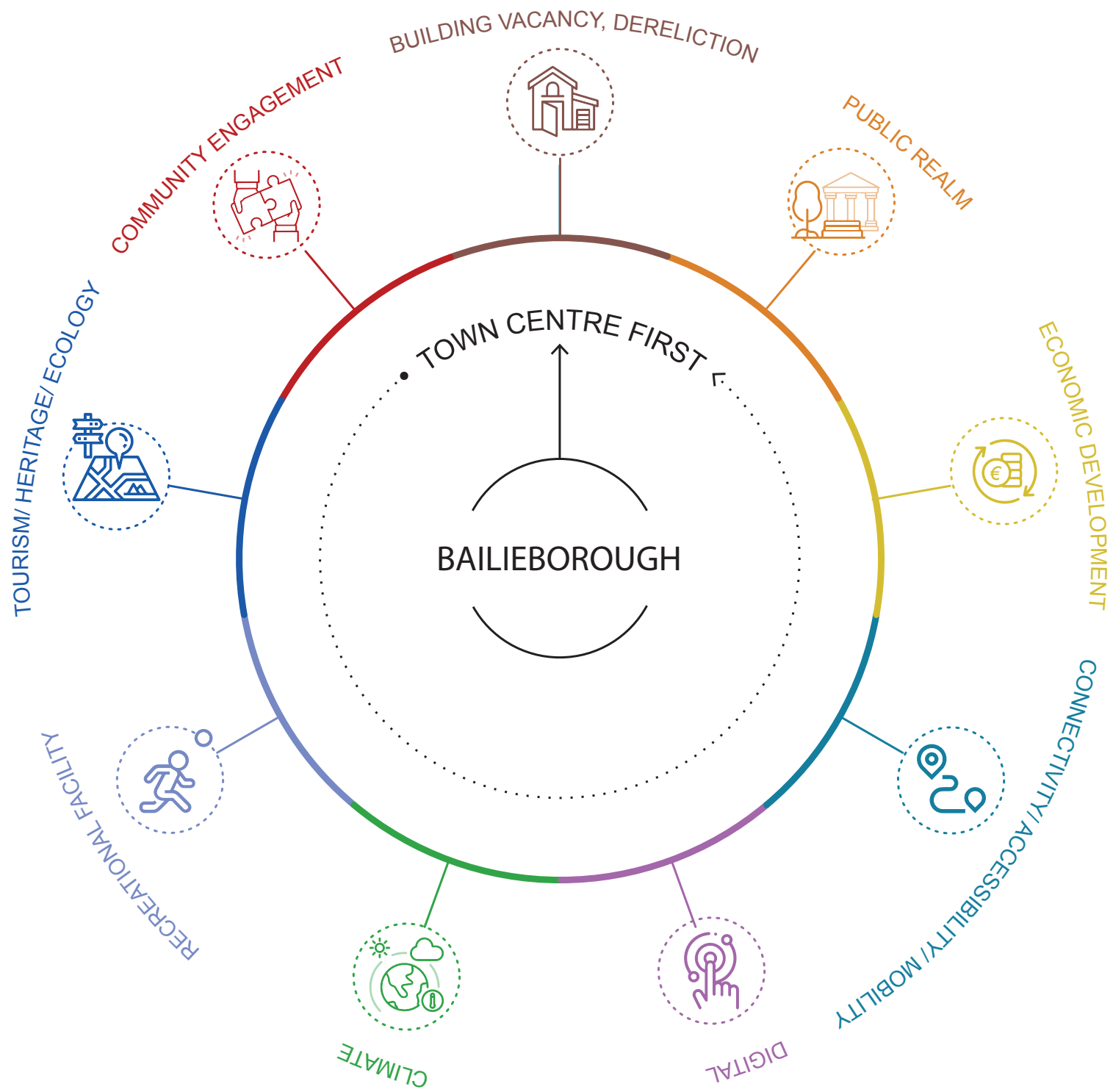


01 INTRODUCTION - TOWN CENTRE FIRST



Key issues and opportunities raised during the Public Consultation

TOWN CENTRE FIRST

Like many rural towns throughout the country Bailieborough has seen economic and physical decline in recent years. The preparation and implementation of the Town Centre First Plan presents a structured and project led planned approach to the rejuvenation and regeneration of the town. The Plan has been informed and led by the people of Bailieborough for the people of Bailieborough through local community and stakeholder engagement and sets out a roadmap for the development of the town for current and future generations.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to create a realisable and ambitious plan that supports the sustainable regeneration and development of Bailieborough. The plan will support the development of a town centre as a viable, vibrant and attractive location for people to live,

work and visit, one that will enable existing and future residents to live a sustainable, contemporary lifestyle supported by all necessary social, cultural, recreation, services and facilities.

Process

The process used to develop the Town Centre First Plan included the following:

- Assembling a design team with relevant skill sets working in a collaborative and integrated manner.
- Defining and agreeing the guiding principles for sustainable regeneration and development of Bailieborough.
- Working in cooperation and collaboration with all relevant stakeholders to develop an understanding of the physical, social, cultural and economic evolution of Bailieborough.
- Developing an understanding of the physical, cultural, social and economic uniqueness of Bailieborough today, its strengths and the challenges and opportunities it faces.

- Working in cooperation and collaboration with all stakeholders to develop an understanding of the elements that define the uniqueness of Bailieborough today and how this can be capitalised to support the regeneration of the town.
- Carrying out meaningful engagement, consultation and communication with local community and business stakeholders to facilitate their input into reimagining their town over the short medium and long term.

Outcomes: 'Our Ambition'

A comprehensive enabling placemaking plan for Bailieborough that is economically sustainable with realisable projects that will enable the regeneration and redevelopment of Bailieborough for current and future generations. A plan that delivers vibrancy and activity in our town centre through increased footfall and dwell time and which promotes an ethos of sustainability, caring for our environment and embracing the potential that new technology can bring.

The Plan has been developed around 9 enabling themes:

- Building vacancy, dereliction, and reuse – repurposing and
- Public Realm
- Economic development opportunities
- Connectivity/Accessibility and Mobility
- Digital
- Climate
- Community Recreational Facility
- Tourism/Heritage and Ecology Trail
- Community collaboration and capacity building



Bailieborough in the Past



Bailieborough Today



Bailieborough in the Future



Town Centre First Policy

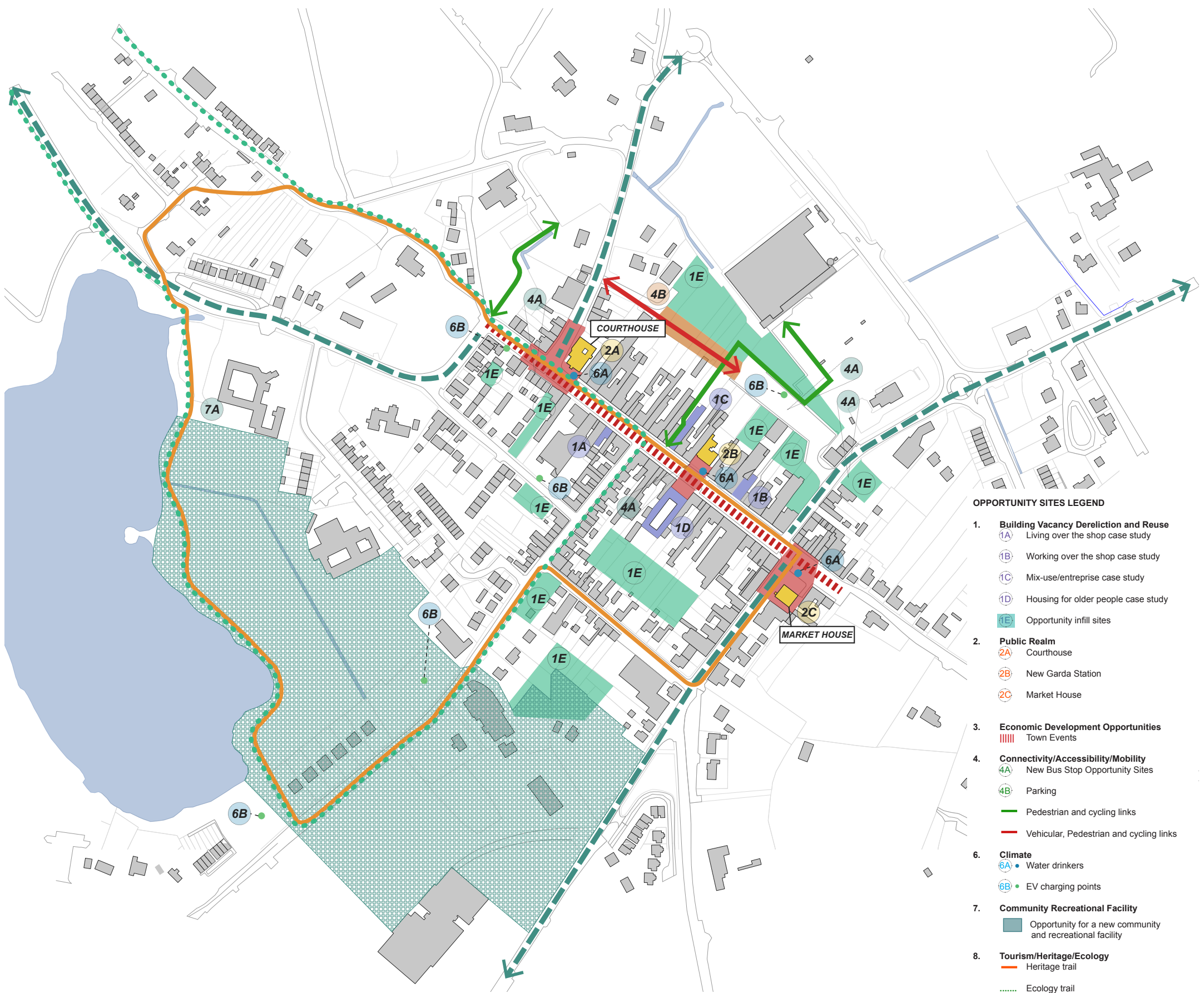
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Bailieborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation



