

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly oppose the draft CDP for the following reasons.

From my experience in the North Louth area, I believe the existing plan to be restrictive enough to maintain orderly development which I totally agree with. 2 new houses have been built in the last decade within a square mile of my home and neither of these young families would qualify under the new plan. There are 23 houses on the road from Thistle cross to Lodge Cross (1 mile) and if this plan existed 50 years ago only 2 houses would exist which some of you may think is a good thing. However I believe that it is the people from roads like this that make up the great rural communities that currently exist but whose lifeblood will be severed by this new plan. I and 5 other members of the Faughart Community Group would not exist under this CDP (only 1 would!). Neither I nor others would be on the local school BOM .This is the same for football clubs and all community groups .

I would like to think that one of my sons will one day live in my area and contribute to his community the way my father did and I continue to do so. There is never a huge demand for local needs developments so there is never going to be a major problem in ensuring good and proper development within the present plan. It is however, very important to realize that this trickle of blood that is born of the community is an essential bloodline to sustain and revitalize the heart of the community.

I propose that the council consider providing several serviced sites grouped together and sold to people who qualify for local needs. There would of course be conditions applied including properties to be built to the highest regulatory and environmental standards as well as being of architectural merit. This would make housing affordable to qualifying candidates but it also allows them to build their dream home and not restrict them to a developers choice which are designed to maximize profits.

I would also propose to extend the public consultation period because for whatever reason a lot of people are not aware of this proposed plan and its implications for future generations.

Best regards,
Alan Mc Ardle