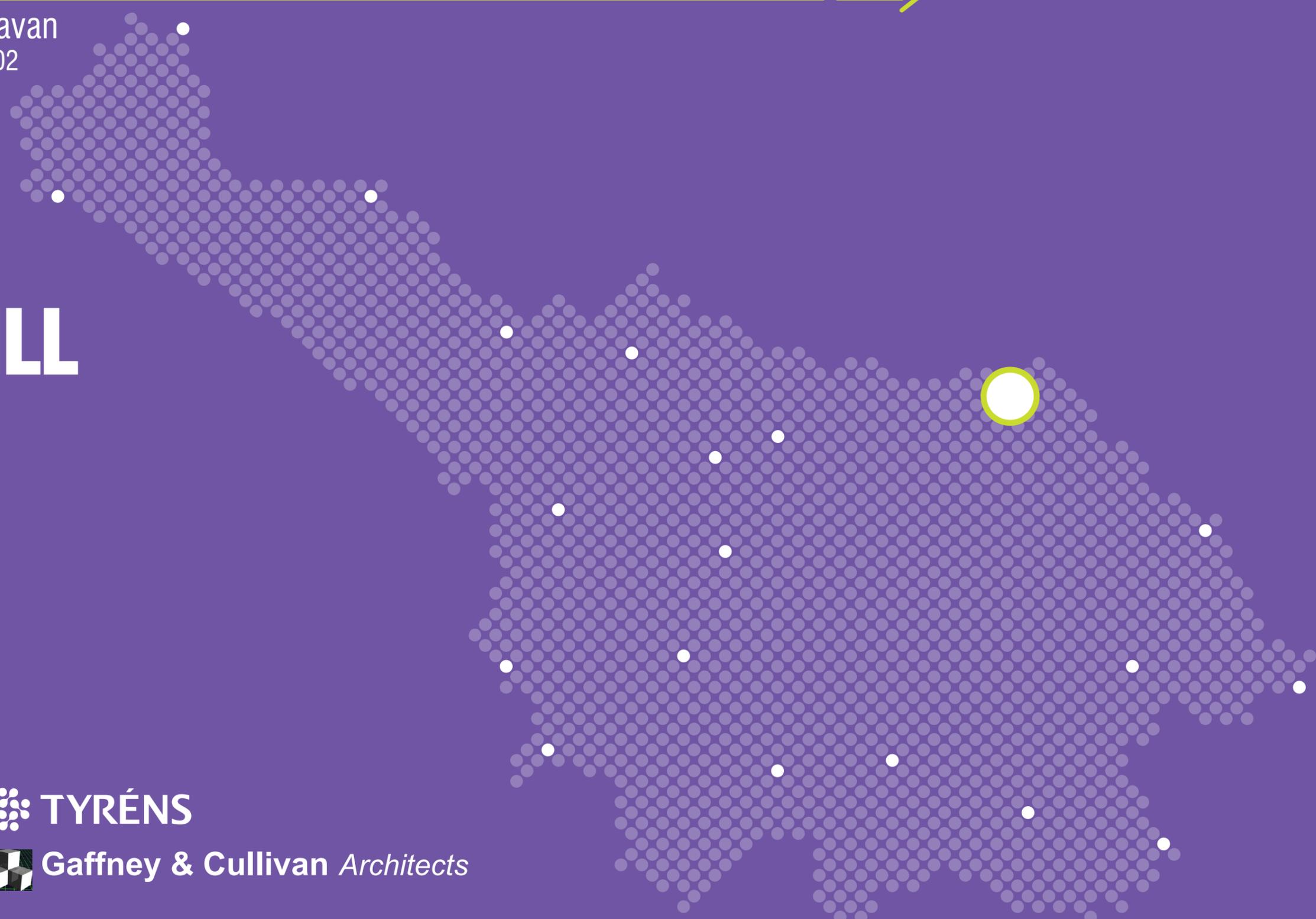


// County Cavan Town and Village Revitalisation Plans

REVITALISATION PLANS

Prepared for County Cavan
26th September 2018 - Issue 02
FINAL

COOTEHILL



CLIENT

Cavan County Council

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PROJECT OVERVIEW



Cavan County Council has taken the lead in developing Town and Village Revitalisation Plans for 20 Towns and Villages across the County.

These plans have been developed in recognition of the importance of supporting and developing the physical and social fabric of these towns. The objective is to enhance our Towns and Villages as more attractive places to live and to work.

The plans are ambitious and will act as blueprints for the development and enhancement of our Towns and Villages over the next ten to fifteen years.

An integral part of the success of these plans will be the role that communities within the towns and villages take in leading out in their implementation in conjunction with Cavan County Council and other relevant bodies. Identification of a broad range of projects within the plans will enable communities to easily prioritise and develop project applications.

1. The Context for County Cavan Towns and Villages

Towns and villages play a key role in terms of serving the economic, social, cultural and community needs of the people and their hinterland. However, many towns and villages throughout Ireland are experiencing huge changes in terms of their commercial, aesthetic and cultural landscape. Provincial towns and especially provincial villages are under serious threat from the polarising effect of the larger city economies.

County Cavan is no exception to these changes. But while it shares the generic planning challenges that most provincial towns face such as out-of-town retail and residential development leading to dereliction of established town centres, Cavan County has also some very specific characteristics and needs. In particular South East Cavan due its proximity to the Greater Dublin Area has seen significant rise in population resulting in significant commuter numbers in some of the towns. In contrast parts of West Cavan, nested within pristine landscapes but in remote locations are suffering from population decline. County Cavan also faces challenges on account of its proximity to the border with Northern Ireland.

Within this context, as both the towns and villages experience huge changes across County Cavan, there is a greater importance placed on developing places that will be resilient and sustainable in the years and decades to come. In this context, County Cavan Council aim to harness local community and entrepreneurial spirit, in order to develop Revitalisation Plans for the towns and villages of Cavan.

2. Project Purpose and Outcomes

In September 2017, Tyréns UK and GCAL were commissioned by County Cavan Council to undertake the Town and Villages Revitalisation Plans project. The project will complement studies already undertaken by County Cavan and local Councils aimed at securing the long-term future of Cavan's towns.

The project encompasses the revitalisation of the following 20 towns and villages:

- Cavan Town
- Virginia
- Bailieborough
- Ballyjamesduff
- Cootehill
- Kingscourt
- Belturbet
- Mullagh
- Ballyconnell
- Ballinagh
- Ballyhaise
- Shercock
- Killeshandra
- Arva
- Kilnaleck
- Swanlinbar
- Butlersbridge
- Blacklion
- Loch Gowna
- Dowra

The purpose of this study is to prepare plans showcasing how improvements can enhance the town as an attractive place in which to live, play, work, and visit. The Revitalisation Plans will seek to enhance and improve town and village functions both on a day to day basis, while also seeking to improve the long term socio economic, cultural and environmental benefits for residents, businesses, communities and visitors.

The outcomes of the Revitalisation Plans are three-fold - to deliver successful strategies across spatial development, economic development and community development. The project will seek to ensure that the design of these town and village plans recognises the diversity that exists in the County of Cavan and will tailor each plan for the site specifics of each settlement.

3. Project Structure

The project has been structured as follows:

STAGE 1 - BASELINE

- Review of background material, reports, studies and strategies
- 'What makes Cavan - Cavan' engagement campaign
- County wide analysis
- Review of consultation findings

STAGE 2 - REVITALISATION PLANS

- Individual Town and Village Revitalisation Plans
- Consultation workshops

4. Objectives and Role of this Report

This report is one of a sequence of twenty reports providing a final summary of the proposals and proposals prepared as part of the County Cavan Towns and Villages Revitalisation project. This report is the final revitalisation report for Cootehill (town 05 of 20).

The report sets out a series of proposals focusing on spatial, economic and community development, establishing recommendations for implementation timescales. The proposals are action-based and spatially focused and provide an urban design and public realm framework to inform local planning policy and future development and/or regeneration proposals, covering place-making, open space, transport, parking, heritage, iconic features and vistas, natural environment etc.

The report also compiles findings from the community engagement. The current design for Cootehill is the result of a collaborative process with County Cavan Council, citizens, stakeholders and neighbours groups.

