge. Grading of the gradient should be carried out to ensure that all transport users, including wheelchair users, have their travel needs met.

B: 2.2 Southern Waterfront Zone

- ARK 11
- Pedestrian and emergency vehicle access to South beach should be guaranteed, with widened paths for foot and cycle paths.
- ARK 12
- Any developments in the Waterfront Zone should respect the unique (in Wicklow) historic, original vernacular architectural style combining thatch and other primitive design elements.
- ARK 15
- Ensure a safe route to water for Arklow Rowing Club and Sea Scouts, and other leisure mariners.

B: 4.4 Zoning Land for Employment

- ARK 29
- The surplus heat from the Data Centre in Kilbride should be used to supply a Municipal Heating System for adjacent zoned residential land.

B: 5.4 Future Tourism Development

- ARK 35
- Groins should be installed on the North Beach of Arklow, towards the sea, to allow gradual access to the sea for swimming and angling.
- ARK 36
- Full access to the coastal walk along North beach should be included here, not just a section of it.

Arklow Physical Infrastructure Objectives

- ARK 68
- Build dedicated, segregated cycling facilities on Coolgreany road, linking all schools on the road, Glenart College, St John's NS, Arklow CBS. Remove the 'pencils' from the roadway to allow clear passage for cyclists.
- ARK 75
- Eliminate street clutter by using existing and new underground ducting to eliminate visible cabling.
- Utilise a unified lighting motif in particular areas. Lighting that is unified in style, size, colour, energy efficient and easily maintained should be matched within geographic areas. Redundant fixtures attached to lighting and other poles should be removed.
- ARK 86
- The excess heat from the Data Centre in Kilbrie should be repurposed for a Municipal Heating System to service adjacent zoned residential land and sting residences.

SLO 1 Northern Waterfront Zone Objectives

- A new professional Running Track surface should be installed.

SLO 2 Southern Waterfront Zone Objectives

- The original vernacular architectural style of the Fisheries, the use of thatch and native materials, should form part of the architectural style of some of the new development. Adare, in county Limerick, shows how preserving native crafts may be employed for restaurants, shops and retail premises.