An aerial photograph of a village, likely Aghabullogue, showing a cluster of buildings with dark roofs and light-colored walls. The village is surrounded by large green fields, some of which are divided into smaller plots. A road or path runs through the center of the village, and there are some trees and hedges visible. The overall scene is a typical rural landscape.

November 2013

Aghabullogue

Community-led VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

November 2013

Aghabullogue

Community-led VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT



Comhshaoil, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government





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1 Introduction and background

The process of preparing the Community-led Village Design Statement (VDS) for Aghabullogue commenced at the end of 2012 and was prepared in conjunction with the two neighbouring villages of Rylane and Coachford.

The hard work of the ACR Community Council resulted in the securing of VDS funding from West Cork Development Partnership. Following a tender process, URS were engaged to support the community in their preparation of this Village Design Statement.

The people of Aghabullogue have generated ideas that are summarised here into a **Vision** for the village and an **Action List** with a series of **Projects**. These can be initiated within the **short, medium** and **long term**.

The status of a Village Design Statement is shown in the diagram to the right. A VDS is a mechanism for protecting, celebrating and enhancing local distinctiveness. It does not deal with statutory land use zonings and is separate from the Local Area Plan for Aghabullogue prepared by Cork County Council. A submission has been made by the community to Cork County Council to include a policy in the new Development Plan supporting the output of Village Design Statements.

The vision set out in this Village Design Statement is inspirational yet realistic and achievable. The community now have a “road-map” for progressing projects in the village, a tool for engaging with state and funding agencies and a plan for realising the goals and aspirations for the people of Aghabullogue.

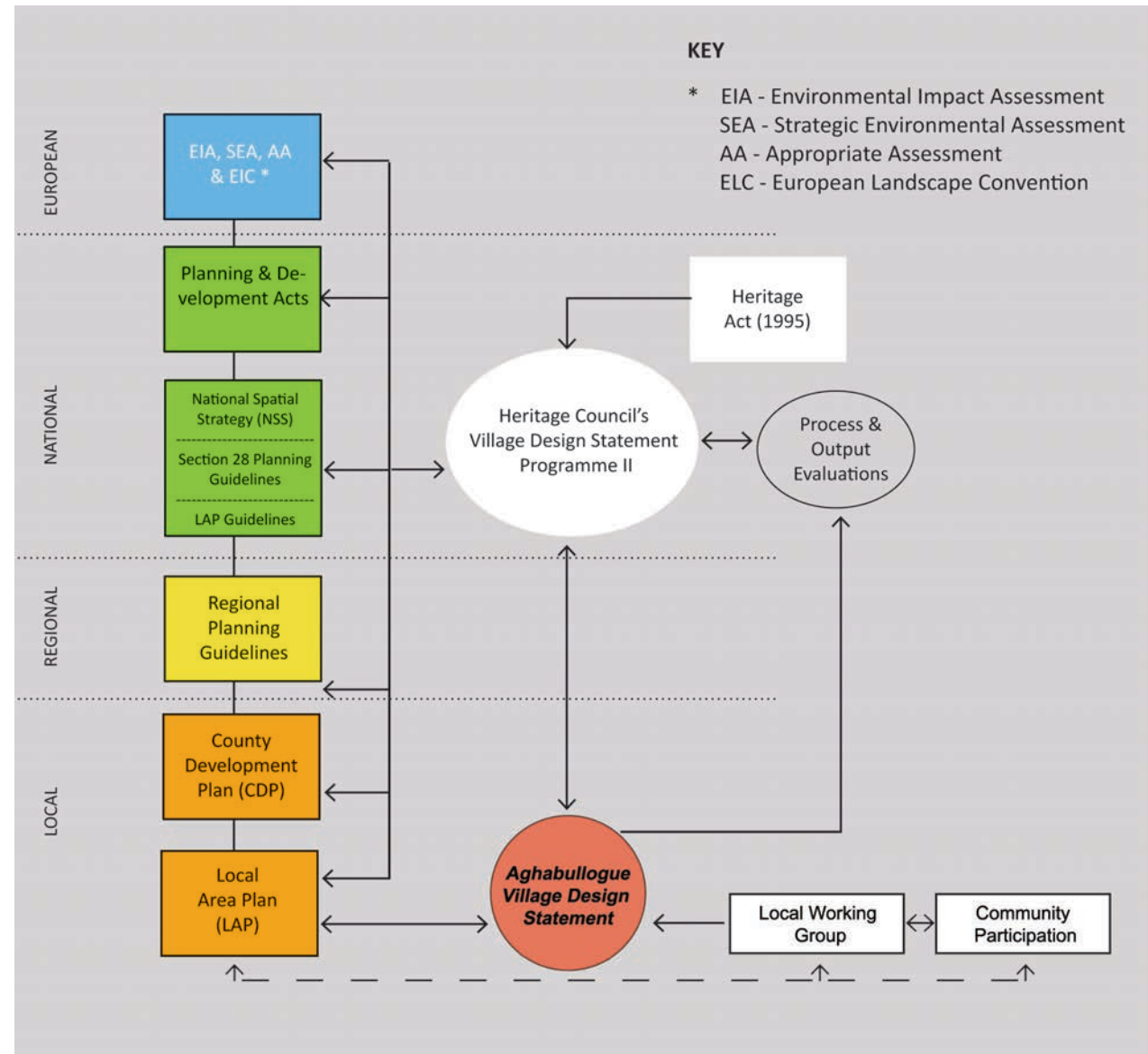


Diagram is based on the 'Community-Led Village Design Statements in Ireland, Toolkit 2012, Page 8, by The Heritage Council and Partners.

In summary, the following has been achieved by the preparation of a Village Design Statement for Aghabullogue:

Capturing of the knowledge contained within the community and sharing of information about the village, its landscape and heritage;

Development of a useful 'tool' to ensure that future developments and changes add to local distinctiveness and character;

A link into the planning system so that planners can use the VDS to improve the local distinctiveness of design proposals;

A summary of local opinion to assist local authority planners, architects, developers and others; and

A process which helped capacity building within the community and now provides a clear setting out of projects for future progression by the community.