5. Project Deliverables

The following reports have been or will be delivered as part of County Cavan Town and Village Revitalisation Plans project documentation:

STAGE 1 - BASELINE

- Draft and Final Baseline Report - Site Analysis including SWOT analysis of each town and village and a County Wide analysis

STAGE 2 - REVITALISATION PLANS

- Draft and Final Individual Town and Village Revitalisation Plans

6. Project Programme

The early stages of the project - October 2017 to January 2018 - were dedicated to understanding the towns and villages context. During this period community engagement events were carried out as part of the 'What makes Cavan - Cavan' campaign.

Following this stage, from January to early February 2018, a County Wide Strategy has been prepared establishing a shared vision for County Cavan's towns and villages, identifying unique selling points, focus areas and themes for the Revitalisation Plans.

From February to May 2018, Revitalisation Plans have been prepared for each individual town. These plans have been supported by a series of workshops with the community.

7. The Tyréns and Gaffney & Cullivan Architects Approach

The GCAL and Tyréns team bring global thinking and local knowledge to the project. GCAL as Lead Architect bring expertise, extensive experience and considerable local knowledge of County Cavan. The practice specialises in built heritage which leads to proactive conservation architecture and renewal. Tyréns is a European multidisciplinary masterplanning, urban development and sustainable infrastructure consulting firm specialised in community and regional planning. The combination of Tyréns international experience coupled with GCAL's wealth of more local knowledge brings a unique perspective to the project.

Disciplines inputting to the project include urban design and planning, landscape architecture, transport and community capacity building. Working with the council's team, Tyréns and GCAL approach centre around people, their needs, their habits and their vision to inform the design of urban space. Tyréns and GCAL's goal is to activate factors that allow towns and villages to flourish as attractive places in which to live, work and socialise in.

INTRODUCTION



This report details the proposals aimed at revitalising Cootehill. It is structured in the following way:

Section A - County Wide and Town Specific Proposals

Section A of the report identifies and describes proposals that are recommended to be implemented both county wide and on a town-by-town specific basis.

The section begins by presenting County Wide Proposals (referenced as CWP) that are recommended to be rolled out in each town across County Cavan. The report continues to outline a series of potential Town Specific Proposals (referenced as SP) that are recommended to be implemented in specific towns and villages across County Cavan only. The town specific proposals will be relevant to only some of the towns, and will be explored with further clarity in each report.

Each proposal is also associated with a suggested priority rating and predicted cost. This assumption is based on findings from consultations and feedback from members of the public. Both ratings are represented alongside each proposal with the following icons:

Priority rating:

- High
- Medium
- Low

Cost rating:

- Standard Upgrade €0 - €25,000
- Standard Plus Upgrade €25,000 - €100,000
- Premium Upgrade €100,000 +

Section B - Cootehill Proposals

Following from this, the report outlines the proposals identified for Cootehill. Firstly, a map is used to illustrate the location of both the County Wide Proposals (CWP) and Cootehill Specific Proposals (CSP). On the map, each proposal encompasses a series of physical elements such as waste bins, lighting and seating etc. These items are identified by icons. These items are colour coded in reference to the key themes used in the Stage 1 framework to illustrate the challenges and opportunities affecting County Cavan's towns and villages. The themes are as follows;

1. Accessibility
2. Streetscape
3. Amenities and Services
4. Builtform
5. Initiatives and Events

Proposed themes and their associated icons are as follows;

ACCESSIBILITY

- Signage
- Maps
- Information Panel
- Bus Shelter
- Crossing Point
- Footpath
- Cycle Path
- Traffic Calming
- Car Parking
- Pedestrianisation

STREETSCAPE

- Planters
- Trees
- Tree surrounds
- Public Art
- Fountains
- Approach to town

AMENITIES

- Seating
- Outdoor Gym
- Playground
- River Amenity Space

BUILTFORM

- Street Façade / Building
- Road Surface
- Pavement Surface
- Kerb Finish
- Flexible Pavilion

SERVICES

- Waste Bin
- Drinking Fountain
- Charging & Wifi Station
- Lighting

Following the summary map, each proposal for Cootehill is detailed with supporting text, existing and proposed imagery or graphics.

Section C - Summary

In Section B, a table summarises all the proposals for Cavan and presents estimated costs and phasing.

Section D - Consultation Findings

A first draft of the proposals presented in this report has been subject to a public consultation which led to the revised and final suggestions of this final report. A summary of the process and findings of the public consultation can be found in Section D.



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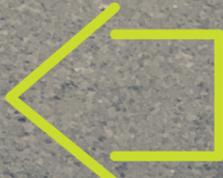
Nice & Natural
HEALTH STORE

Jaiphal

The C...

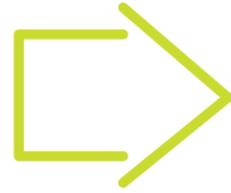
Bellaumont Arms

Pro Smile Dental Lab



SECTION A - COUNTY WIDE AND TOWN SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

COUNTY WIDE PROPOSALS



This section outlines recommended proposals to roll out in all 20 towns and villages across County Cavan. Proposals have been categorised into 'Standard', 'Standard Plus' and 'Premium' upgrades.

Many of the proposals suggested within these reports are recommended to be implemented in all of the 20 towns and villages involved in this study. It is important to consider these County Wide proposals at the scale of the county in order to create an integrated and seamless strategy, whereby items such as street furniture and wayfinding are uniform across multiple locations. Not only is this a cost and implementation benefit, but it will also strengthen the visual identity of Cavan as a County, to residents and visitors alike.

Proposals have been categorised as 'Standard', 'Standard Plus' and 'Premium' upgrades based on cost, together with an indicative priority rating for their implementation.

County Wide (CWP) 'Standard Upgrades' have been identified as:

- CWP1 Public Seating
- CWP2 Waste and Recycle Bins
- CWP3 Planting
- CWP4 Information Signs with Wifi/Charging Point
- CWP5 Paving

County Wide (CWP) 'Standard Plus Upgrades' have been identified as:

- CWP6 Approach Signage
- CWP7 Murals and Public Art
- CWP8 Electric Vehicle Charging Point
- CWP9 Walking Routes

County Wide (CWP) 'Premium Upgrades' have been identified as:

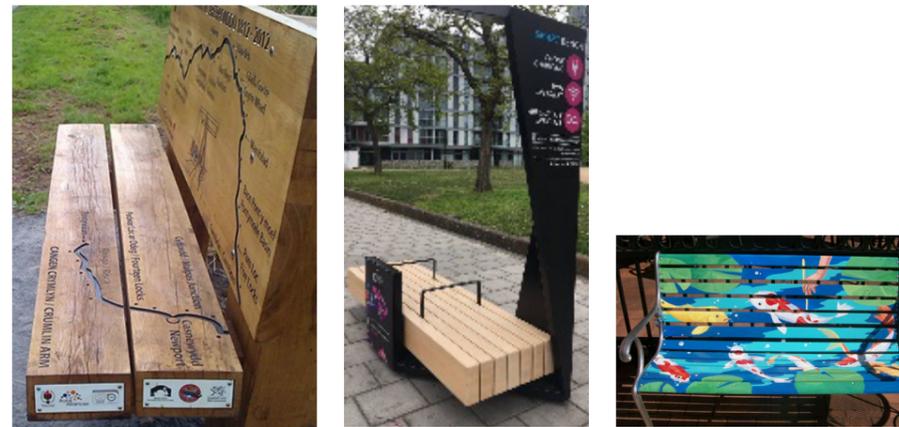
- CWP10 Façade Painting

Standard Upgrades €

CWP1 Public Seating

The first County Wide proposal is to provide upgraded and additional public seating throughout the towns. The design could incorporate the town's local history or natural assets by integrating the seat with an art installation, or simply repainting any existing public seating with vibrant imagery. The benches should be of a natural aesthetic (e.g. wood) and of a relatively traditional appearance in order to fit the local character of the area.

Seating could include benches and chairs that would allow people to rest and enjoy the public spaces. The seating should ideally be sourced from a local (County Cavan) carpenter(s) or furniture manufacturer(s) and therefore hopefully made from locally (and/or nationally) sourced materials. This will give the dual benefit for generating local employment/boosting the local economy and having a lower carbon footprint than importing from overseas. As a longer term option, introduce smart seating to key central spaces with integrated wifi, charging and information points.



