

TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE DUNGARVAN/LISMORE DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

Re: Section 38 Road Traffic Act 1994 – Active Travel Scheme
Pairc Uí Fhearchair – Raised Pedestrian Crossing

The following proposed Active Travel scheme was advertised for public consultation from 10th May 2022 to 08th June 2022, inviting submissions before 20th June 2022.

- Waterford City & County Council proposes to undertake the construction of new raised pedestrian crossing and footpath at the entrance to Páirc Uí Fhearchair GAA Grounds, Dungarvan.
- This scheme is funded by the NTA Active Travel programme. This work is part of the Active Travel programme. The objective is to improve walking and cycling routes, improve connections with existing footpaths and create safer crossing points for pedestrians.

Submissions:

Three submissions were received during the statutory consultation period.

Aighneacht uimhir a haon – Críostóir Ó Faoláin

This submission welcomes the proposal; however, it also requests that an additional crossing point be considered at The Sycamores and that additional parking spaces be provided for people with special needs and/or age friendly requirements.

Freagra ar aighneacht uimhir a haon

Additional active travel schemes are currently in development for the area. An increase to the number of additional needs/age friendly parking will be explored at detail design stage.

Submission No. 2 – Chris Santillo

This submission welcomes the scheme and makes an enquiry in relation to a possible Active Travel scheme at Abbeyside GAA.

Response to Submission No. 2

Waterford City and County Council, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Phort Láirge, Halla na Cathrach, An Meal, Port Láirge

Submission is noted. Consideration is being given to the development of pedestrian and cycling connectivity to Abbeyside GAA.

Submission No. 3 – Muriel Tobin

This detailed submission is from an experienced user of driving, walking, and cycling in the area, and highlights a number of issues in relation to roads/footpaths in the area.

Response to Submission No. 3

We note the issues and suggestions in the submission and confirm that additional schemes are currently under consideration for the Shandon Road out to Cois Abha, Estuary Heights and the Sycamores. A number of pedestrian crossing improvements are to be delivered as part of an existing planning permission granted in the area. The balance will be addressed by Active Travel. The improvement in this pedestrian infrastructure will make better use of the substantial footpath already in place on the Shandon Road, reduce road speeds and make the area safer for residents taking active travel options.

Recommendation:

It is now proposed that the scheme proceed to procurement and construction. The final design will reflect a number of the observations made in submissions.

Your approval to proceed with the scheme is recommended and requested.

Fergus Galvin
Director of Services
Roads, Water and Environment
05th July 2022

Submission No. 1

Foireann Taistil Ghníomhach,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Phort Láirge,
Áras Menapia,
An Mall,
Port Láirge.
29 Bealtaine 2022

TAG: Páirc Uí Fhearchair, Dún Garbhán.

A chara,

Ba mhaith liom na pointí seo a leanas a dhéanamh maidir leis an gcomhairliúcháin atá ar siúl faoin obair atá beartaithe ag Páirc Uí Fhearchair, Dún Garbhán.

- Iarraim ar an gComhairle pointe trasnaithe breise a chur isteach ag The Sycamores.
- Iarraim ar an gcomhairle spásanna páirceála breise do dhaoine faoi míchumais ceilte agus/nó spásanna páirceála aoisáisiúla a chur ar fáil ag Páirc Uí Fhearchair.
- Ina dhiaidh sin agus uile, tacaím leis an scéim seo.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh aird agaibh ar na pointí seo thuas.

Le dea-mhéin

Críostóir Ó Faoláin
Ionadaí Áitiúil an Chomhaontais Ghlais i nDún Garbhán

Submission No. 2

Hiya Ian,

We live in Ballinacourty and cycle to town on the Greenway daily; I wanted to chime in on the proposed Active Travel improvements on Shandon Rd, Fr Twomey's Rd, and at An Grianan. I think these are great improvements, and I'm excited to see them implemented.

I would also like to know if there are any plans to create an Active Travel path from the Abbeyside GAA out towards St Augustine's College? Our kids' bike there a couple of times a week and currently have to go out the N25 to make the trip. It would be faster and much safer if there were a connection back that way. I heard a rumor that the main entrance might be moved contingent on some housing estate, but I'm just interested in an Active Travel path that would encourage more people to bike and walk there.

Thanks much!

With gratitude,

Chris Santillo

Submission No. 3

Hi Ian & James

Hope all is well... I just wanted to send on some feedback to the Team on the Fraher Field proposed scheme if I may...

Firstly, I just want to state that I have lived in Cois Abha for the past 15 years and I know that road by the Fraher Field and the area like the back of my hand and I am very aware of the traffic and pedestrians' behaviour in the area especially the match goers. I see all this from the view of someone who is an avid car driver, walker, and cyclist of the area.. I have spoken to residents in the area who may have contacted you directly about the proposed scheme but most just said to me "what's the point as the council won't listen", so I am trying to convey everyone's feedback here..

Secondly, I don't want to come across negative and I am not totally against the proposal, but I do think it is a waste of money and time on its own, and that there is more important works to happen there first for the safety of all....

You see match goers walk on the roads and park on the footpaths in the vicinity of the Fraher Field. Anyone who lives near the Fraher Field try to avoid it at training and match times, it's just a nightmare and a serious accident waiting to happen. The drivers who park along the river side across from the entrance are the only ones that may use that crossing. Those coming from the GAA Car park (that is hardly ever used) or those coming from Town/Park Hotel always walk along the road by the front wall of the pitch where the cars are parked which I must add, take up part of that road as you are going out towards the mart (these car spaces should not be kept at the angle they are at). There is not room for two cars to pass this area during matches and god forbid there is ever emergency service needed to get out there during a match.

It was a shock to see that there was a crossing going at just the entrance of the GAA field and no crossing at the Sycamores junction or further down at Cois Abha too. How are those that are parked all the way down there on the car park side, mart etc going to cross over to the footpath to get to the cross over at the entrance?? They aren't they will still walk by the wall in front of the cars...

I don't think the residents were thought about in the scheme and think is vital they are considering the number of houses gone up in that area in recent years. If you live there or in Estuary Heights area you cannot cross onto the footpath safely nor can you walk safely by the wall of the pitch if there is a match or training on. Also, the entrance out of Cois Abha it just lethal the last few years, kids or adults can't cross the road safely either on foot/bike or even car because of the speed of vehicles coming from both sides and there have been numerous single vehicle crashes on the bend there and numerous trees knocked. In general, that road from the GAA out the river passed the halting site needs some serious traffic calming, and I know there are low speeds limits set there but they aren't being adhered to...

Just one more little piece of feedback, in relation to parking by the Park Hotel. There is a spot by the wall of the Park Hotel that leads to the pedestrian lights, cars and jeeps park on this footpath blocking it from being used by wheelchair users, cyclists and people walking with buggies and kids. I have attached a screenshot of the footpath, they park on the footpath and at the end of the ramp off it, can some bollards be put here in the immediate....

The above issues I have raised can be seen if a bit of time is spent in or around that area particularly during matches, best way to judge it is also to get on a bike or walk..... I hope that all makes sense and I didnt come across too negative...I'd be more than willing to chat and discuss further if you need to contact me.

Can you let me know if you have received this Ian as I know some stuff can get put into quarantine.....

Best Regards
Muriel Tobin