2 The Collaborative Process

The Village Design Statement process has been based on the Toolkit developed by the Heritage Council in 2012. The community-led approach embraces a new collaborative and participative approach to village planning and design.

The collaborative process included three elements:

- A village walkabout with community representatives and URS
- Questionnaires issued to the village community
- A Community Workshop open to all held in Aghabullogue Community Hall

It was considered essential to involve a wide range of people in the shaping of the Village Design Statement - people of all age groups, people who had lived in Aghabullogue all their lives, and others who recently moved to the area. The questionnaire focused on questions relating to the following:

- What are the unique features and qualities of Aghabullogue?
- What are the issues of concern to the community?
- What is the character of the village?

It was considered very important to gather the opinions of children in the village. This was achieved with the kind help and support of the teachers and school principal. The pupils also explored the following two questions during an arts project:

- What do you like most about Aghabullogue?

- What would you like to have in your village?

The outcome resulted in wonderfully colourful, inspirational and imaginative drawings. The drawings were shown at the workshop. We wish to thank the school and everyone involved for their support in this project.



The participants at the community workshop engaged thoroughly with the marking of maps and drawings and worked through the following questions:

- What do you like about your village?
- What do you dislike about your village?
- Where is the centre of the village – Where and what is its historic core?
- How can Aghabullogue be a healthy place for children, for older people, for everyone?
- What would you like your village to be like in twenty years time?
- What can you do to help?

The evening sparked a lively debate about the different aspects of the village, its past, the current condition and its future.



After a careful analysis of all gathered information, a draft vision for the village was established. The workshop outcomes and a draft village vision were set out on posters which were put on display. The workshop outcomes were also shared with the relevant state agencies who were invited to join an Inter-Agency Group (members listed in Appendix II). All agencies expressed support for the Village Design Statement process and output. These relationships will grow as various projects set out in this document are progressed.

In many ways, the process of developing the Community-Led Village Design Statement has been as valuable as the document itself, bringing together local people and providing a focus around which all members of the community were given the opportunity to participate. The process also provided a mechanism for engagement with Cork County Council and other stage agencies.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

AGHABULLOGUE VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT



Play your part in the preparation of a Village Design Statement for Aghabullogue

The aim of the workshop is to generate ideas for the future of Aghabullogue.

We need everybody's input to achieve a shared vision for the village.

Wednesday, 7/11/12, 7pm
Aghabullogue Community Hall

The Village Design Statement will emerge from the ideas and knowledge of the community. It will be initiated by expert input from landscape architects, road engineers, recreation and heritage consultants from URS. This project was initiated by ACR Community Council.



Programme – Workshop, 7th November 2012

Aghabullogue - Preparation of a Village Design Statement (VDS)

7.00pm Introduction

- What is a community-led Village Design Statement?
- Overview of the collaborative and participative process
- Purpose of this evening's workshop

7.20pm Workshop

- What do you like about your village?
- What do you dislike about your village?
- Where is the centre of the village – Where and what is its historic core?
- How do we make Aghabullogue a healthy place for children, for older people, for everyone?
- What would you like your village to be like in twenty years' time?
- What can you do to help?
- Feedback from groups

8.30pm Summary

Summary of main points of agreement and explanation of next steps

8.40pm Open discussion

9.00pm Thank you and evening close





Sheltered housing in the field opposite the terrace

Make it safer for children to cycle



URS Consultants

Local Community

Community Workshops

Inter Agency Group

Village Walkabout

Questionnaires

- Big central noticeboard + map
- Community Power Scheme
- Public Transport (of the age)
- Trail linking villages (walk/cycle/nature/historic)
- Trail on old railway line to Cork
- Sheltered Housing } activity
- Community garden
- More trees/woodlands-nature
- Clear signposting from Coachford/Mallow Rd.
- Healthy rural living with a sense of community.
- Activities open to all + communicated to all. Neutral spaces
- Traffic controlled, so safe



3 Context and history



Aghabullogue Village Design Statement

Aghabullogue (as gaeilge, *Achadh Bolg* ~ field of the cow or field of the caves) is a village and parish in County Cork. The Parish of Aghabullogue occupies an area of 18,733 acres in the barony of Muskerry and includes the villages of Coachford and Rylane.

The good land in this part of Cork means that there have been people living here for millennia. There are many examples of stone circles, standing stones, wedge tombs, ringforts, ogham stones and fulacht fiadh in the locality. There are also great examples of traditional stone and earthen field boundaries in the village.



An ogham stone and St. Olan's holy well are present midway between Mountrivers and the village of Aghabullogue. These are the best known monuments in the locality and the well is still in use as a holy site. St. Olan is the patron saint of the parish, but the origins of St Olan's well lie in pre-Christian times. We know that the Irish people in pre-Christian times worshiped water. The arrival of Christianity saw many of these wells blessed and used by Christians. Pilgrimages (known as rounds) are still made at the well especially on the feast day of St. Olan on September the 5th. Here prayers are recited and water is used to cure ailments especially those of the eye. Votive stones are left behind symbolising the leaving behind of pains and illnesses. Nobody interferes with these stones for fear of picking up that ailment. The well is preserved and Stations of the Cross and a Statue of the Blessed Virgin were added in the 1970's. The well itself is a beehive shaped structure with a small opening at the base, a Whitethorn grows at the top of the well.

The ogham stone stands a few feet from the well. Ogham is the oldest form of writing in Ireland, it is based on the Latin alphabet. About 300 ogham inscriptions exist in Ireland mainly in the south-west, they are also found in Wales, Scotland and the Isle of Man. The letters are represented by lines or dots, which are marked on the stone. Ogham is read from the bottom up.

Aghabullogue, originally located in Mountrivers, moved to its present site in 1851. The inscription has been decoded as "MADORA MAQI DEGO" or "NO MAQI DEGO". The translation is unclear but it is thought to be in honour of some important chief or warrior of the Clana Deaghda tribe. These were a tribe of knights who lived in Ireland and held their territory in West Munster.



Olan's Stone, as it is known, has an oval quartzite cap said to have healing powers for headaches and 'women's ailments'. If moved away it is said to be able to make its own way back to the top of the stone. Another stone nearby is said to have the marks of the saint's feet on it.