TL: Sensitive and informative design, Brecon Beacons
 TM: Smart bench with charging, data collection and wifi hot spot
 B and TR: Benches painted by the local community

CWP2 Waste and Recycle Bins

Waste bins should also be sourced and fabricated locally. They should be made of natural materials where possible, and should aesthetically fit the local character of the area.

The bins should be secure to prevent theft and should have small openings to prevent people from using them to put their household waste in. Recycling bins should be implemented where possible without proposing bulky and invasive bins.



T: Modern waste bins
 B: Underground recycling bins

CWP3 Planting

In order to enhance the visual experience for both residents and visitors, a planting strategy should be implemented across all towns. Planting in the towns and villages could be landscaped using locally sourced stone to create a natural and local character. This character would also reference the topographical landscape of County Cavan. Planters could also be sourced and made locally using timber. They could also include built in planting elements, which could feature a diverse range of seasonal plants that can be enjoyed all year round.

Trees should be added throughout the town/village centres as they provide innumerable benefits to both the environment and residents. A good diversity of tree species should be used in order to create lush vegetation with a healthy flora environment. The introduction of tree surrounds double up as seating, and can be an easy way to create attractive landscaping to the urban environment. Permeable paving can also be used to allow the trees to capture run-off through the design of SUDS.



TL: Trees and seating create event and interaction spaces, Tullamore
 TR: Property owners encouraged to use hanging baskets, Cornwall
 BL: Trees along the street
 BR: Tree surrounds, also acting as seating

CWP4 Information Signs with Wifi/Charging Point

A well conceived signage strategy featuring a combination of signs, maps and information panels is important to effectively inform both residents and visitors, and will create a legible and identifiable town centre. In addition to this basic wayfinding function, good signage will enhance the character of the town, reinforce the hierarchy of spaces and contribute to the streetscape aesthetics.

Design standards should be established and replicated across all signs to ensure they are consistent and complementary. Use materials that fit the character of the town, for example locally sourced timber, which is high in quality, durable and easy to maintain.

All towns across Cavan should feature a principal map with text indicating current location, landmarks, features, routes and other amenities. This principal map should be located on the main public square or similar high pedestrian traffic areas.

Public information panels provide users with more detailed information about their surroundings by explaining the significance of a specific feature or space. Information panels could be interactive or tactile to add interest and encourage use. The information signs could be integrated with wifi and/or charging points for mobile phones. Lighting poles, bus shelters, kiosks and benches can also be used to offer digital services and should be solar powered where possible.



TL and BR: Information Map
 TM: Information Panel at a key landmark
 TR: Information sign at a key location
 BL: Interactive Information Panel

CWP5 Paving

Footpaths are a fundamental and necessary investment for all towns across the county. Often the main streets support high levels of vehicular traffic, and therefore pedestrian access and safety should be a priority. Well designed and maintained pavements encourage walking by making it safer and more attractive, but also support socialising and generate active streetscapes. Pavements should be provided on all urban streets, be accessible to all users and be uncluttered of unnecessary furniture. Pavement surfaces and kerbs should make use of locally sourced natural stone where possible.

Good quality footpaths should feature in the following zones:

- Buffer Zone (A) - should be of appropriate scale and delineated by vertical or horizontal separation - trees, kerb extension etc. - from traffic to foster a sense of safety for pedestrians.
- Street Furniture Zone (B) - sits adjacent to the buffer zone and is where street furniture and amenities should be located and aligned.
- Clear Path (C) - is the primary, dedicated and accessible pathway that runs parallel to the street. It should be at least 1.8-2.4 m wide to ensure that two people using wheelchairs can pass each other. It must be free of fixed objects and deformities that would make it inaccessible.
- Frontage Zone (D) - is at the edge between the clear path and buildings and should focus on how to make both attractive.



L: Pavement of the main street of a small town, with a landscaped buffer zone
 R: Location and width of footpath zones as described above.

Standard Plus Upgrades €€

CWP6 Approach Signage

The various approaches to towns are critical to creating a strong and welcoming sense of arrival. Furthermore, as all towns and villages within County Cavan are located in rural areas with scenic views of the countryside, the approaches are sensitive spaces that can either support or be detrimental to the integration of the town into its surroundings. These approaches also signify a threshold, whereby the streets become less car oriented, more pedestrian and cycle focused in the town centre.

Bespoke signage should be introduced at the approach to the county itself and to each town and village. Signs should illustrate the location within the county, and could provide additional information such as population and an interesting unique fact. Towns should encourage the design of colourful planting and landscaping to the surrounds of the new signs to further enhance the arrival experience. An effort should be made to limit billboards.

CWP7 Murals and Public Art

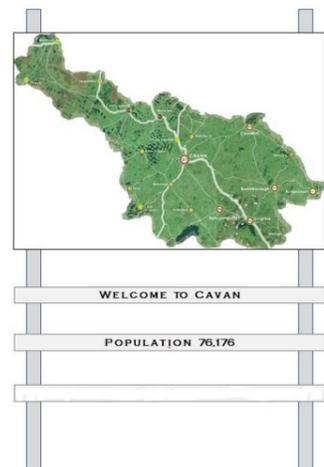
Public art is the most effective way to promote a town or village's individual character. Tourism will be encouraged furthermore through the marketing of local culture and art through social media platforms and the internet.

Various types of public art should be considered as part of an overarching strategy for each town and village. Ideas include; creative structures and pavilions, sculptures and street art, which should be designed for key public spaces.

There is existing public art in the form of street art and mural paintings across many of the towns and villages including Ballinagh, Swanlinbar and Kilnaleck.

CWP8 Electric Vehicle Charging Point

To encourage behavioural changes towards using more sustainable transport solutions, additional electric car charging stations should be provided across the county. These should be located at convenient and central locations to strengthen the benefits of having an electric car. Stations could be incorporated into lighting poles to avoid cluttering the streetscape with additional items.



TL: Proposed design of approach signage for County Cavan towns
TR and B: Welcome sign enhanced with colourful planting

T and BL: Example of murals referencing the local heritage of the town and created by the local community
BR: Existing street art in Ballinagh

E-car charging station



CWP9 Walking Routes

Each town should have a variety of walking trails in order to encourage residents and visitors to explore the built, natural and tourism assets as part of well signed routes. Trails could also include information panels at specific points of interest along the way.



Variety of sign design along countryside walks

Premium Upgrades €€€

CWP10 Façade Painting

Well maintained and aesthetically pleasant street façades account for creating a welcoming and vibrant atmosphere in towns, and can also add to the character of the streetscape. This can be achieved through the implementation of a façade painting scheme, improvements to shopfronts and building frontages, or the commissioning of artwork murals, lighting schemes etc. Special treatment should be given to historic buildings that provide a special architectural, cultural or heritage value to the townscape. Landmark buildings that strengthen the identity of a town should also be well maintained and presented within the streetscape. Derelict sites should also be addressed, as they are often key spaces which could add to the character and experience of a town. Such schemes can be phased, by prioritising proposals at key locations, at entrances to town, at key nodes, and at areas around public spaces. Acting as a catalyst for future improvements, the upgrading of key sites and buildings will create maximum impact and encourage incremental changes across other parts of town.



Recent painting scheme in Mullagh

TOWN SPECIFIC PROPOSALS



This section outlines some possible proposals that will be specific to the towns across County Cavan. As within the County Wide section, proposals have been categorised into 'Standard', 'Standard Plus' and 'Premium' upgrades.

N.B: these proposals hold no priority rating as they are location specific. Priority ratings are summarised on page 32.

Standard Plus Upgrades €€

SP1 Street Redesign

Given that many of the 20 towns and villages are located along regional and local roads, through-traffic and parking are major issues experienced throughout County Cavan. These towns suffer from huge volumes of cars and industrial sized vehicles traveling along the main street. This makes for an unfriendly and dangerous pedestrian and cycle environment, that is often worsened by a lack of crossing points, narrow and damaged pavements.

