



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

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| Who are you: | Private Individual |
| Name: | Samuel Stack |
| Reference: | DBLESSLAP-123217 |
| Submission Made | December 11, 2024 12:46 PM |

Topic

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

Submission

I joined the Poulaphouca Paddlers in June of 2023.

With them I have found much more than a sports club. I have found a sense of belonging and community. I have also come to appreciate the beauty of our Irish lakes, rivers and coastline, their staggering beauty and all the flora and fauna that inhabit them.

I have often heard the club referred to by others as the "Best little club in Ireland" and this certainly feels true. It is run and supported by volunteers who give their time gladly and with enthusiasm.

The club operates out of three shipping containers at Russelstown and manages to offer best in class training for people of all ages from the locality. Can you imagine what the club could achieve with proper facilities? I truly believe that with a little support this club could go on for many generations passing on paddling skills with knowledge and appreciation for the natural wonder we are so lucky to live in.

I would dearly love to see the club getting its own base on the shoreline with:

- Storage for boats and equipment
- Changing rooms & toilet facilities
- Room for gym equipment
- Room for training & lectures

The best location for this would be in the Burgage area.

Thank you,
S.