A rath, an ancient enclosed homestead, with a souterrain or cave is located in a field just to the west of the village – this may be the origin of one of the translations for Aghabullogue – field of the caves.

While it is said that Aghabullogue village was founded in the 1100s by a Viking named Bagsecg, Aghabullogue Village, like its neighbour Coachford, is more a product of the early nineteenth century. There is no village showing in the 1816 Grand Jury Map - the only likely village at the time may have been around the present graveyard, where the Church of Ireland stood. We do know, though, that by 1835, the energetic Parish Administrator, Rev Denis O'Mahony, was planning a new church, which he had built by 1840, and it is still serving the community. He also oversaw the building of a new National School nearby, and it is very likely that a cluster of houses, of varying quality, sprang up around these parish facilities.



In 1843 the village hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons, namely the infamous Aghabullogue Grave Robbing. A local doctor, Dr Madras, arranged for a recently deceased man to be removed at night from his eternal rest, and conveyed to the Cork School of Anatomy, run by Dr Wherland. Unfortunately the two industrious mechanics who wielded the pick and shovel were caught transporting the body, and subsequently received twelve months for their pains. Of course the two doctors knew nothing about the adventure. Of course not!

The next few years, 1845 to 1850 were the saddest and most tragic in the history of the village and surrounding area, as the Great Famine ravaged the area. Before the Great Famine the population of the parish was 6,001 and over the course of the next ten years this dropped to 3,567. In 1881 this was 1,414 and today the population of the parish remains at around 2,000. The letters of Fr O'Mahony and of his Church of Ireland counterpart, Rev. William Welland, bear stark testimony to the suffering, and on one occasion Fr O'Mahony says that there were 25 bodies awaiting burial. While the village recovered, as it had to, life would never be the same again, and it is hardly surprising that the Land Agitation of the later nineteenth century was an important feature of life in the village. But a good day was to come, when a proud Dan Lane led the young men of Aghabullogue to the All-Ireland Hurling victory in 1890. The small village and hinterland, battered and devastated as it had been, was still able to make its mark.



By the early twentieth century the village appeared much as it did until the recent buildings. The church, the school, the army (later FCA) hall, the two pubs, the creamery, the post office - a small corrugated iron building - showed the usual features of a small Irish town.

The War of Independence was to leave a sad mark on the village, as the first victims of the conflict, at the ambush of Soladeadbeg near Tipperary Town included a local man from Coachford, Constable Patrick O'Connell of the R.I.C. It is said that his coffin was shouldered all the way to Kilcolman Cemetery, a tribute to the young man himself and to his family. In recent years we have seen the improvements to the school, the building of the magnificent new hall, the Church and new houses.

Aghabullogue has a huge cultural and sporting tradition which continues strongly to this day.



4 The Landscape Setting



Aghabullogue is set within an undulating and rural landscape with interweaving hills and valleys. The wider landscape is defined by hills rising to the Boggeragh Mountains to the north and the scenic landscape of the River Lee further south.

The surrounding landscape has a strong agricultural form, with a mosaic field pattern and tree and hedgerow field boundaries. There are also areas where historic stone wall boundaries are found largely intact. The stone and earthen wall field boundary is characteristic of this part of Cork and there are fine examples within the village itself. There are areas of woodland as well as more recent conifer plantations in the wider landscape.

As a recognition of its natural scenic beauty, there are a number of scenic routes in the wider area and the area is highly tranquil. There are shallow tributary valleys in the area, with the River Delahinagh to the east of the village. These features, including the close proximity to the River Lee reservoir, add to the high value of the overall landscape setting.

The landscape displays the layers of habitation over the millennia – from ancient homestead enclosures to ogham stones, holy wells, stone circles, and a complex field pattern that has built up over time.



5 The Village





1 Community Hall



2 Church and car park



3 Cremin's Shop & Pub



4 School



5 Delahinagh River and farmland



6 Old stone walls



7 Hurling memorial



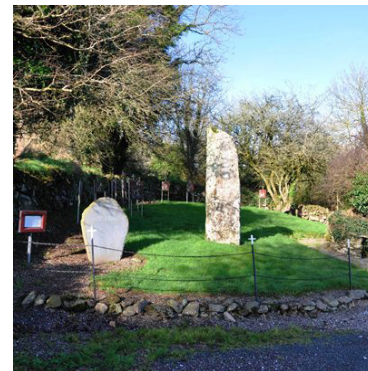
8 Old farm buildings



9 Open space at St Olan's terrace



10 The White House



11 St Olan's Well and Stone



12 Sports field

6 Aghabullogue today, an analysis

The following is a summary of the community analysis gained from the village walkabout, questionnaires and workshop. Further details are contained in Appendix IV.

The people like ...

- Quiet country village
- Good community Spirit
- Characterful village
- Close to city suburbs
- Compact village
- School
- St. Olan's Well
- Sporting traditions (Hurling)
- Close to N22
- Not far from West Cork beaches and Killarney
- Church
- GAA Monument
- Aghavrin Castle
- Mullinhassig Waterfall
- Lovely views from village into countryside
- Overall tidiness of village
- Sports fields
- Community Hall
- Tennis courts
- The terrace
- Leader's Folly

what we like

- ① Church
- ② School
- ③ Cremins
- ④ Shop
- ⑤ Hall
- ⑥ School field
- ⑦ Tennis Court
- ⑧ *recreational area*
- ⑨ Monument to 1890 victory

- Children's Garden
- Shop and pub
- Stone ditches and hedgerows
- Trees
- Water treatment plant
- River
- Bridge at Peake
- Ford at Aghabullogue Bridge
- Ring forts
- Point to point horse jumping
- Lakes



The community is concerned about ...

- Speed of traffic through village
- Collapsed wall at Community centre
- Poor street lighting
- Poor condition of some of the existing footpaths
- External appearance of community hall and surroundings
- Insufficient pedestrian crossing in village centre
- No B&B exists at present
- Missing drainage along the small ditch running along the side of the road
- Public lighting sufficient on the main road but not up the hill to residential housing at top
- Missing footpath from houses at the top of the hill linking to the main street footpath
- Vehicles driving down the hill without stopping
- Insufficient parking at St. Olan's Housing Estate
- Road width at council estate is narrow and footpath ends before junction
- Insufficient access points for disabled people, i.e. lowered kerbs, connecting footpaths, designated disabled parking
- Playground

Make it safer
for children
to cycle

Slow down
traffic
for
children



What we don't like
Poor footpaths
more footpaths or traffic Calming?
Ramps maybe?



