



Pre Draft Bray LAP Submission - Report

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Topic

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

Simple things like standard signage through the town, both shop fronts and on the entrances to the town could really improve the look and feel of Bray. When you enter the town now you feel like you are entering a poor, unloved town not a vibrant, bustling place. The signage coming into the town is awful. Likewise the roundabouts in the town are completely unloved and most of the time look shabby and overgrown. I'm sure the council collect a lot of taxes in Bray, surely some of that could be put into upgrading the green spaces. If it wasn't for the Tidy Towns group, there would be little or no maintenance of the common spaces in the town. Along the Vevay Road which is one of the main arteries into the town, there is a derelict site which has been left there for over a decade. This has led to the whole streetscape at this end of the town looking tired, dirty and rundown. I thought there was a tax applied to derelict sites. Why don't you try and get people to convert the empty shops to houses, flats. People living in the town would bring back life to the town particularly at night when it often feels slightly grim and desolate. We live in a beautiful Victorian town but often you feel that the Victorian heritage is, at best, being ignored by the planners or at worst they are trying to dismantle it (ref, seafront shelters that have been let go to rack and ruin, planning given to demolish part of a Victorian terrace for a children's arcade, etc, etc). The worse part of all of this is that small changes could be made very quickly with a small spend but it feels like the council want to do everything together which takes so long and consequently nothing gets done. I've lived here for 20 years with my family and in all the time we've been here we've seen little or no change to improve the town, actually sometimes I think we've seen big disimprovements in the way the town is managed. Bray people are very proud of their town and it could be magnificent but unfortunately the powers that be do not seem to hold the time in the same regard and consequently it has a desolate and neglected feel about it.

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