

Name Martin, Devaney

Enter your submission here

I feel the tourism opportunity is not being fully grasped by the LAP. There is indeed a great opportunity here if there was some joined up thinking at linking all the interesting sights (wonderful barn, roman spa, boat house etc) into an integrated walking / cycling path for potential visitors. Tourists should be able to get a train or bus to Leixlip and be able to immediately join a walking loop around the area that connects all these features. This could be done in conjunction with the Main Street regeneration - have a tourist hub (piggy back on the Guinness connection) and extending the walk along the river. There is also the potential for a walk to include the reservoir which would be alternative amenity to the parklands. I feel the plan pays token gesture to this potential and thats disappointing. A further link in with the proposed greenway on the canal and get visitors down into the town would be another interesting avenue. None of this is feasible unless the infrastructure is there in terms of paths and signage.

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I am disappointed with the omission of the plan to deal with frequent sewerage smell that lingers in the Main Street at the bridge on the Rye River. Given the recognition of the potential tourism in the general vicinity, I would have thought that remedying this long standing problem would be a priority. The failure to acknowledge the problem suggests that there was very little local input to this plan. Sometimes I am embarassed when I see visitors to the town wondering what the awful smell is.

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I am extremely disappointed that although highlighting the need for open play spaces for children, the plan entirely depends on developer lead spaces predictably in the proposed new developments. The plan fails in this regard, as it places the onus on developers to provide spaces that should not only accommodate the needs of the residents of the proposed developments but also of the existing population that are currently poorly served in this regard. This means that we will never have an acceptable ratio of playground space as the deficit will never be reduced unless the plan provides for new spaces not reliant on new developments. This is particularly galling given the plan acknowledges that Leixlip has a higher ratio of young families compared to the national average. It is disappointing that the onus will be placed on developers who inevitably will be more concerned with selling as many units as they can than providing play spaces for the local populace. Also, its disappointing to read that there is no provision for a local swimming pool - an amenity that is in demand and sought after. Given the projected population increases, surely this is a gross oversight? This suggests the plan is more focused on building residential units and industrial zones but failing to recognise the needs of the local population.