The people have the following ideas ...

- Sheltered
housing in
the field
opposite the terrace

Extend Re-cycling
Banks i.e. papers,
cardboard, etc..

What can I do to help to improve the village?

This is what the people of Aghabullogue came up with:

- Volunteering with Youth club
- Volunteering with Community Events
- Prepare action plans for the most important issues e.g. Traffic calming
- Volunteer for community initiatives such as Tidy Towns Committee
- Investigate possibility of grants for community woodlands / neighbourhood woods / walks
- Increased use of community hall
- Volunteer to improve visual appearance of hall

Making both
rings more
perfection +
cycling friendly

Loads of trees
Community enterprises
for energy + food
Security



CREATE MORE OF A VILLAGE CENTRE



Healthy Child
 - FOOTPATHS
 - PLAYGROUND
 - TRAFFIC CALMING
 - Cycling/Walking
 Trail - link
 3 villages

These are the local heritage features Aghabullogue would like to protect for future generations

- Ring forts
- Leader's Folly
- Church

more people
 more shops
 more pubs

This is what Aghabullogue would like for its older people:

- More activities, i.e. Bingo
- Provision of Chiropody
- Meals on wheels
- Establishment of visiting medical service
- Day Centre / Sheltered Housing
- Provision of public transport

More locally available
 Goods & services

This is what the children of Aghabullogue want

- Café / Youth Club
- Playground
- Cinema
- Community Garden
- Go-kart arena
- More sporting facilities / events
- Pedestrian crossings
- Skate Park
- Slow down traffic
- Traffic lights
- Village welcome signs
- Warning sign 'School children crossing'

These are the ideas to enhance local business

- Buy local products
- Improve tourism in area
- Establishment of a B&B

Aghabullogue would like to see a social club, mini-bus, park benches and garden allotments for the older members of the community

Areas for improvement: (red shelves)

- ① Traffic
- ② External aspect of hall could look better (trees in front)
- ③ street lighting

The people of Aghabullogue would like to see these events and festivals in the village

- Halloween party for kids
- Traditional music festival
- School Christmas Pantomime in church
- Community Games
- Hurling matches
- Quiz night in pubs
- Table quiz
- Christmas Celebration in Community Hall
- Family fun day with barbecue
- Field evening runs



7 The Shared Vision

“AGHABULLOGUE, a WELCOMING,
TRANQUIL & SELF-SUFFICIENT rural
village - HEALTHY RURAL LIVING within
a strong COMMUNITY”



Having identified its distinctive features and the issues and opportunities associated with the village, we can now look to the future. What kind of place would you like Aghabullogue to be? The exercises carried out at the community workshop resulted in the formulation of a shared vision for the village.

This **Shared Vision Statement** represents the aspirations that the people of Aghabullogue have for their village. All future development and regeneration projects in Aghabullogue should now seek to contribute to the realisation of this vision.

- Community Garden
- FOOTPATHS
- VISITING DOCTOR
- SERVICES - Transport
- Medical
- SHELTERED HOUSING
- Locally produced foods.

- Big central noticeboard + map
- Community Power Scheme
- Public Transport (of the age)
- Trail linking villages (walk/cycle/nature/historic)
- Trail on old railway line to Cork
- Sheltered Housing } activity
- Community garden
- More trees/woodlands - native
- Clear signage/posting from Coachford/Mallow Rd.
- Healthy rural living with a sense of community.
- Activities open to all + communicated to all. Neutral
- Traffic controlled, so safe

a walk along the water

Meeting place in the Community Garden for young and old to meet benches, shelter etc.

Smooth and safe footpath. Better Road. Better and signage to keep it tranquil. Keep stone walls in good condition. Improvement in water.



8 Key Ambitions

1 Create more of a village centre

- Create a continuous network of footpaths, traffic calming measures including footpaths and lighting
- Provide safe pedestrian crossings in relevant places
- Create a community garden/playground for children
- Maintain rural character, rather than suburban
- Better village services and information
- Maintain population by facilitating a sustainable housing scheme

2 Become a more self-sufficient village

- Instigate a community renewable power scheme
- Promote local growing and selling of food
- Improve public transport
- Upgrade insulation in buildings

3 Create more opportunities for healthy living

- Establish walking and cycling trails, to link with Rylane and Coachford
- Establish walks along the Delahinagh River
- Improve and expand sports facilities
- Establish new sports events

4 Improve our community facilities

- Provide sheltered accommodation in village and more activities for older people
- Improve appearance and surroundings of Community Hall and instigate a new booking system
- Ensure public buildings are accessible for all
- More activities for older people