02 INTRODUCTION - KEY PROJECTS



- OPPORTUNITY SITES LEGEND**
- Building Vacancy Dereliction and Reuse**
 - 1A Living over the shop case study
 - 1B Working over the shop case study
 - 1C Mix-use/enterprise case study
 - 1D Housing for older people case study
 - 1E Opportunity infill sites
 - Public Realm**
 - 2A Courthouse
 - 2B New Garda Station
 - 2C Market House
 - Economic Development Opportunities**
 - Town Events
 - Connectivity/Accessibility/Mobility**
 - 4A New Bus Stop Opportunity Sites
 - 4B Parking
 - Pedestrian and cycling links
 - Vehicular, Pedestrian and cycling links
 - Climate**
 - 6A Water drinkers
 - 6B EV charging points
 - Community Recreational Facility**
 - Opportunity for a new community and recreational facility
 - Tourism/Heritage/Ecology**
 - Heritage trail
 - Ecology trail

Map showing proposed key projects

Overview

Feedback from the public consultation and survey was reviewed by the project team and it became clear that 9 key areas were emerging as the priority issues and opportunities for the Town:

- Building Vacancy Dereliction and Reuse;**
 - Vacancy and Dereliction within the town must be addressed.
 - Explore opportunities around Town Centre/Over Shop living and reuse of vacant commercial units
 - Consider opportunities for backland and infill sites for both the provision of housing and to open up opportunities around permeability/accessibility throughout the town – particularly accessing Main Street.
- Public Realm ;**
 - Three key projects have been identified within the town: Courthouse, Market Square and Square on Main Street including new Garda Station and former Post Office

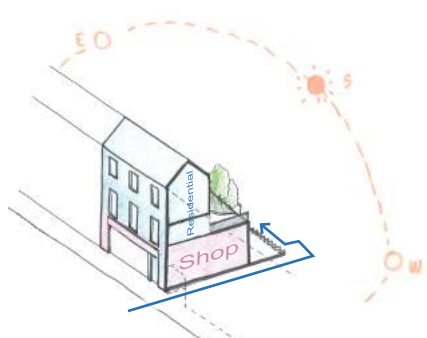
- Need for more public amenities and seating throughout the town and where possible these should be weatherproof.
 - Undergrounding of cables/wires – particularly on Main Street
 - Traffic Issues at Kingscourt Road and Barrack Street need to be addressed.
- Economic Development Opportunities;**
 - Potential to develop an Enterprise Hub/Park for the town to generate employment and support existing local industry.
 - Develop additional remote working space.
 - Promotion of the Tourism offering in the area including Castle Lake and Town Lake – potential to develop Tourism accommodation within the town
 - Connectivity/Accessibility/Mobility;**
 - Town very poorly served by public transport - a range of bus routes, proper bus stops and timetables re-

- quired Kingscourt Road and Barrack Street Junction needs to be addressed.
 - Footpaths while wide enough are in need of maintenance and repair.
 - Additional Disabled Parking and Pedestrian Crossings required
 - Carparking - Need to development additional carpark in the town with improved linkages and permeability to main street. - Additional Disabled Parking and Pedestrian Crossings required
- Digital;**
 - Build awareness of the potential of digital technologies in the town.
 - Provide a local digital innovation space for remote/co-working and community activities.
 - Develop the digital skills, and innovation capacity of local enterprises.
 - Promote digital literacy for all through formal and informal learn-

- ing in the community.
- Climate;**
 - Develop a biodiversity/ecology Trail for the town
 - Community Recreational Facility;**
 - Tourism/Heritage/Ecology;**
 - Development of a Heritage Trail within and around the town.
 - Pocket Parks
 - Capacity Building and Community Engagement;**
 - Support capacity building and collaboration among various groups and stakeholders within the town - create more synergies and promotion of services and activities available within the town -



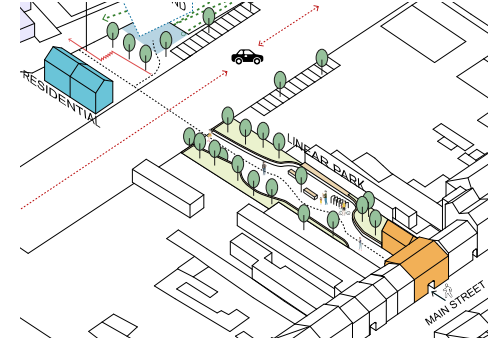
Artistic Impression of Town Events at Main Street



Living over the shop, rear access



Artistic Impression Proposed Market Square



Proposed Linear Park at the backlands

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Bailieborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation



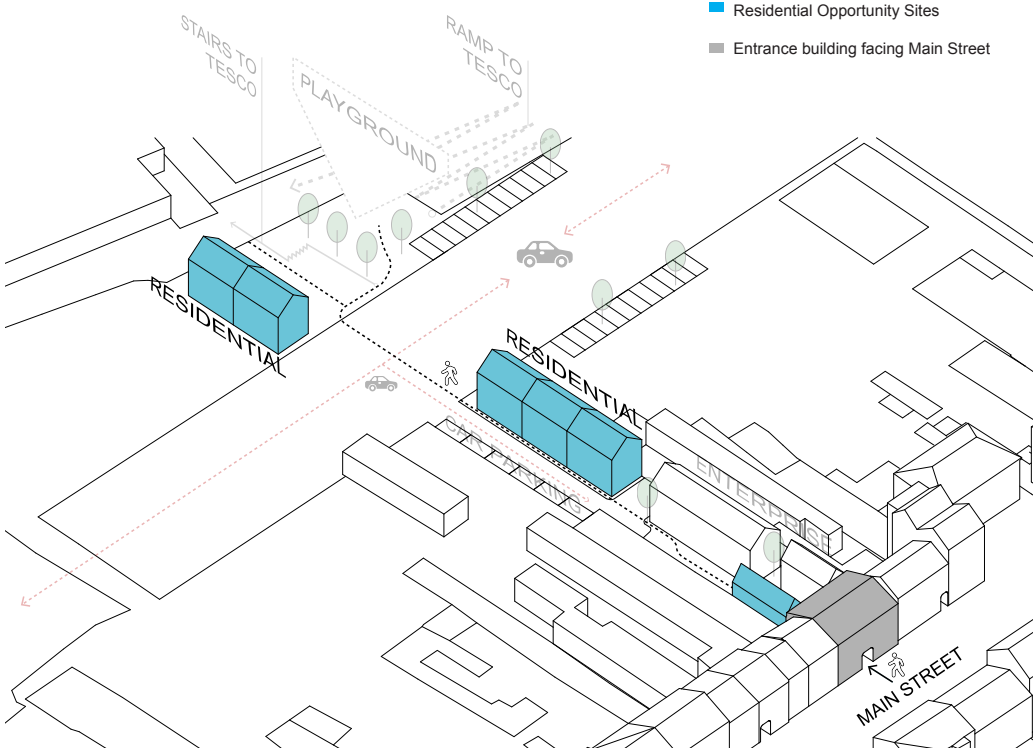
03 BUILDING VACANCY DERELICTION AND REUSE



Case Study projects and Opportunity sites

MAP LEGEND
■ Case Study Opportunity Sites
■ Infill/Vacantsite opportunities

ARTISTIC IMPRESSION LEGEND
■ Residential Opportunity Sites
■ Entrance building facing Main Street



Artistic Impression - Mix Use: Enterprise project and new housing in backlands

Case Studies Projects to Act as a Catalyst

Regeneration is the process of bringing social, cultural, economic and environmental life back into an area resulting in high quality life for its inhabitants and visitors. Regeneration encourages and supports sustainable businesses and future investment from private sector and public sector alike.

For many people the prospect of taking on a large scale town centre redevelopment - residential or commercial can prove daunting. The case studies included as part of the Town Centre First Plan provides an easy 'guide to' undertaking such a project and highlights the potential of reuse and redevelopment of vacant properties and backlands.

The above map details the location of 3 demonstrator projects/case studies that detail the potential of redevelopment reuse of vacant properties and backlands within the town core.

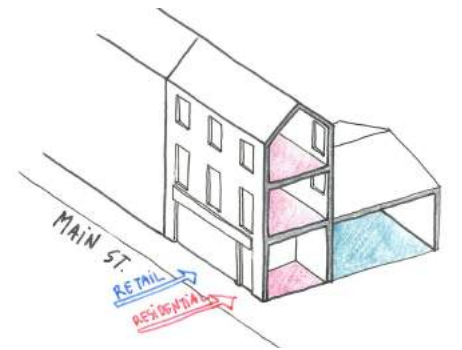
The case study sites in the final plan will detail redevelopment costs as well as proposed schedule of works associated with:

- Living over the shop. Demonstration project.
- Working over the shop. Demonstration project.
- Mixed use enterprise employment and residential regeneration of Back lands.
- Future opportunity infill sites.

The restoration of one or more historic buildings act as a catalyst for the regeneration of a significant wider area.