Key street sections should be redesigned to create 'complete streets' that are safe and to be enjoyed by all users. Proposals could include new crossing points and refuge islands, cycle paths and associated facilities, high quality intersection surface treatment, contemporary lighting and street furniture that reflects the character of the area, shared surfaces where appropriate, traffic calming features and parking control measures. Road surfaces should be renewed when necessary to make streets both safer and more aesthetically pleasant. In particular, the use of different materials could reduce the reliance on road markings.



TL: Use of differentiated paving to strengthen the visibility of the crossing
 TM: Cycle physically separated from traffic on the main street
 BL: Shared surface
 R: Example of context sensitive lighting solution

SP2 Car Parking

Generally there is a good provision of parking across most towns and villages in Cavan. However many car parks and on-street parking could benefit from a redesign and/or realignment, enhanced with the introduction of landscaping, lighting and furniture.

Designated parking spaces for car users with disabilities should also be provided in every town and village across the County. These should be located next to key amenities with dropped kerbs to allow easy wheelchair access. Poorly designed disabled parking should be avoided: bays should not be fitted into leftover space but should instead be purposely designed from the start as part of a holistic strategy.



TL: Successful town centre car parking integrated with a landscaping scheme
 TR: The use of multiple surface materials to add texture and visual interest.
 BL: Disabled parking bay and sign, Ireland
 BR: Efficient car park layout with clear pedestrian routes and furniture.

Premium Upgrades €€€

SP3 Public Space

Improvements to existing the creation of new public spaces can activate and bring key amenities to previously lifeless towns. Plazas, squares and urban parks should be transformed into multi-use destinations, supporting a variety of civic and community uses including markets, events, seasonal programming etc. Public spaces are also spaces to rest, meet, interact and play, and should therefore incorporate seating, informal play items, canopies, landscaping and water features. The creation of new public spaces in the existing urban fabric can take advantage of building setbacks or wide roads. Community involvement in the co-creation of public spaces should be encouraged, as a way to foster a community's sense of pride and shared ownership of the town.

Public spaces could integrate flexible pavilions, which could trigger various uses and activities including pop up food stalls, amphitheatres for mini-concerts, performances, meetings, spaces to host yoga, cooking or meditation courses, offer of local services etc. Pavilions could also be made bookable by the local community in order to organise and host their own events. The design of pop up and transportable structures would also enable usage across multiple locations.



TL: Temporary activation of the public space
 TR: Pavilion dedicated to the discovery of urban gardening in Aarhus, Denmark
 B: Leyteire urban garden



SP4 Pedestrianisation

In the larger towns of the county, such as Cavan Town or Bailieborough, the pedestrianisation of some streets could be explored. Pedestrianisation can activate streets for new uses, foster interaction and encourage pedestrian movement. Overall, it makes the street more active, safer and healthier. It can also boost the local economy by generating higher footfall levels in retail areas.

In order for the concept of a shared or pedestrianised street to be well received locally, the proposal could be phased over time through small incremental measures. This could begin with pavement extensions, the creation of a shared street, the reduction of carriageways to single lane, the licensing of outdoor seating for cafés and pubs. Similarly, a short section of the road can be re-designed with space for a cycle track, large planters, trees, seating spaces and terraces. The community can also be encouraged to reinvent the public realm through the flexible and temporary programming of streets, such as events, street parties, markets, play streets, open streets, pedestrianisation one day a week etc.

These proposals will demonstrate the diverse ways in which a street may be utilised and may lead over time to more permanent transformations of the right-of-way.



T: A Parklet event - temporary pavement extension for amenity on parking spaces - and temporary street pedestrianisation, Hammersmith, London
B: Pedestrian Street in Boulder

SP5 Outdoor Gym and Playground

Playgrounds and outdoor gyms can inspire people to engage in healthy, active and outdoor lifestyles. They also serve as spaces to meet and socialise. To ensure high levels of use, they should be located near residential areas and be easily accessible by both pedestrian and cycle routes.

Playgrounds should be specifically designed for the space and context they sit in, and also make use of the available natural materials and planting. They should feature disabled friendly items and sensory rich equipment, encourage both ordered and informal play activities and support an assortment of games to appeal to different user groups. Such playgrounds should foster a sense of freedom, inspire creativity and boost the physical abilities of children.

Outdoor gyms provide public accessible places to train alone or in groups with numerous structures. Each gym should have its own character with an attractive design solution. The design should be versatile to allow users to develop their own exercises and for people of all fitness abilities to use and enjoy. In more rural areas, fitness trails could be a more appropriate solution.



T: Playgrounds in Oberhausen, Germany and New-York, USA
B: Outdoor gym in Brisbane and trim trail in Tom Ruana Park, Mayo, Ireland

SP6 River and Lakeside Amenity Space

Those towns and villages located near a river or a lake should aim to create amenity areas by the water for leisure, sport and recreation. These would positively contribute towards quality of life by providing an opportunity for all residents and visitors to access good quality open space facilities year round.

The range of activities offered could include: horse riding, cycling, picnicking, competitions, festivals, bird watching, nature trails, photography, orienteering, climbing, camping, swimming, boating, canoeing etc. Light structures such as a shelter or pavilion can facilitate the provision of a food and beverage offer and could facilitate scheduling events such as concerts and competitions. Legible pedestrian links from the amenity space to the town centre should be developed in parallel.

The promotion of the amenity value of rivers and lakes should be coupled with a strong focus on ecology by ensuring that developments do not disproportionately impact on the landscape and natural areas. The appropriate location, siting and design of proposed spaces will ensure that the natural resources which form the basis for recreation are protected and effectively managed.



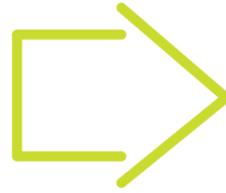
T: Amenity space for walking, resting, fishing and sport in Lünen, Germany and Annecy, France
B: River dedicated to swimming in Rostock, Germany





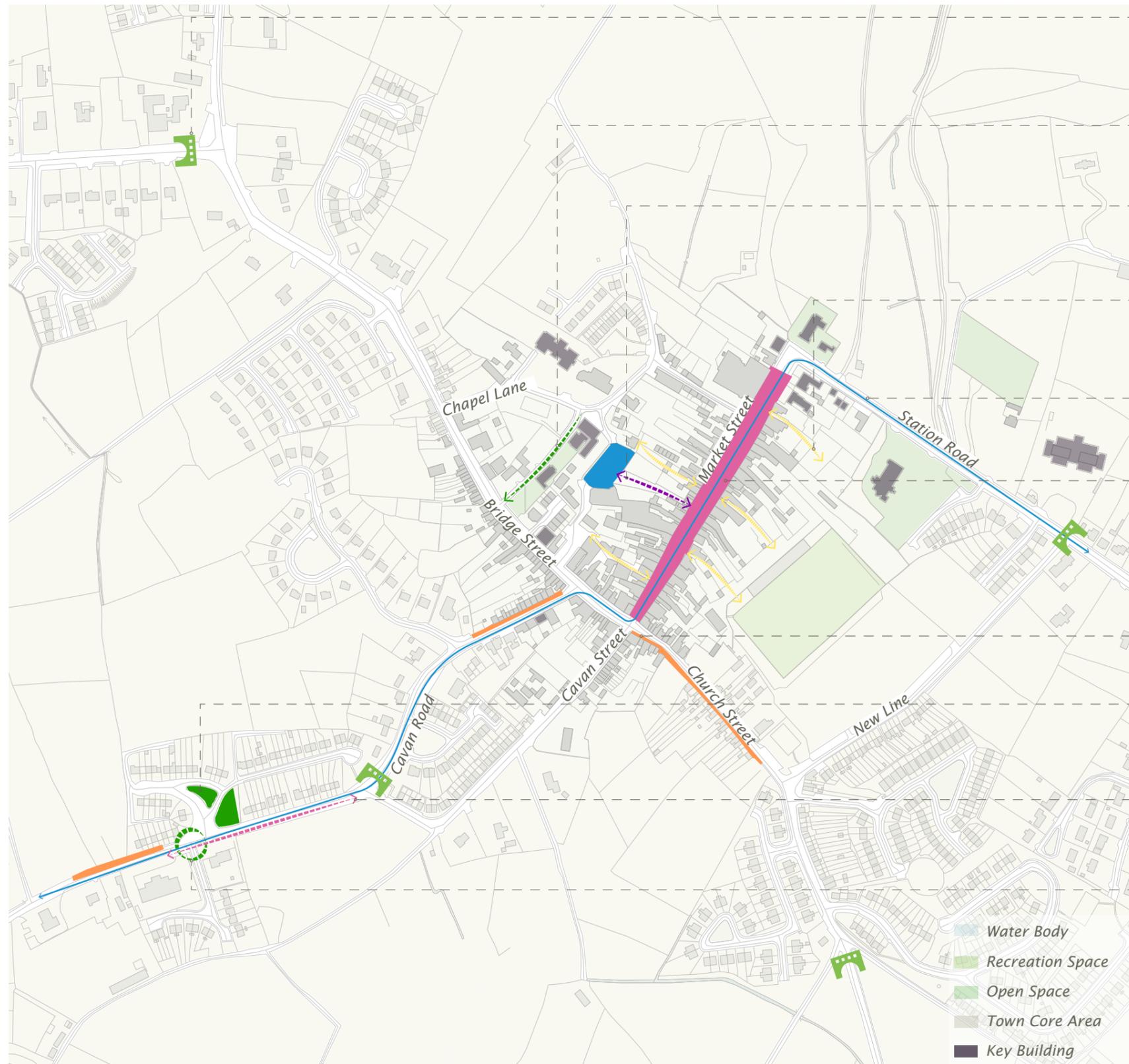
SECTION B - COOTEHILL PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL MAPS