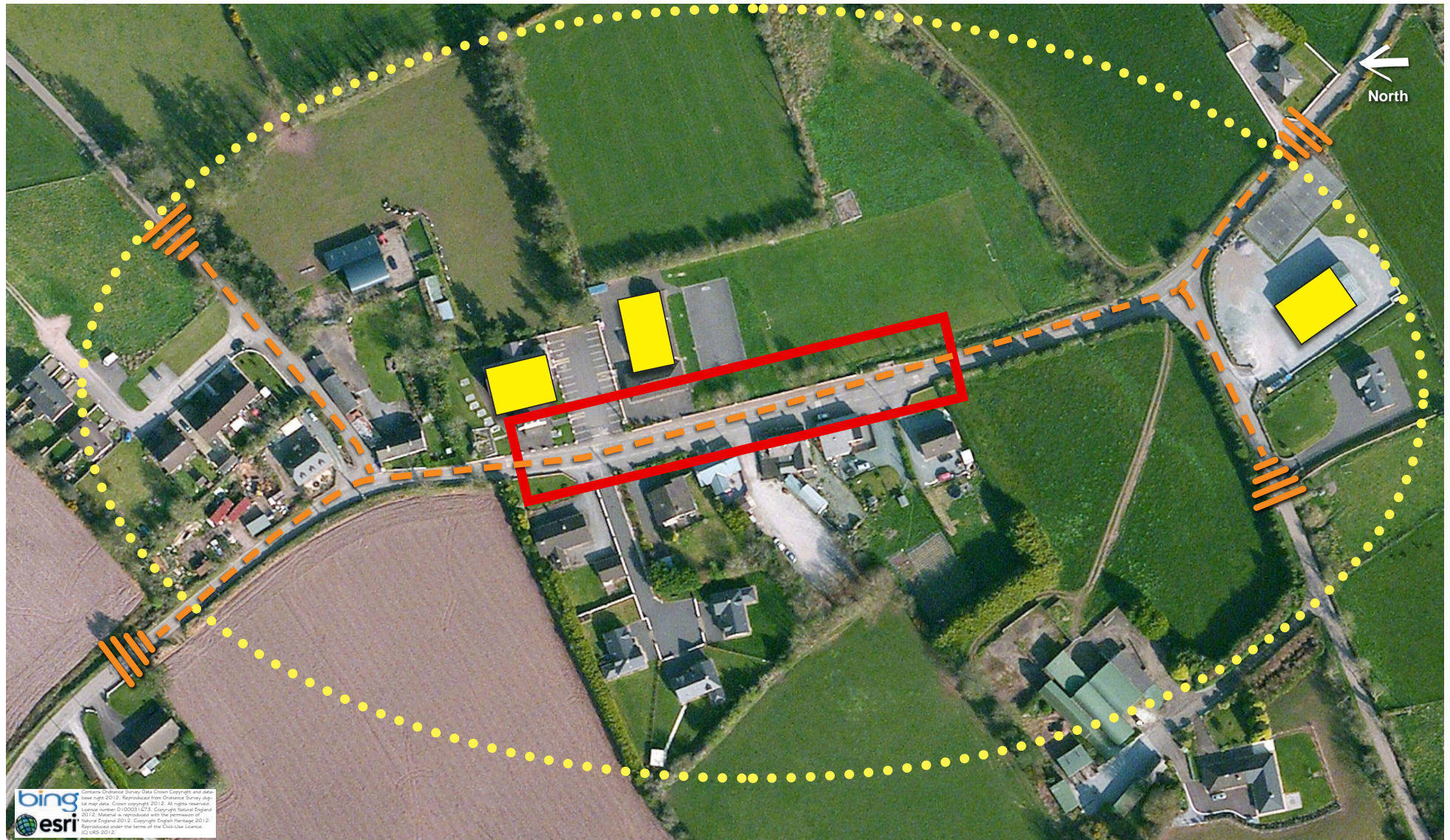
5 Celebrate our living heritage

- Promote 5,000yr heritage of the area
- Develop interpretation signage for local sites of interest
- Maintain and repair old stone walls
- Promote heritage tourism in Aghabullogue along with Rylane and Coachford
- Plant native trees and woodland
- More events and festivals to celebrate our heritage

6 Celebrate living in Aghabullogue

- More events and festivals; sporting, music, seasonal etc,
- Encourage more volunteering in community

9 Village Design Concept



The Village Heart

The heart of the village will be strengthened by the improvement of footpaths, organised parking and trees. It will retain its local business and include a community cafe, garden, playground and other suitable features for the people of Aghabullogue. Public transport options will improve and there will be a bus stop shelter. Any new buildings will contribute to the sense of a village centre. New native trees and shrubs will contribute to a tranquil village setting.

The village centre will be connected to St. Olan's Terrace and the Community hall by footpaths and lighting. The village will retain its rural character and celebrate its heritage features, retaining them for future generations. The sports grounds will be fully used for the benefit of the whole community.

The buildings of the village will be insulated to the highest standards, recycling and renewable energy will be an integral part of Aghabullogue. Food will be locally produced and sold.

Our Community



Aghabullogue will build on all the great achievements to date and move towards becoming a more self-sufficient community. Local people of all ages will make great use of the fantastic resource of the Community Hall and sports pitches. A community café and playground will be established, and a community renewable energy project will be instigated. All the buildings in the village will meet the highest standards of energy efficiency. The landscape will be planted with more native trees and woodland, availing of community grants for tree planting and woodland creation. Volunteering will support a wide range of events and festivals, and ensure the village heritage is retained for future generations.

Our Landscape

Aghabullogue is nestled within a beautiful landscape and much of the village character is determined by the relationship between built structures and the landscape. Any new interventions will respect the high quality of the landscape setting and the historic features of the landscape such as stone walls and hedgerows.

The open space at St. Olan's Terrace could be planted with native trees, or other landscape design. There may be opportunities for native woodland planting and community woodland creation.

Links to the river can be strengthened, and the possibility of greenways along the river and in the landscape, possibly linking Aghabullogue with Rylane and Coachford will be explored. Signage and interpretation would form part of any of these projects.

Taming the road

Appropriate traffic speed is important to make a village feel more welcoming and safe to walk around. Traffic calming will take several forms – the emphasis will be on physical interventions such as

- Replacement of hard standing between the traffic calming gateways and the heart of the village with planting, kerbs, paths as appropriate
- Upgrade, extension and interconnection of footpaths throughout the village.
- Street side trees and lighting

All of the above suggestions will require further detailed design and road safety audits. The phasing and prioritising of these interventions will require careful planning to ensure success.



View north along the local road in the centre of Aghabullogue

The heart of the village will be transformed by a clear separation of vehicle and pedestrian circulation. A standard road and junction size will narrow the carriageway and provide for increased pedestrian areas, car parking bays parallel along the road and safer pedestrian crossings. New and connected footpaths, more trees, improved street lighting will strengthen the heart of Aghabullogue and provide a better setting for village community life.

Traffic calming measures on the approaches to the village will slow down vehicles and make the village more pedestrian friendly.





*View south of the local road junction
at the community hall*



The junction at the Community Hall is currently quite wide and the pedestrian link between the centre of the village and the hall is dangerous. The building of a footpath, the narrowing of the junction, lighting, traffic calming on the approach roads and a crossing point would integrate the hall more into the village. This illustration is for discussion purposes - any new interventions would need to be carefully designed to fully complement the rural character of Aghabullogue.

