



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

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Reference:	DBLESSLAP-134938
Submission Made	December 9, 2024 2:03 PM

Topic

Tourism Development / Greenway Supporting Infrastructure Map

Submission

1. The kayak club (Poulaphoucca Paddlers) desperately needs proper facilities to include showers / changing rooms - they currently only have containers to store the kayaks.
2. Consideration should also be given to establishing a blue way route for visiting kayakers.
3. The ESB's monopoly over the lake needs to be addressed once and for all - The lakes are an amazing resource which should be available to all to use, and the ESB's attitude of precluding activity is arrogant and short sighted - the lakes are for everyone and constantly using 'insurance' as a reason for depriving people of a public amenity is unacceptable. Yes there are dangerous parts to the Lakes, so let's designate safer areas so that for the people who do try and swim in the lake do so only in these safer spots.
4. The recent refusal for planning on the Greenway is an appalling indictment on Wicklow County Council. I hope there is a speedy resolution to this as the extension of the current Greenway is long overdue.
5. On a bigger scale, planners could seek to re-orientate / open up the town to the lakes more. The area opposite the back of the Downshire could be developed to encourage tourists to move easily between lakeside facilities and the town; e.g. boat hire facilities towards the bridge - even a few pontoons on the water for fishing boats / day sailer type boats could bring business to the town.