Working over the shop, floor plans



Living over the shop, rear access

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04 PUBLIC REALM



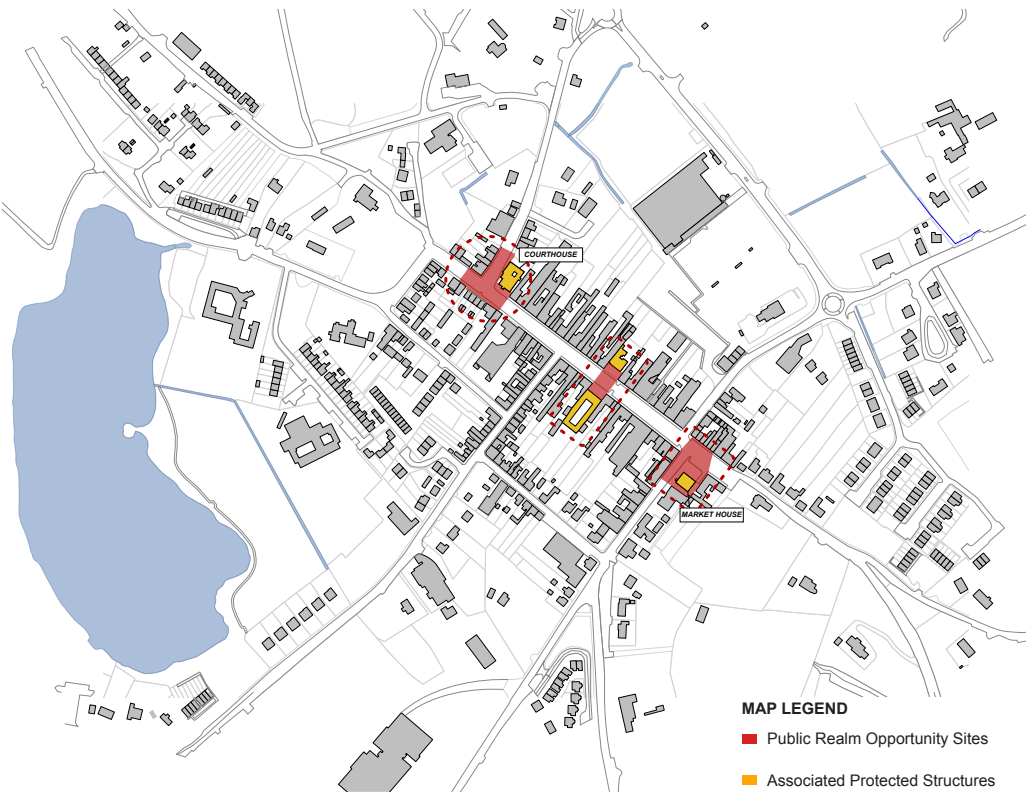
Proposed Public Realm at Former Post Office



Proposed Public Realm at Market Square



Proposed Public Realm at Courthouse



Map with the Public Realm projects

MAP LEGEND
■ Public Realm Opportunity Sites
■ Associated Protected Structures

PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS

Streets and public realm were formerly used as marketplaces with shared access for pedestrians, bicycles, horses and carts. 84% of available public realm space is now occupied by moving or parked vehicles. Cyclists share the roads with lorries and cars. There are no public transport set down areas. Footpaths are narrow on the sunny side of the streets and do not provide for passing, viewing into shopfronts or sitting out spaces. Opportunities for enhanced ecology are limited to hanging baskets. Spaces in front of public buildings are mostly used for car parking with limited provision for pedestrian crossing and traffic calming.

In developing public realm for the town, the aim is to maximise the opportunities presented by existing features within the town. The plan promotes the development of public realm that is safe, easy to access, provides for the community in terms of seating, activities and supports the needs of people with limited mobility or with a disability. The plan also promotes sustainable development through a

number of digital and climate related proposals.

Opportunities
 The Town Centre First Plan has identified the following Public Realm Projects to be developed over the short, medium and long term:

- Provision of paved, traffic calmed civic squares in front of public buildings, with reduced car parking, pedestrian friendly crossing points, priority for pedestrians, cycle parking, public transport in places at the following locations:
 - The Market House
 - The Market Square
 - The former Post Office and
- Opportunities for a future provision of wider footpaths on the sunny side of the streets, viewing into shopfronts or sitting out spaces, and opportunities for enhanced ecology with redesigned signage and public utilities.



Project example - Seating



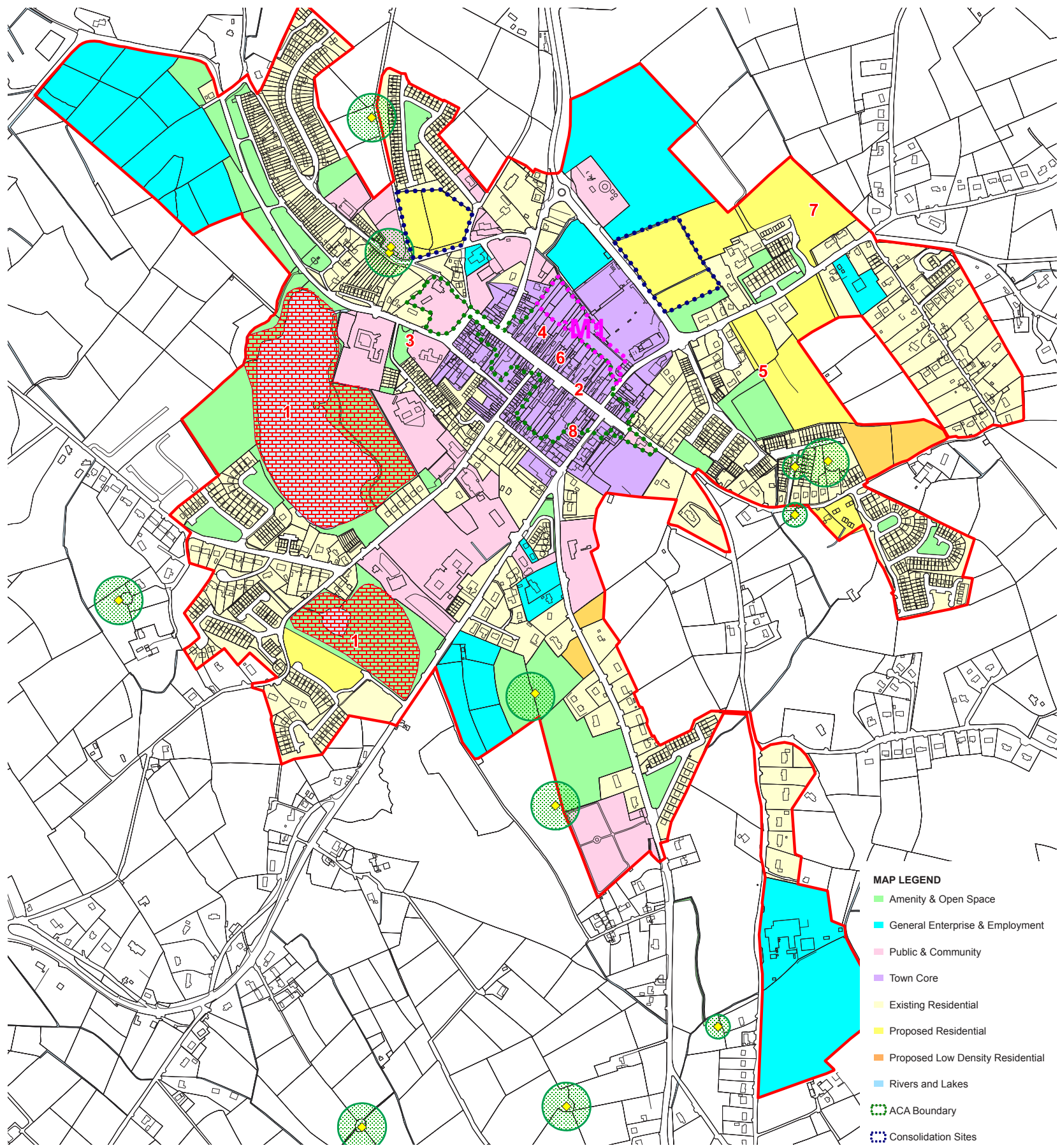
Project example - Outdoor dining

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Bailieborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation

05 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Artistic Impression of Town Events at Main Street Bailieborough

Introduction

Bailieborough has a strong compact town core with an existing street pattern that lends itself well to further development. The retail and service function of the town is mainly confined to the town core with one major edge of core retail development. Bailieborough has a number of employment providers within the town, which includes Lakeland Dairies, Bailieborough Foods Limited and Terra Limited. The Bailieborough Business Centre on Shercock Rd. in the town helps in the creation of local enterprise in the area.

Feedback from the public consultation and survey highlighted a number of economic challenges facing the town. These are not unique to Bailieborough and while some can be addressed through the Town Centre First Plan many of them are outside the scope of the plan but nonetheless have impacted on the economic development and capacity of the town:

Challenges;

- Loss of services, AIB, NIB
- Loss of Council Offices and Courthouse
- Cost of doing business has doubled in the last 20 years: Wages, ESB, Rates, Water, PPI Insurance.
- Competition and online shopping: small shops now competing with multimillion euro business where the model is high volume and low margins.
- Since the 1970's onwards, there has been a steady decline in economic activity within the town centre. Business owners have moved out of the town, leaving the upper floors vacant, traditional industries and services have moved out of the backlands of business properties leaving those yards overgrown and derelict.

The consensus from both the public consultation and survey feedback indicated that Town Centre will only thrive if we have strong local employment, industry, tourism, and services as well as increased town core activity and footfall.

Opportunities

- Town Core Projects which have been identified:
- Re-using upper floors for working over the shop.
 - Redevelopment of vacant sites to provide employment facilities.
 - Improved public realm and parking provision to increase dwell time and to support the development of local markets and festivals.
 - Improved pedestrian facilities and linkages.

Local enablers of enhanced economic activity:

- Development of enterprise space/lands to enable the development and expansion of local industry - there are considerable opportunities to link in with larger local enterprises e.g. Lakeland Dairies and capacity to provide support services to larger local and regional industries.
- Regional Garda Offices – increased footfall and demand for services within the town
- Courthouse Project and Castle Lake Development have the potential to generate significant increase in Tourism numbers and the demand for supporting services within and around the Town.

The Town Centre First Plan will support economic development for Bailieborough through the following:

1. A feasibility study for the development of Enterprise Space (including remote working space) for the town.
2. Work in conjunction with the Local Enterprise Office to encourage the uptake of supports for retailers and small and micro enterprises in the town.
3. Working with property owners and start-up's and micro enterprises explore the possibility of developing pop-up shops within the town.
4. Develop a calendar of events such as Christmas Markets and Shop Local campaigns to encourage increased footfall to the town.