10 Action Plan

What is the 'Action Plan'?

This Community-Led Village Design Statement is the jump off point for a series of projects that have been identified over the course of the process. The key issues are concerned with the following:

- Creating a sense of arrival and strengthening the centre of the village
- Create a healthy environment for all
- Move towards self-sufficiency and renewable energy
- Celebrate our living heritage and improve community facilities

Positive change will depend on partnerships forming between the community, Cork County Council, Cork Roads Design Office, West Cork Development Partnership, private developers and government agencies such as Coillte and the Heritage Council.

Success will depend on the Village Design Project teams tasked to progress specific actions as laid out in the Action Plan. The process has received great support from Cork County Council and this will continue as the community picks up the various actions for implementation. Specialist input may need to be sought on a voluntary or paid basis (e.g. local history, footpath and landscape design, traffic calming, self-sufficiency planning and implementation).

Funding will need to be sourced for various projects. The proposed improvements to the pedestrian environment may for example be funded via roadwork budgets within the County Council.

This project in particular would require close working with agencies responsible for road safety and design. Funding may also be sourced from state agencies, or through funding programmes in local and central government, European programmes and the private sector.

The Action Plan for delivery provides an important tool by which the implementation of the VDS projects can be managed. It sets out priorities, relevant agencies for partnership and a timeframe. Some projects are easily achievable in the short term and some will require longer planning and more specialist input. The projects in the Action Plan are for the community to drive forward on their own, with input from specialist and agencies as necessary. The success of this Community-Led Village Design Statement will ultimately come from the sustained enthusiasm and commitment of the community. This document shows how much can be achieved in a short time, and sets out how much can be achieved in the future.



Agreed Village Design Action Plan - Part 1

Concept	Project	Priority	Timeframe	Agencies responsible
Welcome to Aghabullogue Arrival at our village	Develop and implement traffic calmings at all village entrances (local roads). Entrances to be announced with integrated landscape treatment, speed limit signs (50km/h), traffic calming ahead sign and road marking (yellow bar marking). Oversized signs should be avoided. Entrance areas should be fitted with lighting, kerbs and trees to encourage psychological traffic calming.	H	ST	Cork Roads Design Office, Community
The Village Heart Public Realm and 'Taming the road'	Alteration of road junction at community hall to reduce traffic speed (narrow carriageway, implement clear road markings, improve sightlines, implement traffic calming).	H	ST	Cork Roads Design Office, Community
	Develop a clear division between vehicular space and pedestrian space throughout the village. Repair and extend the existing footpath system. Implement improved street lighting in currently insufficiently lit areas, provide for pedestrian crossings (with lowered kerbs), tree planting along footpaths and parking bays including designated spaces for disabled car users.	H	ST	Cork Roads Design Office, Community
	Stabilise and repair collapsed stone wall at the community centre road boundary.	H	ST	Cork County Council, Community
	Provision of additional parking facilities at St. Olan's housing estate.	M	MT	Cork County Council, Community
	Renew and upgrade direction signage with the village.	H	ST	Cork Roads Design Office, Cork County Council
	Provision of signage/information system within village to direct visitors to parking facilities and local amenities.	H	MT	Cork County Council, Heritage Council, Western Cork Development Board
	Ensure public buildings are accessible for everyone.	H	MT	Cork County Council, Private Businesses, Community
	Develop an amenity park with playground, seating and picnic facilities in or near the centre of the village.	H	MT	Cork County Council, Community, West Cork Development Board
Facilities	Development of sheltered accommodation for older generations.	L	LT	Private Investor, Cork County Council, Community
	Establish a Youth Club in the community hall.	M	MT	Community, Local business
	Establish a gym in the community hall.	M	MT	Community, Local business
	Establish a regular bus service to Cork in conjunction with a bus shelter in the centre of the village.	L	LT	Cork County Council, Bus Eireann

Key: **Priority:** H - High, M - Medium, L - Low
Timeframe: ST - Short term, MT - Medium Term, LT - Long Term

Agreed Village Design Action Plan - Part 2

Concept	Project	Priority	Timeframe	Agencies responsible
Facilities (continued)	Development of visitor accommodation (B&B).	M	MT	Local business, Private Investors
	Extend existing recycling facilities.	M	ST	Cork County Council
	Repair and improve the existing tennis courts beside the community hall.	H	ST	Community, Local business
	Development of a village information board with brief history, local heritage features and location information.	H	ST	Cork County Council, Heritage Council, Western Cork Development Board
	Development of a community café in the heart of the village.	L	LT	Local business, Private Investors
	Implement tree and shrub planting around the community hall to improve its visual appearance.	H	MT	Community, Local business, Cork County Council
	Paint the community hall with warm and bright colours to improve its visual appearance.	M	MT	Dulux Paint Funding, Community, Local business
	Establish farmer's shop to sell local products	L	LT	Private Investor, Community
Water and Energy Management	Upgrade and extension of current water supply system.	M	MT	Cork County Council, Office of Public Works
	Provision of gullies and an adequate drainage network along the main road within the village (including attenuation and oil separator as necessary).	H	MT	Cork Roads Design Office
	Development of a small community wind farm at a suitable area in the village environs to provide a source of renewable energy for the village.	L	LT	Private Investor, ESBI
	Upgrade insulation in all village buildings to improve energy efficiency	H	MT	Private Investment, Western Cork Development Board
Living Heritage	Maintain/repair existing stone walls throughout the village.	H	ST	Heritage Council, Community, Cork County Council
	Development of interpretation signage to local sites of interest within the village and its environs.	M	MT	Heritage Council, Community, Cork County Council
	Plant native trees and woodland.	M	ST	Private landowners, Coilte
Rolling Landscapes Integrate our village into its surroundings	Establish signposted looped walks from the village to local sites of interest.	H	MT	Private landowners, Cork County Council, Communities
	Establish walks along the Delahinagh River incorporating Aghabullogue village.	M	MT	Private landowners, Cork County Council, Communities

Key: **Priority:** H - High, M - Medium, L - Low
Timeframe: ST - Short term, MT - Medium Term, LT - Long Term

