

Draft Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2026,
The Planning Dept.,
Kildare County Council,
Aras Chill Dara,
Devoy Park,
Naas,
Co. Kildare.



10th July 2019.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Confey Urban Design Framework:

This at present is mostly farming land with a few one-off houses, the Cemetery and Confey GAA, a much needed amenity. You are proposing to completely change this landscape by building apartment blocks, housing, schools etc. You desire to move the GAA from its current position and place it further away from those who built it and use it on a continuous basis. This would take it away from the local community and place it mostly for use by the new residents, surely it would make more sense to leave it in its present position where both communities could avail of it. If this development is to take place it should be accessed by means other than Captains Hill and Cope Bridge.

Cope Bridge

You propose to alter Cope Bridge but I cannot see how this would help the traffic flow. There are already traffic jams at peak times, by proposing to build over a thousand units over this bridge will cause chaos, resulting in tailbacks into the village, resulting in a lot more pollution. Captains Hill is a narrow road, this cannot be altered.

Today at 6.30pm I left Glendale Est., the traffic heading into the Village was backed up beyond Cope Bridge, the traffic coming into Leixlip from the M4 was backed up from the Par 3 golf course on the N4 to Cope Bridge and I think that putting more vehicles on this route will be a disaster. What Cope Bridge needs is a separate pedestrian bridge on the GAA side and the bridge reinstated as a two way flow.

Both options proposed for the bridge (6 & 7) seem to suggest that you would use the green space at Glendale Estate, in neither option do you show how this could be achieved. There is no visual of the impact this could have on the residents of Glendale, who have maintained and utilized this green for over 40 years. This green space provides a buffer zone from the heavy traffic using Cope Bridge. This green space is stated as such on the current LAP while the proposed LAP has it as a "B" space, this must not be allowed to happen. It has been proven that the provision of green space is vital for mental wellbeing. Drawing a red line on a map is not good enough, you should have given proper measurements and drawings so that residents would have a clear picture of what is proposed.

Proposed Black Avenue KDA:

The proposed Black Avenue development will also cause chaos in the Village as the entrance into Mill Lane is too narrow. Should you build 350 units as you propose you are talking about at least 400/500 vehicles using this road on a daily basis. You have also included a vehicle entrance into St. Catherine's Park carpark, I cannot see any reason for this whatsoever, surely the residents will not want traffic going through their estate to get to the park, far too dangerous for children playing and also the pollution.

In conclusion I would like to stress that under no circumstances should a road be built through St. Catherine's Park as this is a vital amenity to the people of Leixlip, Lucan and the surrounding areas. This must be preserved for now and for future generations to enjoy.

Those of us who live in Leixlip know the current problems regarding traffic, amenities etc. We do not have a swimming pool, theatre or cinema, just a large population that you wish to make larger.

We know that it is not feasible to bring more traffic into the village and up Captains Hill, we know that in an ideal world we would all cycle and walk but we do not live in an ideal world. Captains Hill does not lend itself to being walked or cycled except by very able bodied people because of its steep gradient, we had the situation for many years when Dublin Bus stated that they were unable to bring a service up this hill, a situation that was thankfully remedied.

You should not build just for the sake of building, before you put the amenities and infrastructure in place as it is akin to putting the cart before the horse.

Leixlip has an aging population, as you state, surely there will be a bounty of housing stock coming onto the market in the coming years, a natural progression.

Yours sincerely,

Kay Brennan.