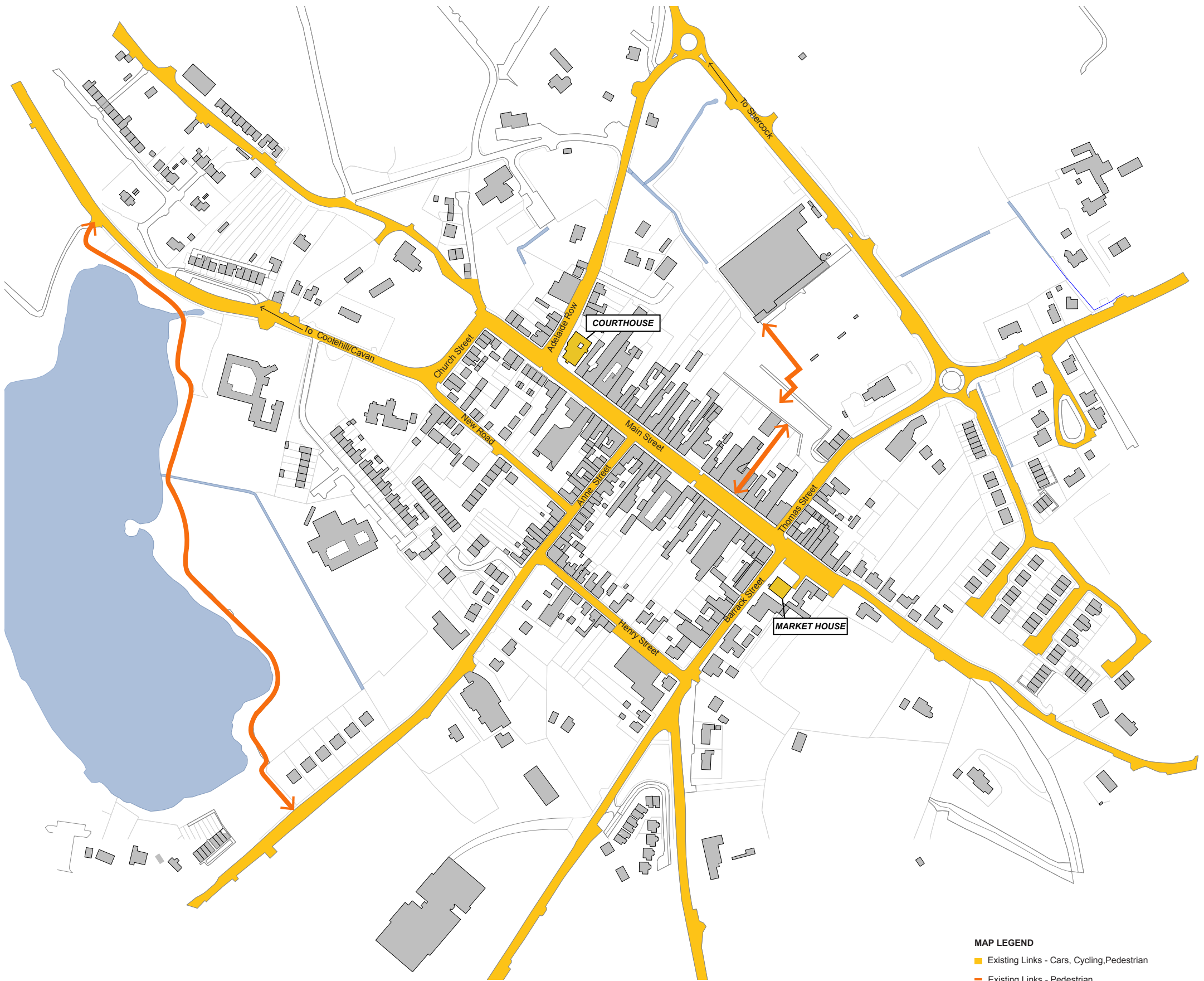
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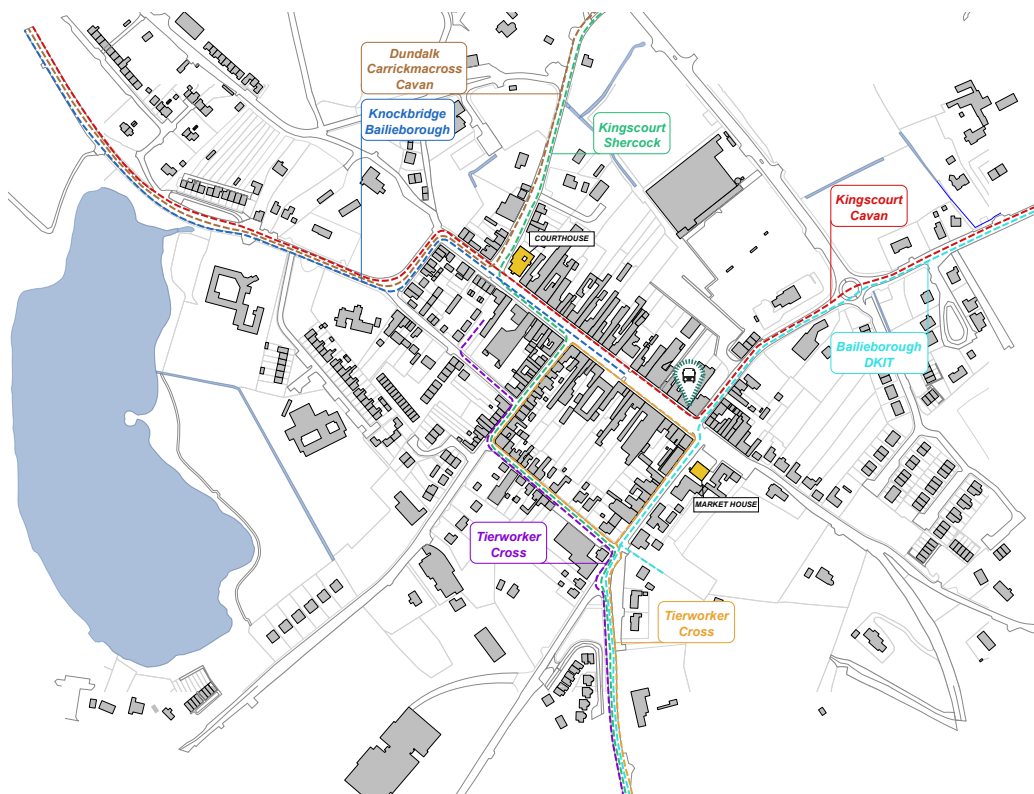
06 CONNECTIVITY/ACCESSIBILITY/MOBILITY - EXISTING LINKAGES



MAP LEGEND

- █ Existing Links - Cars, Cycling, Pedestrian
- █ Existing Links - Pedestrian

Map of Existing Links in Baileborough



Map of Existing Bus routes in Baileborough

Introduction

Three of the key factors that support increased footfall to, and dwell time within town centres include the following:

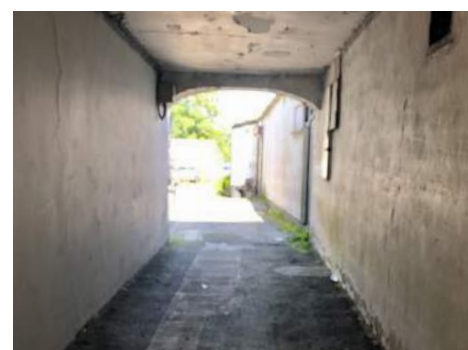
- Connectivity to; by private and public transport, bike and on foot.
- Accessibility within; sufficient parking and strong permeability and linkages to key services and carparking.
- Mobility around; good footpath infrastructure, dished kerbing, pedestrian crossings
- Connectivity: the attached map details the existing linkages to and within the town. The town is well serviced by a road network linking Baileborough to a number of local and regional towns including Cavan, Cooteshill, Kingscourt, Shercock, Virginia and Kells.

There are a limited number of bus routes servicing the town, however these services are due to be expanded in the coming months.

There are currently no cycle lanes/routes to or within the town along with an absence of supporting infrastructure – bicycle stands within the town core.

Mobility

The town core is well serviced with footpaths. Remedial works are required on many of these as paving has become uneven and can impede mobility around the town. There is also scope for upgrading a number of footpaths on approach roads/streets including Adelaide Road and Barrack Street. Public consultation also highlighted the need for additional dished kerbing and provision of pedestrian crossings within the town. Improvements to these key mobility enablers will facilitate ease of movement within the town for young and old alike and in particular for those with disability and mobility issues.