Agreed Village Design Action Plan - Part 3

Concept	Project	Priority	Timeframe	Agencies responsible
Moving closer together Connection of our village to Rylane and Coachford	Development of a cycling and walking network (off road if possible) to link Aghabullogue with Rylane and Coachford.	H	MT	Private landowners, Cork County Council, Communities
	Development of a joint website for the villages of Aghabullogue, Rylane and Coachford providing information about the villages, facilities, things to do and history.	H	ST	Community, Failte Ireland
	Promote Aghabullogue together with Rylane and Coachford. Develop tourism with focus on heritage features, walking and cycling.	M	MT	Community, Cork County Council, Heritage Council, Failte Ireland
Ourselves The village community	Establish a digital booking system for community hall.	H	ST	Community
	Development of a community garden with seating facilities and shelters.	H	MT	Community, Cork County Council
	Improve public transport connection to and from the village.	H	MT	Cork County Council
	Actively engage in the planning of future buildings to ensure sustainable development to strengthen the heart of the village.	H	MT	Community, Cork County Council
	Support Local business, i.e. shop local.	H	ST	Community and visitors

Key: **Priority:** H - High, M - Medium, L - Low
Timeframe: ST - Short term, MT - Medium Term, LT - Long Term

Appendix I

Information Sources

Planning Policy - European

- European Landscape Convention, 2004
http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/default_en.asp
- Aarhus Convention, 1998, UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)
<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/introduction.html>

Planning Policy - County

Cork County Development Plan 2009 - 2015
www.corkcoco.ie

Planning Policy - Local

Macroom Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011

Useful contacts

Cork County Council – 021 427 6891

- Planning Department – 021 428 5900
- Heritage Officer – 021 427 6891
- Area Engineer (Macroom Area Office) – 026-41047
- The Heritage Council – 056 777 0777

West Cork Development Partnership (Clonakilty Office) – 023 883 4035

Cork Enterprise Board (South Cork) – 021 497 5281

Coillte (Macroom Office) – 026 20270 ask for Recreation & Trails officer or Park Manager & Forest Manager

Cork Roads Design Office, N71 – 021 485 8155

National Rowing Centre / Rowing Ireland - 021-7434044

URS Ireland Limited (Dublin Office) – 01 293 3200

Appendix II

Members of the Inter-Agency Group for the Aghabullogue Village Design Statement

Peter Dineen	ACR Community Council
Suzanne Gunnip	Planning Department, Cork County Council
Grainne O'Mahony	Divisional Office, Cork County Council
Faughna Keohane	Area Engineer, Macroom Area Office
Connor Nelligan	Heritage Office, Cork County Council
Lisa Cashman	West Cork Development Partnership
Mary O'Brien	Coillte

Appendix III

The **Macroom Electoral Area - Local Area Plan 2011** is the statutory planning document for Aghabullogue.

This is what it says.....

“The vision for the village of Aghabullogue up to 2020 is to encourage development within the village, while protecting its rural setting and to retain and improve the existing services and community facilities.”

In the period between 200 and 2010 Geodirectory figures show that the number of dwellings in the village increased from 20 in 2001 to 26 in 2005 only to fall again to 21 by 2010. The fall in numbers could be due to an ageing population.

The Local Area Plan 2011 sets out some planning objectives in **Aghabullogue**, which **has been identified as one of four key villages in the Macroom Electoral Area**. The following are some extracts from the planning objectives:

The following are extracts of planning objectives as set out in the Local Area Plan 2011:

7.3.1. ...Development is encouraged on land within the development boundary to ensure the retention of existing services and facilities within the village.

There are some specific planning objectives in the current Local Area Plan for Aghabullogue:

7.4.1. ...low density and small scale development and one off housing growth is likely to be the extent of future development within the village which would act as alternatives to the construction of one off houses in the countryside....

Objective no. DB-1c, d & f – Development Boundary Objectives

These objectives relate to the development of houses and suggest that houses in any particular group should **have regard to the character** of the existing village... Roadside development within the village shall be suited and designed to ensure the retention of pedestrian and vehicular access to backland sites for potential further development ... Development within the village core shall be **designed to a high standard to reinforce the character of the streetscape**.

Objective no. O-01 – Open Space Objective

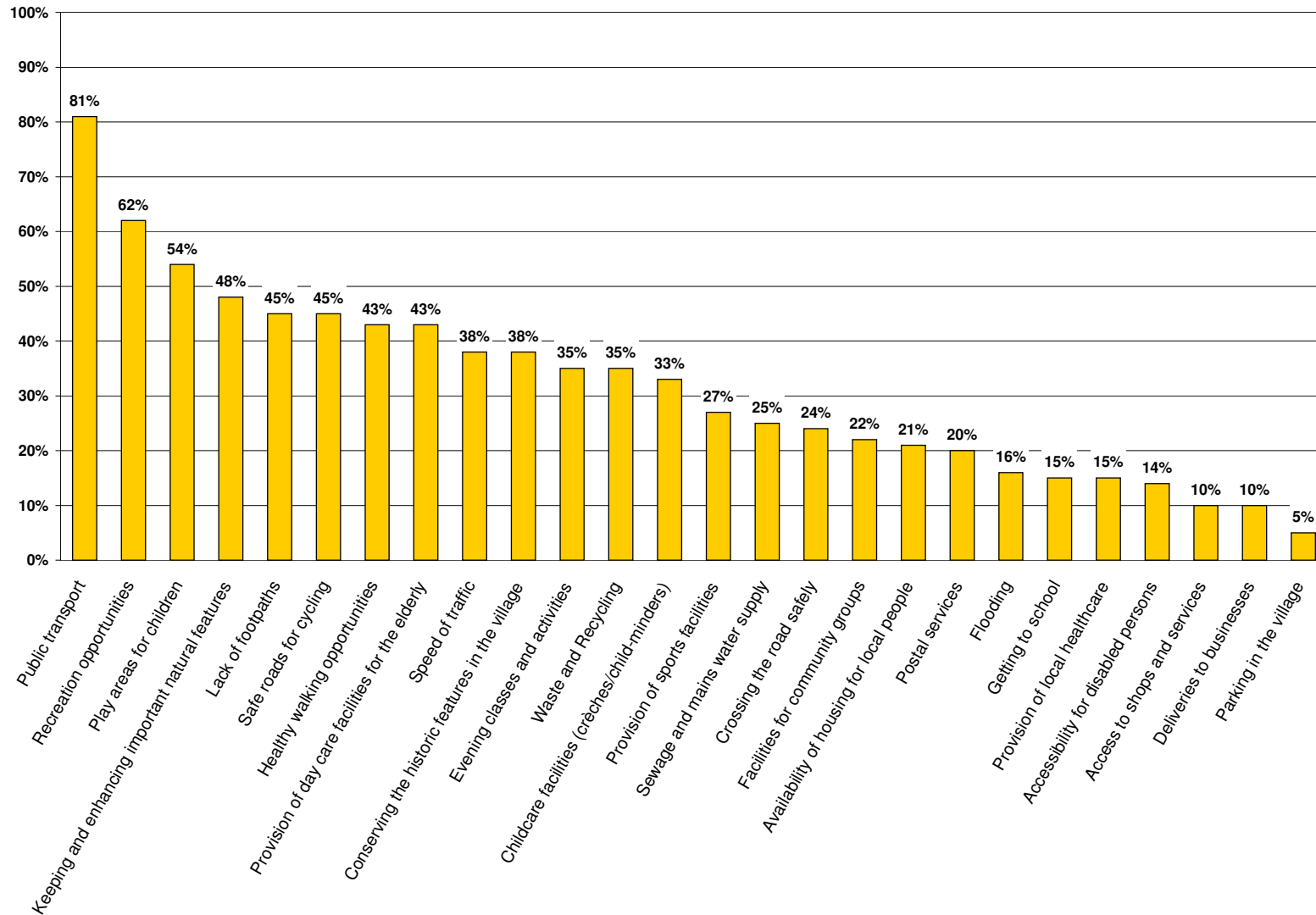
Maintain open space/recreation area.

