Landscape and Biodiversity Measures

1. Semi-Natural Meadows; Species Rich Grassland Restoration

2. Meadow restoration Year1:- Temporary fencing and several days grazing using yearlings/ Dexters/ light heritage breed with agreement from local grazers/ farmers. Remove animals off site. No droppings to be allowed on roads or drives and any mud to be cleaned immediately afterwards. Animals and all temporary fencing to be removed immediately afterwards. De-thatch any remaining areas and tight mow. There will be a necessity to invest in specific machinery to ecologically mow steep, uneven grassland and cultural landscapes e.g. Alpine slope mowing machines eg AS long grass beam mower/ Sherpa mower and belt rake to turn meadows on slopes. Dried meadow grass to be removed as hay. The area to be free of noxious and pernicious weeds eg Ragwort (hand pulled) which make the hay unsuitable for digestion. Dock to be dug out and nettles to be cut down and not allowed to flower. Fallow strips to provide refuge mowed rotationally on three year basis with different strip allowed each year. Insect warning allowed for and mowing to commence in the centre and move to the outer areas. Ground scarification, after mowing. Bare patches to be seeded with yellow rattle.
Year two onwards; Late mow in summer with the conservation objective to be plant species diversity and hay making. September mow remove grass offsite. Identify best days to suit community for after grass grazing in summer. Again clean roads and remove all temporary fencing once cattle have been taken off site.

3. Central area around managed margin to be managed as a meadow. Bare areas to be seeded in yellow rattle, Rhinanthus minor. Noxious weeds to be pulled. Nettles cut down to base, dock dug out. Long grass mowing machinery and turning machinery can be employed. Hay suitable for animal consumption to be made turned dried and removed off site. Summer mowing and again in September. Where saving is not possible in September all grass to be removed off site.

4. Late mow and treat as summer meadow with hay to be saved that is safe for animal consumption. Ragwort to be pulled dock dug out and nettles cut down. Bare patches seeded in yellow rattle. Reinforced grass to be used to prevent erosion from car parking on the edge adjacent to the road. A biological barrier of yellow rattle to prevent encroachment of perennial rye grass into the meadow from the edge. One or two days grazing as described with temporary fencing erected on after grass and all hygiene measures and cleaning of roads and removal of fences effected once cattle removed off site.

5. Bluebell swathes and late mow strips, betweem managed margin and hedgerow/planting.

6. Increased planting and diversity at turn into lane to include holly, Ilex aquifoloium, Guelder rose Viburnum opulus, Birch, Betula pendula etc as per detailed planting plans.

7. Japanese knotweed patch to be treated

8. Small section of holly hedge on low bank

Project :	Old Kilcullen Heritage Trail
Drawing :	Landscape Plan
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