Existing alley



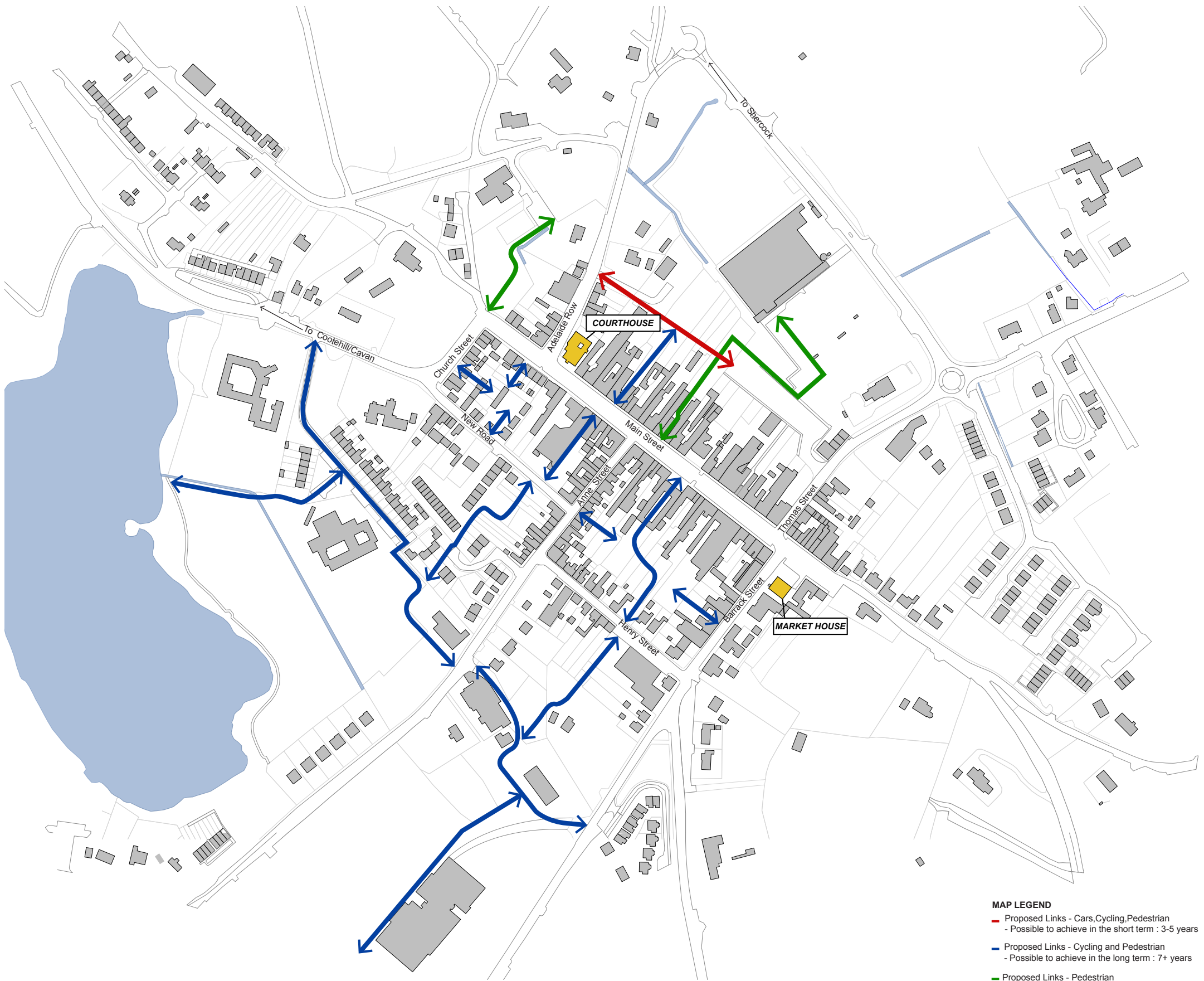
Pavement at Henry Street

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Public Consultation

07 CONNECTIVITY/ACCESSIBILITY/MOBILITY - PROPOSED LINKAGES



Map of Desirable/Possible Links in Bailieborough Subject to Future Consultation



Map of future Bus routes in Bailieborough

Accessibility

The linear nature of the town means that retail and services are spread out along the towns main street and perpendicular to Main Street. While there is adequate car parking provision on Main Street there is very limited access/permeability to the existing carpark to the rear of main street and this is currently accessed by two main routes – vehicular access via Thomas Street or via a small narrow alleyway on the upper end of main street. This does not encourage use of this carpark, which would in turn remove longer term car-parking on Main Street.

Linkages from Main Street carpark to Tesco is also very limited (via steep, narrow steps) and this does not support permeability or access by foot between Tesco and Main Street. There is also a pedestrian route linking Chapel Road to the Town Lake.

Notwithstanding the above the Town Centre First Plan presents the opportunity to highlight where additional connectivity and ac-

cessibility could be developed within the town thereby improving mobility and permeability within and throughout the town:

The Town Centre First Plan will support improved connectivity, accessibility, and mobility for Bailieborough through the following:

1. Working with the Local Authority and local stakeholders in supporting and developing Active Travel Schemes and other funding schemes that will enhance accessibility and mobility throughout the town through the provision of improved footpaths, pedestrian crossings, dished kerbing and development of projects that will support cycling and walking to and throughout the town.
2. Work collaboratively with private landowners in identifying dedicated linkages for cyclists and pedestrians that would provide increased permeability to the town core, encourage walking and cycling and encourage more access to and dwell time within the town.



Artistic Impression of proposed alley



Project example - Virginia paving

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form

Bailieborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation

08 CONNECTIVITY/ACCESSIBILITY/MOBILITY - CAR PARKING



Artistic Impression for proposed car parking



Artistic Impression for proposed car parking



Map of Existing and Proposed Car Parking in Baileborough

Overview

There are currently 469 car parking spaces within a 5 minute walking distance from Main Street, Baileborough, excluding the spaces at Tesco car park.

The car parking provided compares favorably with car parking in similar sized towns.

Even with the high number of spaces available, the public consultation car parking survey recorded 73% in favour of additional car parking requirements within the town.

Opportunities

Feedback from the survey carried out indicated that 71% of people parked for less than 1hour on the Main Street. Notwithstanding this, feedback from the public consultation and survey indicated that it was difficult to access parking on the main street and that

additional parking was required. A 'duration of stay' study for cars parked on Main Street would provide detail in respect of the 'longer stay' vehicles and present proposals for alternative parking arrangements for such vehicles, thereby freeing up car parking spaces for shorter term parking within the town centre. Further details in respect of proposals to develop new carpark are outlined above:

- Creation of approximately 60 number of additional car parking spaces to the rear of Main Street and enhanced permeability and linkages on to main street

Challenges

- Lands are not in ownership of Cavan Co Council, aim is to work in collaboration with the respective landowners to develop this key project within the town core.



Existing Tesco Car Parking

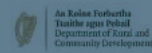


Project example - Car parking

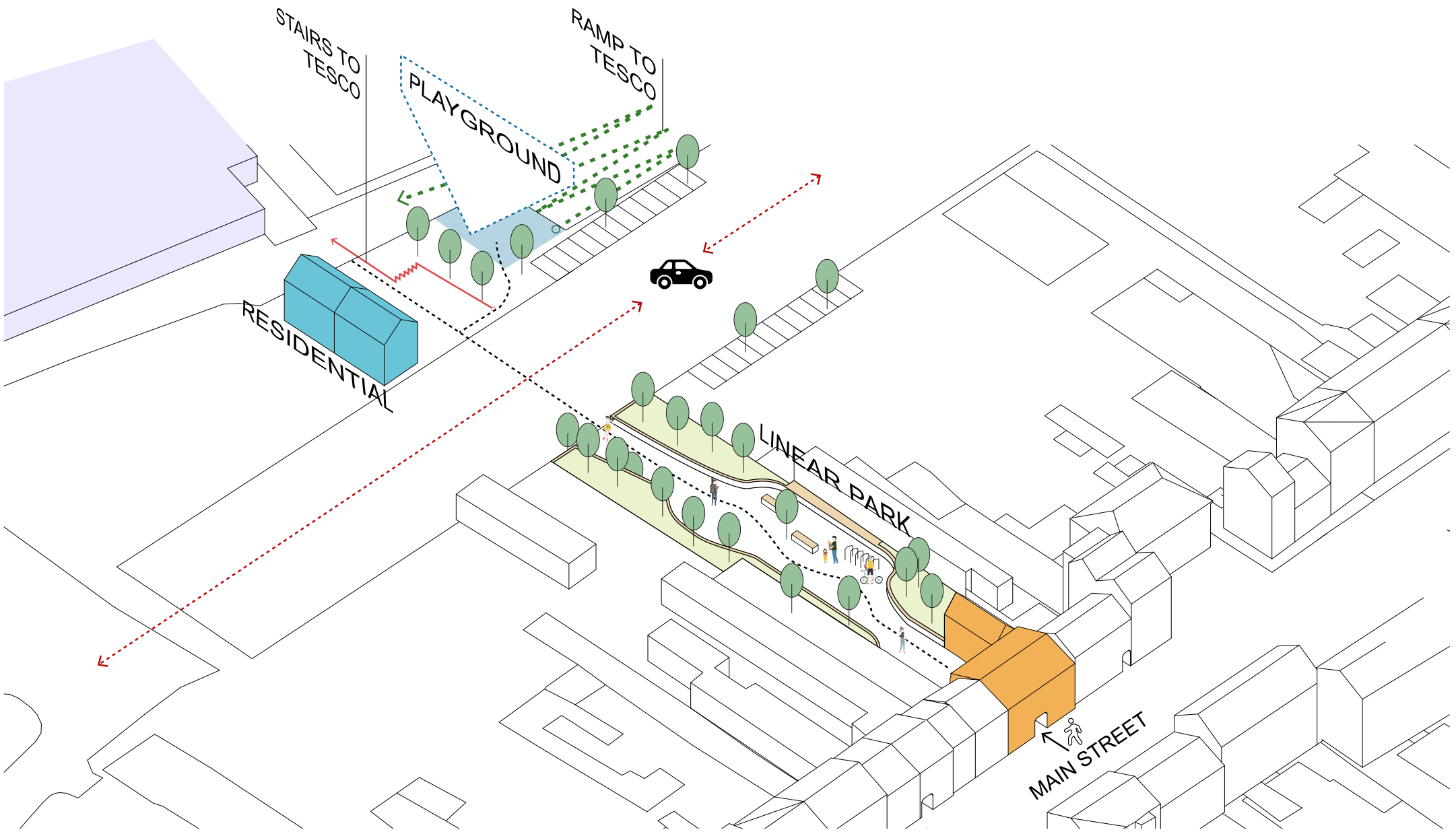
We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form

Baileborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation



09 CLIMATE



Artistic Impression of Proposed Pocket Park

Overview

Towns have a key role to play in supporting the transition to low carbon and creating a greener society. Many rural towns, including Baileborough have a high dependency on car usage and many town centre buildings lie vacant, which could otherwise be made more sustainable through adaptive reuse.

The Town Centre First Plan provides an opportunity to take a proactive approach to Climate Change and to ensure that sustainability and decarbonisation become an integral part of our Town Centre Regeneration projects.

Challenges

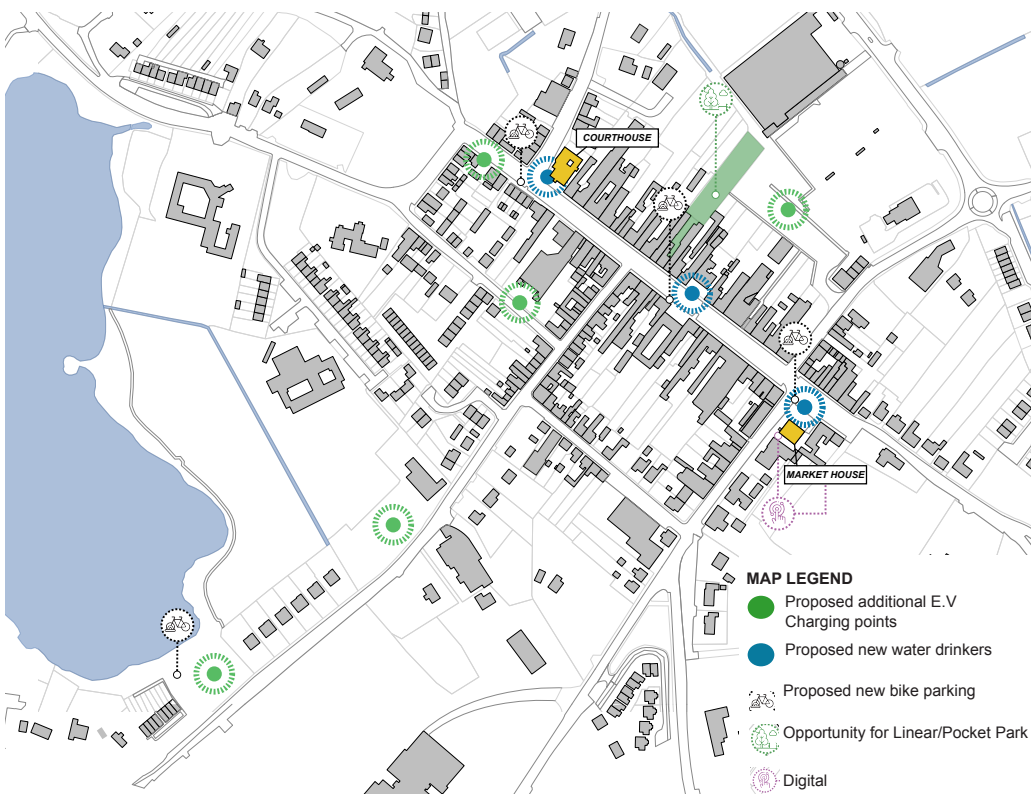
- High car dependency for access to and mobility throughout the town centre
- Absence of quality pedestrian and cycling linkages.
- Continued vacancy and dereliction within our towns and perceived additional challenges of retrofitting and repurposing these buildings.