The above objective will ensure that the school continues to have adequate room for playing pitches or other amenity uses.

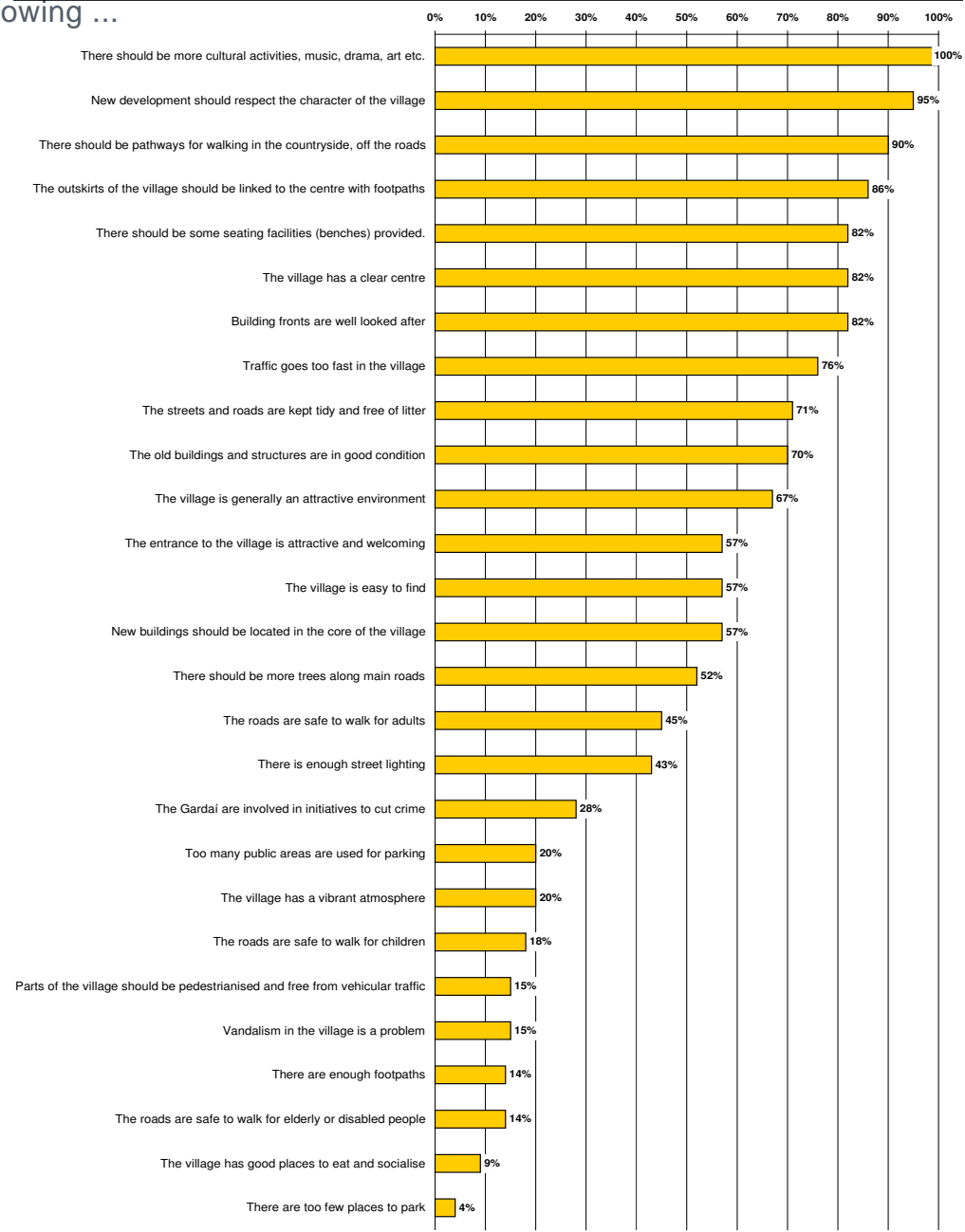
Appendix IV

Summary of the questionnaires completed by the Aghabullogue community

The community of Aghabullogue has the following main concerns ...



The community of Aghabullogue agrees to the following ...



Notes



West Cork
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



The European Agricultural
Fund for Rural
Development
Europe investing in rural
areas



URS