



Councillor KEVIN DUFFY

Hibernian House, West End, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare, W34 HT28.

☎ 085 239 0341 ✉ kevinduffyfg@gmail.com 🗣 Kevin Duffy 🐦 @kevinduffyfg

To whom it may concern,

Firstly, I would like to commend Kildare County Council on the development of the Monasterevin Town masterplan. Overall, I would agree with the vision and objectives being set out in the masterplan. While the delivery of key projects by Council over the last 12 months has built excitement and momentum; it's critical that this momentum is continued through the Council's delivery of the Barrow Blueway project, support of the construction of St. Paul's Secondary School and the amalgamated Primary Schools and continued upgrade and construction of footpaths and cycleways within the Town.

The redevelopment of key sites and links as outlined in the plan as critical to the continued growth and regeneration of Monasterevin, none more so important as the Cassidy Distillery and Brewery site, Market Square and Canal Harbour as key priorities to build on the Barrow Blueway project and become focal points for commerce, retail, tourism, and recreation in the Town.

Also, I would like to highlight the following opportunities that could be incorporated into the plan to enhance its objectives:

- Development of a detailed masterplan for the Cassidy Distillery and Brewery site as a significant town regeneration project
- Strengthening the links between Monasterevin and Ballykelly given the important tourism and social amenities in that area; including road upgrades, footpath access, public lighting and cycleway,
- Consideration of improvements and addition of new recreational facilities for the youth of the Town, including a focus on water activities and sports, Improvements to access the waterways safety and green links along the waterways (River Barrow) to connect the Town,
- Continuation of the cycleway off the Blueway into the Town that would connect our schools, town centre, residential area and other facilities through to Moore Abbey Woods linking these amenities by active travel,
- Strengthen of the new commerce and retail Neighbour centre around the existing facilities at Cowpasture/Togher Road,
- Regeneration opportunities associated with the vacating of the Secondary and Primary school sites for other education, training and business opportunities to strengthen the Town's growth opportunities,
- Improvement to accessibility to public transport, including a park and ride facility for the bus network and relocation of the bus stops to improve access and future opportunities to grow the services, and
- Improvements and increase in public car parking to facilitate access to our schools, Barrow Blueway, commerce and retail – park and stride facility to connect our hinterlands to the Town.

Yours Faithfully,

Kevin M Duffy