Opportunities

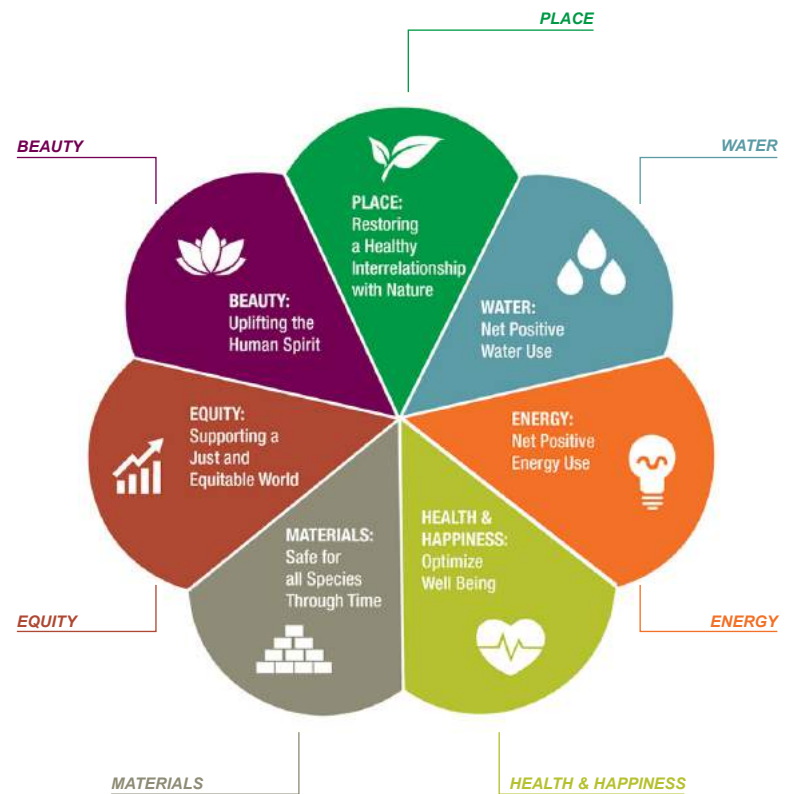
- Highlight and promote initiatives that support the sustainable and adaptive reuse of buildings within the Town Core – see case study 4.1
- As part of the provision of public realm include climate friendly initiatives such as water drinkers, to reduce reliance of plastics, EV charge points as well as small scale biodiversity projects and pocket parks within the town core see proposals for Linear/Pocket Park outlined at 4.6.2
- Implement initiatives that support the reduction on car dependence – improved pedestrian and cycling access throughout the town.
- Develop a biodiversity and ecology trail for the town
- Use Digital Technology to highlight issues such as air pollution and promote awareness through schools and intergenerational projects.



Water Drinkers Reference Image



Map Indicating Possible Opportunity Site for EV Charging Points, Water Drinkers, Pocket Park and Bike Parking



Petals of The Living Building Challenge

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form

Baileborough Town Centre First

Public Consultation

10 COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL FACILITY



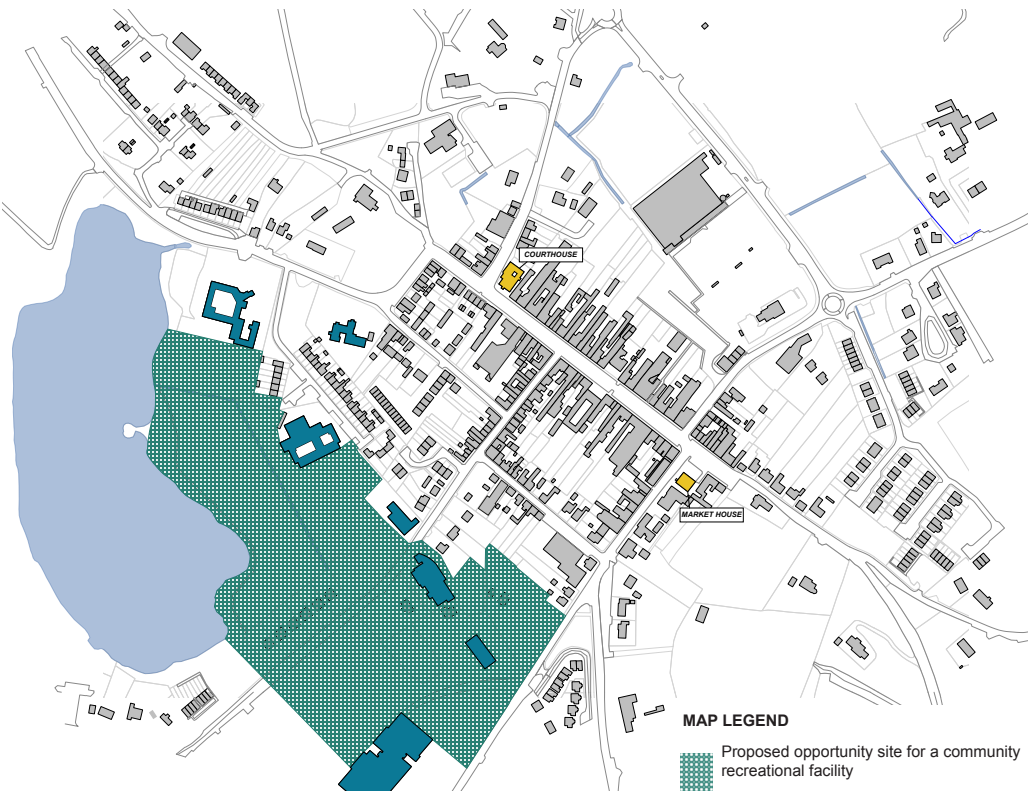
Artistic Impression proposed activity walkway




Artistic Impression proposed recreational/sport area



Artistic Impression proposed children's activity zone and walkway



Map Indicating Possible Opportunity Sites for a Community and Recreational Facility

MAP LEGEND
 Proposed opportunity site for a community recreational facility

Overview

For a town of its size Baileborough is well serviced by a broad range of services.

During the public consultation and analysis stages for the Town Centre First Plan there was a mixed response to questioning in relating to community and recreational facilities.

There are multiple facilities for people who play sport including all weather and outdoor facilities for soccer, and GAA as well as the provision of the swimming pool.

Other facilities include the multipurpose space over the Library, the multipurpose space at the Courthouse, Church Halls and facilities made available by the four schools the town. These are available in terms of providing space to facilitate non-sporting relating activities.

Challenges

Feedback during the consultation stage of the plan indicates that there are gaps in the provision of the following facilities and amenities servicing the town:

- Indoor facilities for arts, social and cultural events, dance and drama, snooker etc
- Availability of recreational and non-mainstream sporting facilities such as basketball, tennis, skatepark etc.

The Town Centre First Plan will support the development of additional Recreational and Amenity Facilities in Baileborough through the following:

- Carry out an analysis of existing recreational and amenities within the town as well as a review of how they are promoted and how collaboration takes place across the various 'service providers'.
- Carry out a detailed needs analysis to identify the extent and type additional needs for the town.
- Work with local stakeholders and landowners to identify potential suitable locations for the development of a multipurpose facility for the town.
- Develop a short, medium and long term plan for the development of a multipurpose facility for the town to include design, funding streams as well as operational considerations.



Thomastown Recreational facility

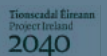
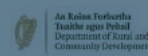