This section outlines proposals recommended for Cootehill.

* Please note:
CSP - Cootehill Specific Proposal
CWP - County Wide Proposal



- CWP6 Approach Signage
- CSP3 Traffic Calming
- CSP5 Improve Car Park Access
- CSP6 Improve Permeability Links
- CSP7 Cycle Path
- CSP1 (SP1) Redesign of Market Street
CW8 Electric Vehicle Charging Point
- CSP2 (SP2) Parking Realignment
- CSP13 Enhance Pocket Park
- CSP4 (SP1) Redesign of Cavan Road
- CSP9 Improve Entrances to Industries

N.B
CW1 Public Seating and CW2 Waste and Recycling Bins are to be located along key routes and at public spaces within the Town Core Area. Proposals relating to traffic, transport and parking alterations will be subject to a traffic audit and a detailed engineering design exercise.



- CSP14 (SP3) New Amenity/Leisure Spaces
- CSP8 (SP3) Shared Surface
CWP4 Information Signs with Wifi/Charging Point
- CSP10 Improve Recycling Facility
- CSP11 (SP3) Activate Square
- CWP5 Paving
- CWP10 Façade Painting
- CWP3 Planting
- CSP12 Development Sites

County Wide Proposals

€ ● CWP1 Public Seating



In keeping with the county wide proposals, a key item to consider for either upgrade or replacement is the public seating in Cootehill. There is currently a lack of seating available along key routes and in open spaces within the town centre. Additional provision would encourage pedestrian use and create a more active centre.

As illustrated opposite, the bench design should be durable, and resistant to long term weathering. The seating should be securely fixed to the paving, and be made of local and traditional materials if possible. Benches should be minimal in design, and allow for multiple views by the user by not having a structural back. New seating should be introduced as a priority along main roads and at key open spaces within the Town Core Area as shown on the proposals map.



Cootehill - existing: a lack of provision of public seating along Market Street



Proposed: above: durable public benches to be specified in multiple locations. Below: curved seating to be implemented in parks and open spaces.

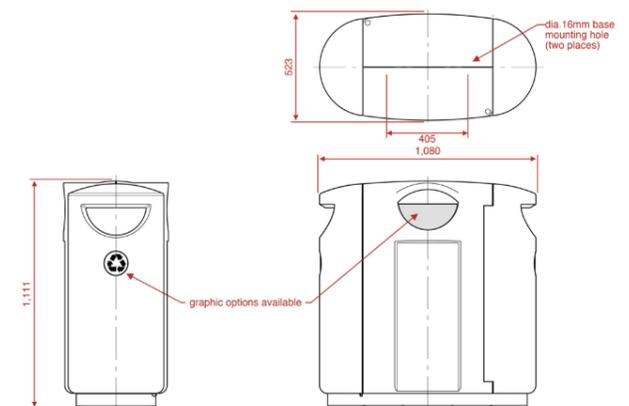
€ ● CWP2 Waste and Recycle Bins



In conjunction with the county wide proposals discussed previously in this report, new combined recycling and waste bins will be positioned within Cootehill and across other towns in Cavan. New bins should be introduced as a priority along main roads and in key open spaces within the Town Core Area as shown on the proposals map. Designed with small openings, this will discourage misuse of the bins.



Cootehill - existing: overflowing waste bins along footpath - no allowance for recycling.



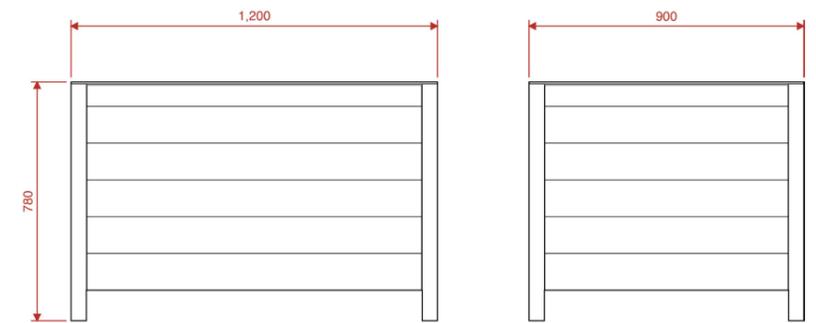
Proposed: Cast Ductile Iron litter bin with 3 compartments; litter and recycling.

€ ●
CWP3 Planting

The introduction of trees and planters along Bridge Street will enhance the aesthetics and user experience of the town centre. Trees could also be planted along the main vehicular axis of Station Road and Cavan Road, which would provide residential areas with a visual and noise buffer from traffic.



Cootehill - existing: a lack of trees and planting along key footpaths and public spaces



Proposed: durable wooden planters

€ ●
CWP4 Information Signs with Wifi/Charging Point

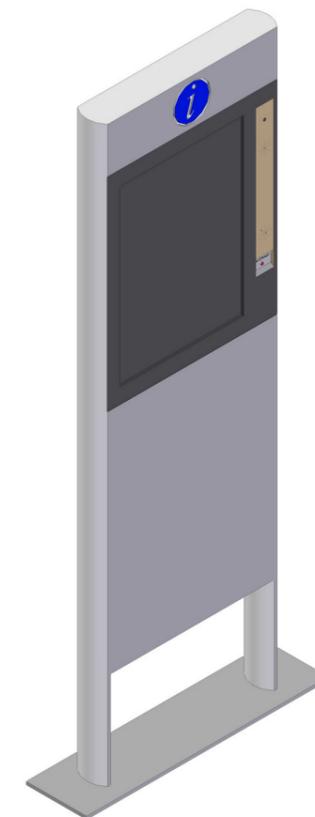


As per the county wide guidance, run down or missing signage within Cootehill should be replaced with newly installed information signs for all users; pedestrians, cyclists and vehicle drivers.

The format, layout, colours, fonts and over all design should be in conjunction with signage found in all other towns within County Cavan. This should also include upgraded information panels, which are clearly legible and provide information on the local area, history and forthcoming events.



Cootehill - existing: information sign



Proposed: Interactive information panel



CWP5 Paving



Consider the widening of pavements within the town centre, to allow space for seating and planting, whilst making for a safer pedestrian environment, which is buffered from traffic. This would encourage walking as well as support socialising and businesses.

Introduce new lighting, signage, and upgrade the existing footpath surfaces to increase accessibility and pedestrian movement along Cavan Road and Market Street.



Cootehill - existing: uneven paving littered with chewing gum and current design enables parked cars to overlap the kerb.



Proposed: use of local materials to create aesthetically pleasant and well designed pathways. Consider application of cobbles/textured grain to edges and thresholds.



