

**Sheila Healy**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Thursday 21 November 2019 15:08  
**To:** cdp  
**Subject:** FW: Longford County Development Plan 2021 - 2027 Consultation Process - Drumlish Ballinamuck Area Development CLG  
**Attachments:** DRUMLISH BALLINAMUCK INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN 11.pdf

I write to you in my role as Chairperson of Drumlish Ballinamuck Area Development CLG. As you are seeking submissions from interested Groups on the preparation of the Longford County Development Plan 2021 – 2027, I am taking this opportunity to tell you something about our group's identity, aims and objectives and to include in this submission a copy of our DRUMLISH BALLINAMUCK INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN 2018 to 2022.

**Who are we?**

First, some of our background. Ballinamuck Area Development CLG is a Town Team set up to represent and promote the interests of the greater Drumlish and Ballinamuck Area. It was set up in conjunction with Longford County Council who facilitated the formation of the town team under the council's policy to promote Local Development Teams.

The mission of Drumlish Ballinamuck Area Development CLG (DBAD) is *To provide leadership and encourage inclusive participation for the communities to work together for the revitalisation of the area.*

DBAD purpose can be described as follows,

- To stimulate fresh economic, social and cultural regeneration in the area
- To reverse the decline in economic activity by encouraging business confidence and community loyalty
- To work collaboratively with their local authority and all stakeholders to improve the area
- To provide the right environment for the establishment and support of local enterprises
- To identify the under-used/dormant assets, and to explore their development for the benefit of the local community and its economy
- To enhance the current social and cultural resources in order to provide an added "quality of life" experience for locals and visitors alike

It is not a replacement for local groups or organisations, without them TT has no purpose. In its formative phase DBAD focused primarily on the development of a plan with project proposals available to LCC when calls are made by Central Government for community development projects under various funding programmes. In more recent times it has turned its focus to promoting the 10 objectives identified in that plan, driving them forward as opportunities arise.

**Our Action Plan**

I have included a copy of our DRUMLISH BALLINAMUCK INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN 2018 to 2022. With this submission and hopefully it will provide some useful development information relevant to the Drumlish Ballinamuck Area.

This particular Integrated Action Plan contains the vision, hopes and aspirations of the people of the Drumlish/Ballinamuck Area. It was developed through a consultation process engaged in during its preparation with a large cross-section of community activists.

Initial consultation involved taking soundings from the broader area by engaging with all relevant community organisations to establish a cohesive vision of what locals would see as the best way forward for the overall development of their area. The Plan is in keeping with the stated aim in the Longford LECP as a vision for the entire county for *a regenerated economically sustainable County which values equality of opportunity, excellent quality of life, collaborative community and rural development, sense of place and where the wellbeing of all residents and future generations is central to everything we do.*

Overall DBAD has identified a combination of 10 specific projects all of which can be described as priority projects. These projects will continue as an immediate focus for the duration of this Action Plan.

So far this plan promotes ten projects within the following broad objectives

- Objective 1; Business and Investment
- Objective 2: Tourism; Culture and Heritage
- Objective 3: Public Realm; Safety; Mobility and Connectivity
- Objective 4: Community Identity; Integration and Communications

The ten projects identified are as follows and are outlined in much more detail in the Integrated Action Plan.

Drumlish Enterprise Development Hub
Establish a Tourism/Visitor Taskforce linking the Main Heritage Sites in the Area
To further develop and create linkages between the Ballinamuck Rebel Trail & the Edenmore Looped Bog Walk
Development of the Drumlish Heritage & History Projects
Bishop O'Higgins Walking Route
The Battle of Ballinamuck Audio - Visual Interpretation & Tourism Ambassador Training Programme for County Longford
Walkway/Cycleway from Drumlish to Monaduff Sportsgrounds

Walkway/Cycleway from Ballinamuck School to Ballinamuck Village
Redevelopment of the Drumlish Community Centre & Sports Amenity
Refurbishment of the Men's Shed as a social space to accommodate training facilities

### **Important Note**

It is important to state that this particular plan can be considered as a "Snapshot in Time", i.e. a snapshot of the priorities and aims of the participants as collated in the period between July 2017 and May 2018. Obviously were this process to be repeated it is quite possible that new, additional visions, hopes and aspirations would be identified by new participants but that does not take away from the value of this initial Plan.

Furthermore, the plan does not purport to represent ever vision, hope and aspiration of the Drumlish Ballinamuck Community but only those who participated in the consultation process which lead to the formation of DBAD.

Should you require any further information do not hesitate to contact me.

**Drumlish Ballinamuck Area Development Clg.**