Thomastown Recreational facility

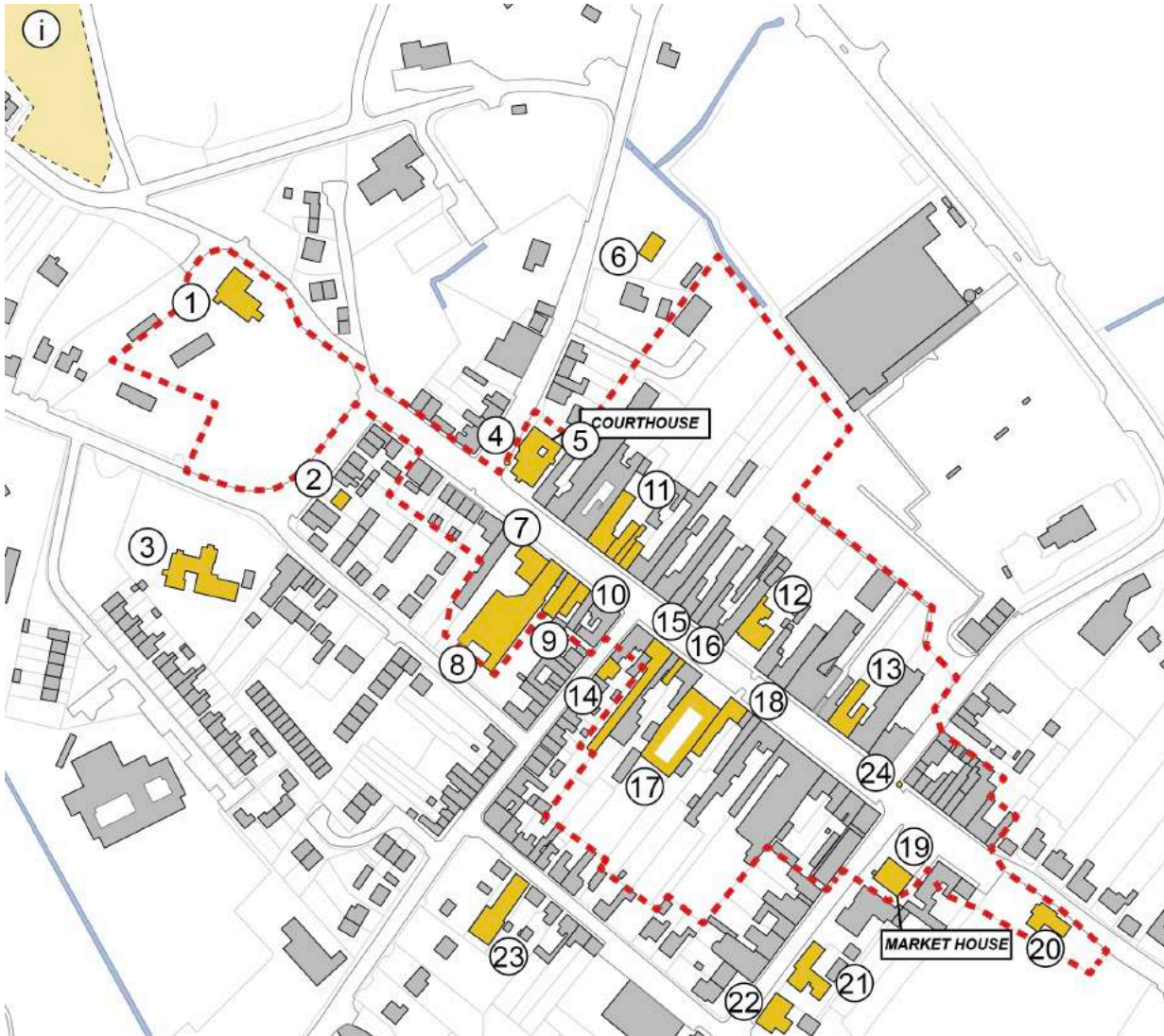
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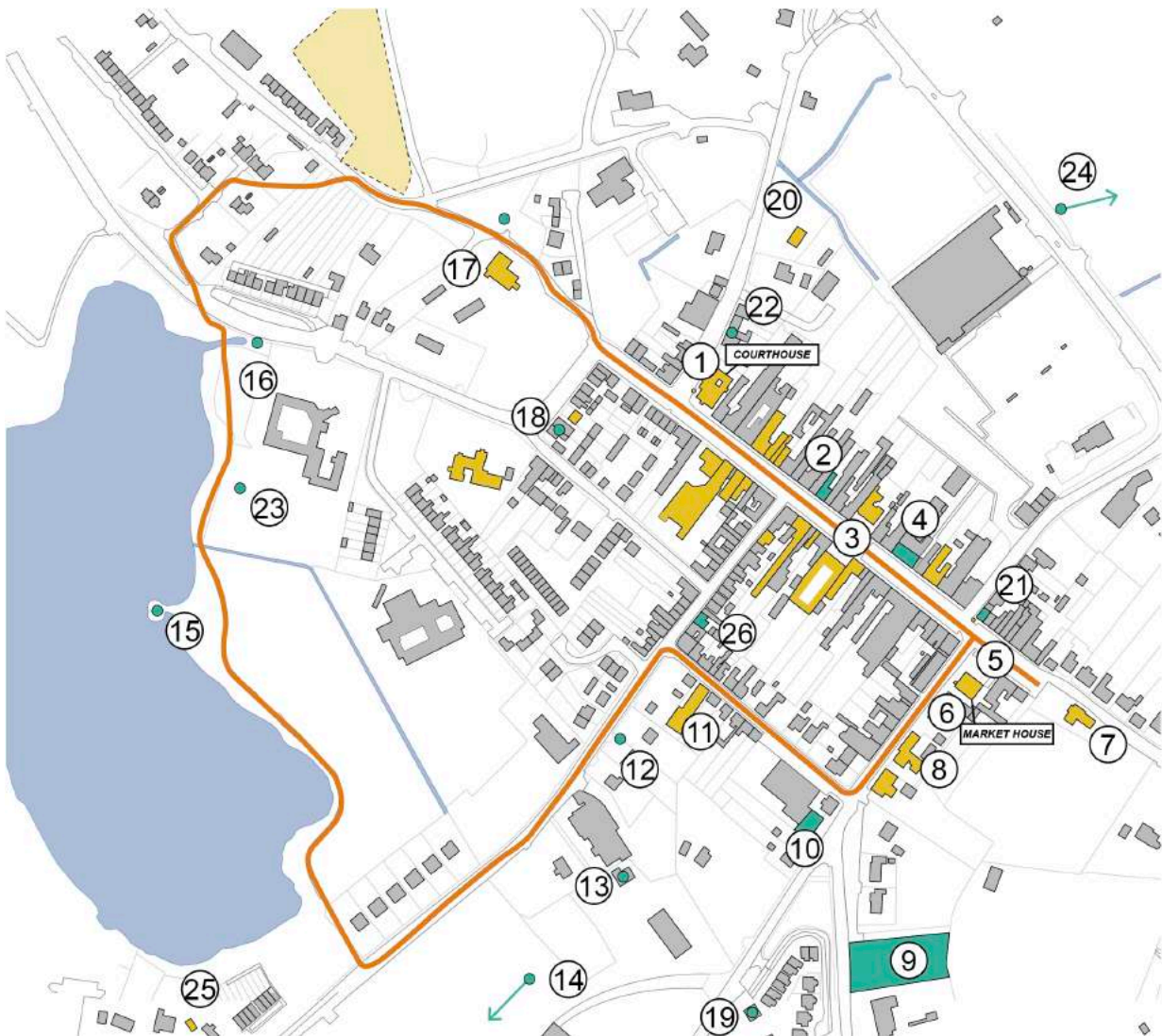
Public Consultation



11 TOURISM, HERITAGE & ECOLOGY - PROTECTED STRUCTURES AND HERITAGE TRAIL



Map Indicating Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Area



Map Indicating Possible Heritage Trail



Church of Ireland



Courthouse



Masonic Hall



The First Church of Ireland of Baileborough



King's Cottage

PROTECTED STRUCTURES

Overview

The Cavan County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 includes for a substantial segment of the central core of Baileborough as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). An ACA is made up of historic streets and terraces in town centres, as well as historic residential roads, in order to preserve civic identity and architectural character in the area. There are 25 protected structures within, and adjacent to the Architectural Conservation Area of Baileborough.

Traditionally there has been a lack of awareness of the opportunities that this rich architectural heritage provides. Protected structures and associated architectural conservation objectives can be seen as limiting.

The Town Centre First Plan identifies a number of case studies that demonstrate how perceived limitations of re-developing or reusing historical/protected structures can be overcome and illustrate the opportunities presented for proper sustainable reuse of existing structures in a cost-effective manner. There are various financial and advisory supports available to encourage their sustainable regeneration resulting in viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live work and visit, within a short walking distance of all necessary social, cultural and recreational services and facilities.

PROTECTED STRUCTURES LEGEND

1. Church of Ireland
2. Detached House
3. Model National School
4. Water Hydrant, Adelaide Row
5. Courthouse and Bridewell
6. Arts & Cultural Centre
7. Bank of Ireland
8. SuperValu
9. Sandi Modes
10. Baillie Stores
11. Finegas
12. National Irish Bank
13. O'Reilly Shoes
14. F. Mc Donald, William St.
15. D. Jameson, The Medical Hall
16. What Knot (Nikita)
17. B. O'Reilly
18. End of Terrace House
19. Market House / Library
20. Masonic Hall
21. Garda Station
22. House Barrack St.
23. Excel Cinema, Henry St.
24. Water Hydrant, Thomas St. - Main St.
25. King's Cottage, Chapel Road

PROTECTED STRUCTURES LEGEND

- - - - Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)
- Protected Structures

HERITAGE TRAIL

Challenges

At public consultation and analysis stages we have identified a limited awareness of the opportunities that are presented by the rich cultural heritage of Baileborough. At public consultation and analysis stages we have identified a limited awareness of the opportunities that are presented by opportunities for addressing the biodiversity crisis.

Opportunities- Specific Project Details

Provide a heritage trail- See attached Diagram. We have identified an opportunity to map a heritage trail, create a trail head that would complement the proposed visitor facilities at the former Courthouse and Bridewell, provide signage and plaques on buildings and sites of heritage interest and to provide a self-guided app.

Rational for project selection

Previous studies carried out for the proposed visitor facilities at the former Courthouse and Bridewell have shown that there substantial number of visitors (culturally curious and great escapers) who come to this region but do not visit Baileborough. Providing facilities for visitors would compliment learning and discovery facilities proposed for the former Courthouse and Bridewell. Providing facilities for visitors would compliment proposed public realm interventions. Providing facilities for visitors would complement economic development proposals.