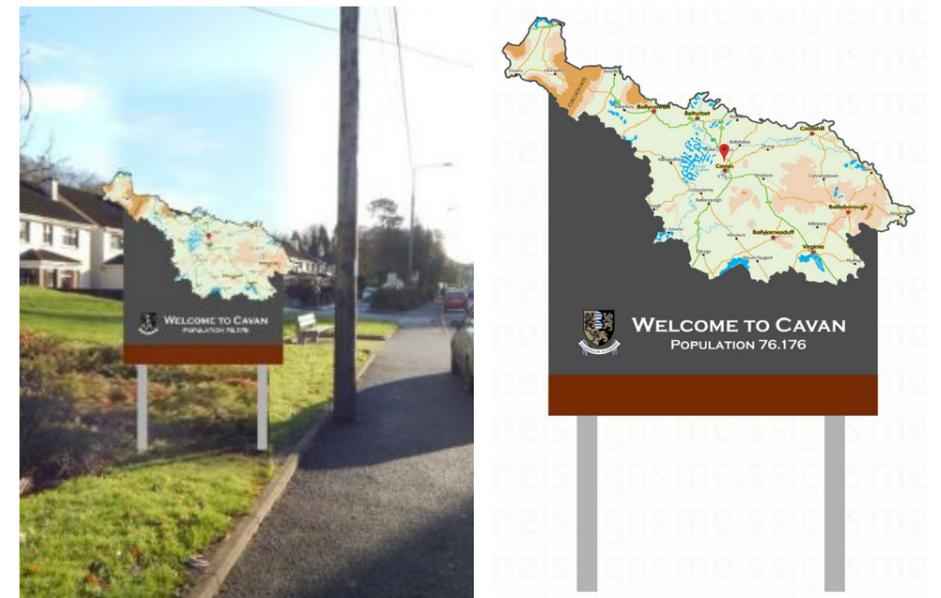
CWP6 Approach Signage



Implement a combination of welcoming signage, colourful planting and speed regulations on the approach roads to town. Proposals should be prioritised on primary vehicular routes, including Cavan Road, Station Road, Church Street and Bridge Street.



Cootehill - existing: a lack of coherent and welcoming approach signs.



Proposed: use of county wide signage with local information and fact. (N.B information will be town specific in detailed design).

€ ●
CWP10 Façade Painting

Encourage the redecoration of the more worn façades in order to create a colourful and vibrant retail destination. Colour schemes and proposals should seek to protect the architectural character of the historical town centre, and enhance the positioning of landmark buildings within townscape.



Cootehill - existing: key façades in need of refreshment

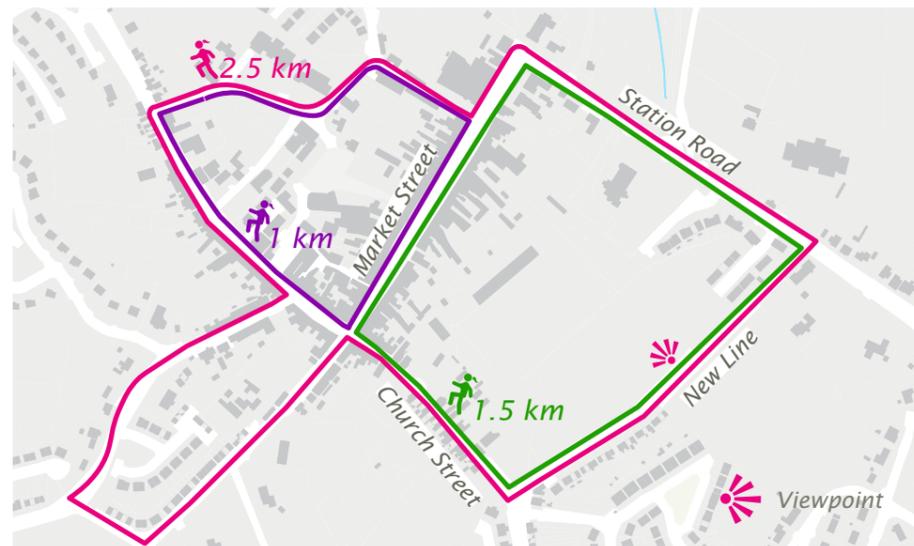


Proposed: encourage property owners to paint their façades with a set colour palette to create a bright and uplifted town centre.

€ € ●
CWP9 Walking Routes

Develop three walking routes of different lengths - 1 km, 1.5 km and 2 km - around the town centre. This will allow visitors and residents to discover the key landmarks, views and natural assets of Cootehill. The 1.5 and 2.5 km routes will run along New Line where users can appreciate the views over the fields looking across to St Michael's Church and the town centre. It is recommended that these walk feature interpretative and interactive signage materials.

Development of these walking routes should take account of the "walkability audit" which was completed in 2018.



Proposed: Cootehill urban walking routes



Cootehill - existing: key viewing point along New Line.



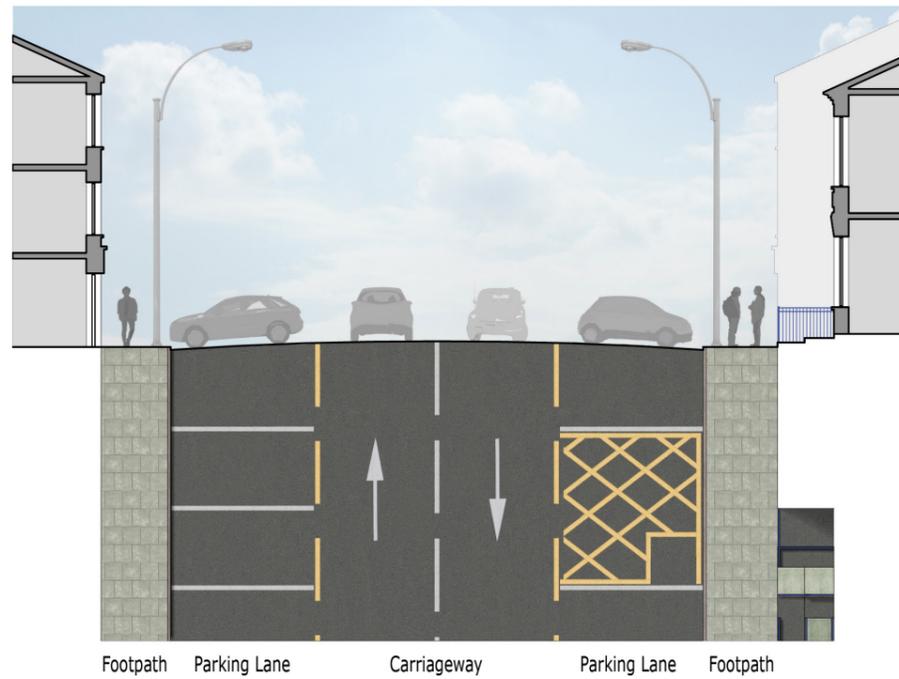
Proposed: markers along the walking routes

Cootehill Specific Proposals (CSP)



CSP1 Redesign Of Market Street

In order to create a more pedestrian friendly and active town centre, it is recommended that a redesign of Market Street be carried out. A potential layout is illustrated opposite and key changes include; narrower carriageways to enable the widening of footpaths, and the conversion of perpendicular parking to a parallel arrangement. This will create additional space to allow for a dedicated cycle lane to encourage the use of bicycles in Cootehill. Parking should be removed in front of key open spaces, and at regular intervals to allow for a widening of the pavement, thus creating public spaces for seating and activities. New planters, seating and lighting should also be installed at regular intervals along the length of Market Street.



Cootehill - existing: Market Street section with perpendicular parking on both sides



Proposed: Market Street section with increased public realm, landscaping, parallel parking bays and a cycle path.



CSP2 Realign On-Street Parking

The reconfiguration of parking along Cavan Road to one side of the street should be considered, together with introducing landscaped break out zones at intervals to maximise pedestrian space and improve the visibility of commercial premises.



Cootehill - existing: parking along both sides of the road.



Proposed: by reducing parking to only one sided (in part) this can allow for a widened pavement, increased public realm with seating and planting.



CSP3 Traffic Calming

Consider the conversion of the road between Chapel Lane and Bridge Street into a one-way street with pedestrian priority, as means to calm traffic and protect the historic building and stone walls.



Cootehill - existing: temporary bollards in place to calm traffic and protect historical walls.



Proposed: through the creation of one-way street, a landscaped buffer zone and footpath could be created between the stone wall and carriageway.



CSP4 Redesign of Cavan Road

A potential proposal could be the redesign of Cavan Road in order to create a more pedestrian and cycle friendly environment, along the section of road indicated on the proposals map. The section of road is fronted by a row of housing, which could benefit from the provision of safe parking bays. The redesign should also incorporate widened footpaths to the town centre, the provision of a cycle path, and high quality landscaping.



Footpath Carriageway Footpath

Cootehill - existing: road section along Cavan Road.



Footpath Cycle Track Parking Lane Carriageway Footpath

Proposed: potential improvements could include landscaping, traffic calming measures and designated parking for residents of nearby housing.



CSP5 Improve Access to Car Park



Currently there is limited single-lane access to the car park from Market Street. This can create an unsafe environment for both pedestrians and cyclists, especially during peak hours of the day. Consider the introduction of clear signage, lighting and a canopy to assist pedestrians both to and from the car park, and also when crossing the entrance.



Cootehill - existing: access to car park from Market Street.



Proposed: clearly market priority walkways for pedestrians.



CSP6 Improve Permeability Links



There are multiple archways along the length of Market Street that present an opportunity to better connect activity from the town centre to the untapped open spaces located away from the road and traffic. Property owners should be encouraged to utilise such spaces for outdoor dining and temporary events.



Cootehill - existing: underutilised spaces to the rear of properties along Market Street.



Proposed: potential to open up courtyards and open spaces behind Market Street.



CSP7 Cycle Path



Consider introducing a cycle path crossing the town from Cavan Road to Station Road along Market Street. The path could be physically separated from vehicular traffic, and be complemented with the provision of cycle racks and repair stations along the route.



Cootehill - existing: traffic congestion and a lack of provision for cyclists.



Proposed: designated cycle path parallel to carriageway.



CSP8 Shared Surface



In order to create a vibrant public space within Cootehill, a potential proposal could be the creation of a shared surface on the northern section of Market Street. This space could support community uses, markets, and events. The design could feature the following: a distinctive widened pavement surface and provision of seating, planters, bins and wifi stations integrated into the furniture.



Cootehill - existing: road section to the north of Market Street.



Proposed: a potential public space for community events, street fairs, markets and festivals.



CSP9 Improve Entrance to Industries



Propose enhancements to the aesthetics, visibility and accessibility of the industrial area and Enterprise Centre. Improve junction geometry, provide trees, a possible sculpture and clear signage to promote Cootehill as a successful enterprise town.



Cootehill - existing: entrances to industrial units



Proposed: clear and welcoming signage and trees could lift the existing aesthetic.



CSP10 Improve Recycling Facility



Enhance the appearance of the recycling facility on Chapel Lane through the provision of underground bins or the introduction of trees and screening.



Cootehill - existing: unsightly appearance of the recycling centre.



Proposed: Consider green screening and trees to soften the views towards the recycling facility.



CSP11 Activate Square

Further explore the potential to transform the entrance to the Forest Park into a pocket public square featuring seating, an information board, planting and improved wayfinding from the town centre. This would allow this space to function as an attractive gateway to the Forest Park.



Cootehill - existing: arrival space



Proposed: clearly defined entrance enhanced by seating, paving and planting.



CSP12 Redevelopment Sites

As indicated on the proposals map, there are multiple sites that could be considered for redevelopment. Utilise these derelict sites to support emerging community, tourism and business initiatives. In particular, the derelict Church site on Church Street could become a possible tourist attraction.



Cootehill - existing: properties identified for redevelopment.



Proposed: properties should be reinstated into the urban environment, taking consideration of town scape, massing and appearance of nearby buildings.



CSP13 Enhance Pocket Park

Improvements could be made to the existing green space as identified within the proposals map. The design could include upgraded planters and seating. This would also serve to enhance the visual approach to Cootehill at this point.



Cootehill - existing: pocket park along Cavan Road.



Proposed: reinstate the park as a key open space and destination for residents and provide an welcoming aesthetic to visitors along the approach road.



CSP14 New Amenity/Leisure Spaces

In order to provide both residents and visitors with more usable open spaces and outdoor leisure facilities, consider upgrading the three parcels of land as indicated on the proposals map. The programming of these spaces could be as follows; a landscaped park by St Michael's Hall, an adult outdoor gym by Chapel Lane, and the refurbishment of the existing playground by Church Street.



Cootehill - existing: L: gravelled space on Chapel Road, TR: existing open space by St Michael's Hall, BR: existing playground on Church Street



Proposed: L: adult outdoor gym, TR: landscaped park, BR: upgraded playground.





PHARMACY



McCRYSTAL'S PHARMACY



BRIAN HUGHES



Sráid an tSeipéil
CHURCH STREET

East on Market Street
MARKET STREET

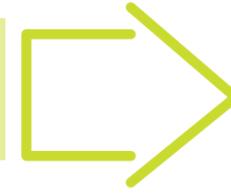
CITY

Wesley's
Charity Shop
OPEN

SECTION B - SUMMARY



SUMMARY



This table summarises the proposals for Cootehill and associated implementation timescales and costs.

| PROPOSAL | | NOTES | PRIORITY RATING | COST RATING |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| <i>County Wide Proposals</i> | | | | |
| CWP1 | Public Seating | | Medium Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| CWP2 | Waste and Recycle Bins | | Medium Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| CWP3 | Planting | | Medium Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| CWP4 | Information Signs with Wifi/Charging Point | | Medium Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| CWP5 | Paving | | High Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CWP6 | Approach Signage | | High Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CWP9 | Walking Routes | | Medium Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CWP10 | Façade Painting | | High Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| <i>Cootehill Specific Proposals</i> | | | | |
| CSP1 | Redesign of Market Street | | High Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP2 | Realign On-Street Parking | | Medium Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP3 | Traffic Calming | | Low Priority | Premium Upgrade |



| PROPOSAL | | NOTES | PRIORITY RATING | COST RATING |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| CSP4 | Redesign of Cavan Road | | Medium Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP5 | Improve Car Park Access | | Medium Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CWP6 | Improve Permeability Links | | Low Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CSP7 | Cycle Path | | Medium Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP8 | Shared Surface | | Low Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP9 | Improve Entrance to Industries | | Low Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CSP10 | Improved Recycling Facility | | Medium Priority | Standard Upgrade |
| CSP11 | Activate Square | | Low Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CSP12 | Development Sites | | Low Priority | Premium Upgrade |
| CSP13 | Enhance Pocket Park | | Low Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |
| CSP14 | New Amenity/Leisure Spaces | | Low Priority | Standard Plus Upgrade |

Cost rating:

Standard Upgrade: €0 - €25,000

Standard Plus Upgrade: €25,000 - €100,000

Premium Upgrade: €100,000 +



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ORIENTAL EXPRESS CHINESE TAKEAWAY