HERITAGE TRAIL LEGEND

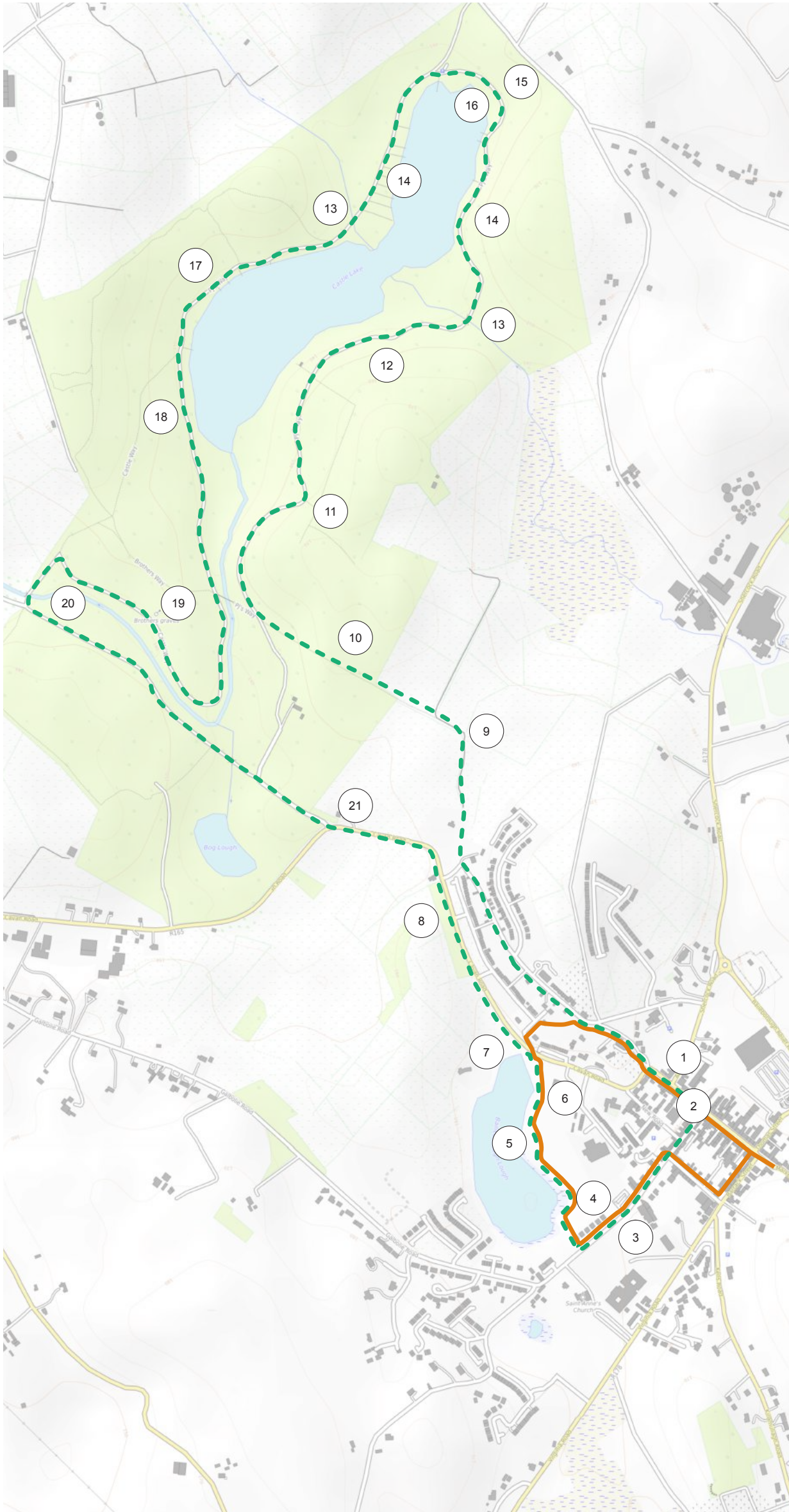
1. Courthouse and Bridewell
2. Henry James Homeplace
3. Post Office Square
4. Former T.M. Farrelly Building
5. Market Square
6. Library former Market House
7. Masonic Hall
8. Garda Barracks
9. Site of Model Farm
10. War of Independence Links
11. Former Cinema
12. Tom McIntyre Homeplace
13. Former Presentation Sister Convent
14. Church
15. Viewing point
16. Route to former Baileborough Castle
17. F. McDonald, William St.
18. Church
19. Church
20. Wesleyan Chapel
21. Former Revenue Police Barracks
22. Alexander Greenlaw Hamilton Homeplace
23. Site of The Workhouse
24. Becksourt House former barracks
25. Kings Cottage
26. Former Irish National League Meeting Place

MAP LEGEND

- Heritage Trail
- Protected Structures
- Heritage sites

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form

12 TOURISM, HERITAGE & ECOLOGY - ECOLOGY TRAIL



Map Indicating Possible Ecology Trail

ECOLOGY TRAIL

Challenges

At public consultation and analysis stages we have identified a limited awareness of the opportunities that are presented by opportunities for addressing the biodiversity crisis

Opportunities- Specific Project Details

Provide a an ecology trail and biodiversity corridors linking the town centre to the castle lake and Forest- See attached Diagram.

We have identified an opportunity to map an ecology trail and biodiversity corridors, create a trial head that would complement the proposed visitor facilities at the former Courthouse and Bridewell, provide signage and plaques on sites of ecology interest to provide a self-guided app that would inform visitors and locals.

Rational for project selection

Public consultation has demonstrated an awareness and appreciation of the facilities provided at the Castle Lake and Forest.

Previous studies carried out for the proposed visitor facilities at the former Courthouse and Bridewell have shown that there is limited awareness by people outside the town and visitors (culturally curios and great escapers) of the rich biodiversity and amenities available. Providing facilities for visitors and local people would complement learning and discovery facilities proposed for the former Courthouse and Bridewell. Providing facilities for visitors would compliment proposed public realm interventions. Providing facilities for visitors would complement economic development proposals.

ECOLOGY TRAIL LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Courthouse and Bridewell | 13. River bridge |
| 2. Urban Ecology | 14. Fishing stand |
| 3. Hedgerow along roads | 15. Seating and Coffee |
| 4. Lake edge | 16. Canoeing and Kayaking |
| 5. Cranog | 17. Ice House |
| 6. Wetlands | 18. Rebel Hill |
| 7. Wild play | 19. Former Castle |
| 8. Rewilding | 20. Mill Race |
| 9. Agriculture | 21. Car park |
| 10. Commercial forestry | |
| 11. Pat's seat | |
| 12. Brothers grave | |

MAP LEGEND

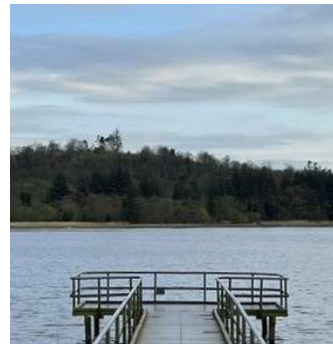
- Proposed Ecological Trail
- Proposed Heritage Trail



Bailieborough from above



Bailieborough from above



Castle Lake



Bailieborough Lake from above



Project example - Castletown heritage trail

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form



Solar panelled smart bench digital screen



Vodafone Foundation (Hi Ireland)



Solar panelled smart bench with USB chargers

Overview

Digital transformation is changing the way we live, work and do business. Embracing the digital transformation provides the opportunity to utilise technology to enhance the experience of living and working in towns, and to integrate digital technology into daily commercial and social life.

At public consultation and analysis stage there was a mixed response to the questionnaire relating to spaces for employment, digital and remote working. Further consultation indicated that office space and remote working could be accommodated by the private sector on upper floors of existing buildings. Existing buildings would need to be adapted to provide universal access and achieve fire compliance and acoustic performance while retaining their historic fabric.

As part of the feasibility study for the development of enterprise space for the town it will also include an analysis of the demand for

the type of remote working space required and a number of recommendations provided in respect of same.

The Department of Rural and Community Development commissioned DCU and .IE to conduct a digital town readiness assessment on Bailieborough as part of the Town Centre First Initiative 2021. The purpose of the study was to:

- Help understand their current digital town readiness and digital competitiveness.
- Compare their town against Irish and international benchmarks.
- Stimulate stakeholder engagement on digitalisation.

The participating towns, including Bailieborough were assessed across seven key areas:

1. Infrastructure for Digital Connectivity
2. The Digital Economy and Digital Business
3. Digital Public Services

4. Digital Education
5. Digital Technologies and Civil Society
6. Digital Tourism
7. Governance of Digital Town Initiatives

The report indicated that while Bailieborough scored reasonably well across the 7 assessment areas there was room for significant improvement particularly with regards to the Digital Economy and Digital Business, Digital Tourism and Governance of Digital Towns. A number of key projects to be implemented through the Town Centre First Plan have been identified. These projects will drive the development of digital society and economy in Bailieborough. The projects will seek to:

- Build awareness of the potential of digital technologies in digital towns for economic, societal, and environmental good.
- Provide a local digital innovation space for remote/co-working and community activities.
- Develop the digital skills, and innovation capacity of local en-

- terprises.
- Promote digital literacy for all local citizens through formal and informal learning in the community.
- Attract workers and visitors to Bailieborough through smart tourism.
- Establish Bailieborough as a Digital Town Lighthouse project.

The above projects will be implemented through the Town Centre First Plan. These projects will drive the development of digital society and economy in Bailieborough. The projects will help to build the local digital capacity including skills, competencies, attitudes, infrastructure and resources that enable people to work, live and learn in a world that is increasingly digital and will support the town to become more competitive, resilient, and sustainable.

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form

14 CAPACITY BUILDING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Baileborough from above



Picture of the Public Consultation held on 30th May 2023

Overview

The Town Centre First Plan for Baileborough has been developed in consultation with the local community and business stakeholders. The plan sets out a range of short medium and long term projects which will be delivered by the local community and business stakeholders through the Town Team in conjunction with Cavan County Council and other relevant public agencies and bodies. As with many rural towns and communities the development and implement of projects is dependent on local volunteers and community development groups.

During the preparation of the Town Centre First Plan, it was noted that the implementation of the new Plan presented an opportunity to rejuvenate community engagement through the following:

- Capacity building and collaboration among various groups within the Town
- Creating more synergies and collaboration around availability and use of all services.
- 'Recruitment' of more volunteers.
- Sporting/ Community/Arts events for the Town to bring all groups together.
- Initiating a Healthy Communities programme
- The development of intergenerational projects between the local schools and the older peoples forum.

The Town Team:

A Town Team will be put in place to work alongside the Town Regeneration Officer to lead out the implementation of the Town Centre First Plan.

The Town Team will be made up of local residents businesspeople, community representatives and other local stakeholders. They will have in-depth local knowledge of the local community and they will work together as a group to develop plans, projects and initiatives that will make their town a better place to live work, visit and invest in. As projects develop smaller working group with additional expertise may be established to drive project development.

Town Teams will also be supported to build their capacity and capability so they can work effectively to deliver positive outcomes for their town and so that ultimately they will become the drivers and leaders of the projects as set out in the Town Centre First Plan.

The Town Centre First Plan will support the development of the Town Team by:

- Identifying the training and supports they require over the short medium and long term to build their capacity to enable them to become the drivers and leaders of the projects as set out in the Town Centre First Plan.

We welcome your suggestions and feedback - Please complete feedback form