SHIELDS BOOK

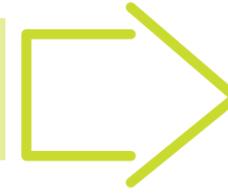
PHONE WATCH



SECTION C - CONSULTATION FINDINGS

SEA

CONSULTATION FINDINGS

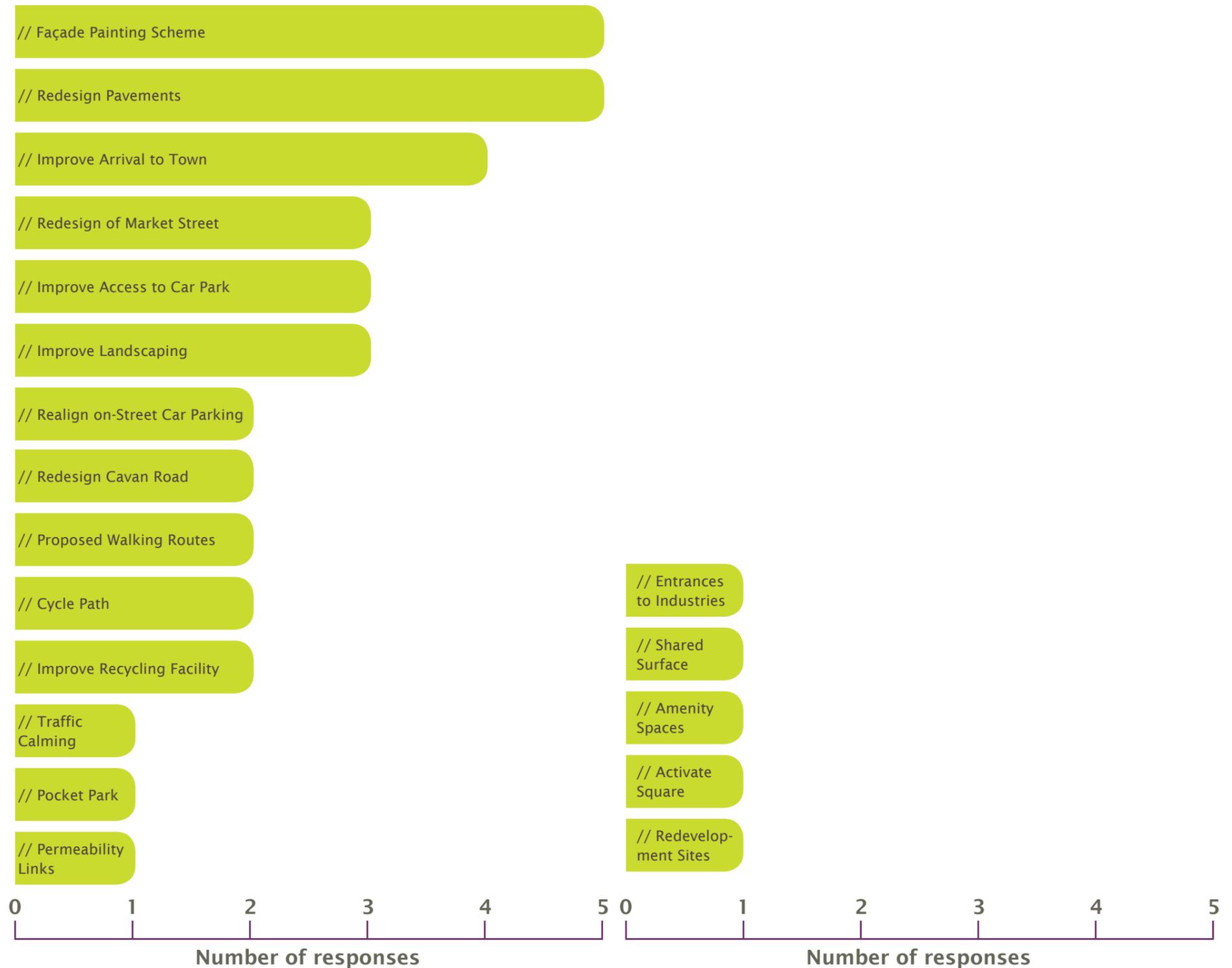


This section presents the summary of the findings of the public consultation.

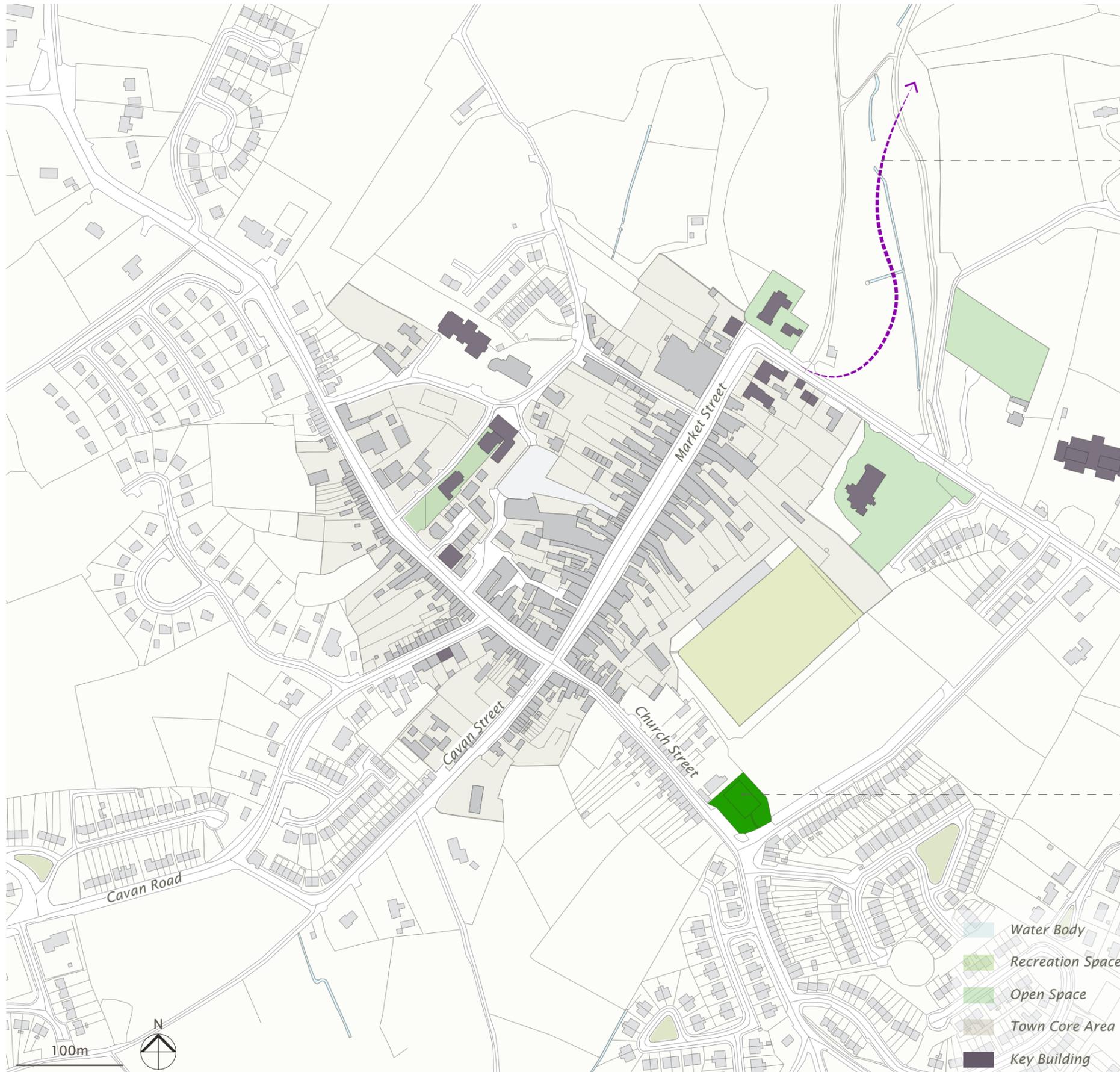
A draft of the proposals presented in this report has been subject to a public consultation which led to the revised and final suggestions of the present report. The proposals were presented and members of the public were invited to provide feedback as to which proposal they thought would be most likely to improve Cootehill, and which they thought were least likely to improve the town.

The findings are illustrated opposite, with the façade painting scheme, the redesign of pavements and an improved arrival to town being considered as the most effective proposals in improving Cootehill. Amongst those with the least responses were activating the square outside the School, creating a shared surface on Market Street and improving the permeability to the town centre. Though these are considered less of a priority by those attending the consultations, they could be considered as projects for the future.

On the following page, additional suggestions provided by the public are illustrated on the map. These suggestions will be considered and incorporated as part of any formal proposals going forward.



PROPOSALS MOST LIKELY TO IMPROVE COOTEHILL



Nature walks with easy access to Bellmont and Dartry estates



Extension of the existing playground



-  Water Body
-  Recreation Space
-  Open Space
-  Town Core Area
-  Key Building

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Courthouse
Farnham Street
Cavan
Ireland

T 049 437 8300
info@cavancoco.ie

White Collar Factory
1 Old Street Yard
London
EC1Y 8AF

T +44 (0) 20 7250 7666
hello@tyrens-uk.com

www.tyrens-uk.com
www.tyrens.se/en

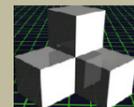


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