

Public Realm Enhancement Plan

Delgany Village, County Wicklow

March 2023



the paul hogarth company



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Forward

The village of Delgany, County Wicklow has a special place in the heart of its community. There are many reasons for this, including its fascinating history, many heritage buildings, and a wonderful natural landscape. It is also a good place to live - with a vibrant community, local schools and businesses. Yet Delgany is also a place that is experiencing great change, as land is developed and associated pressures are placed upon its limited infrastructure.

This *Public Realm Enhancement Plan* is the community's vision for the future of the village. It draws upon the views of local people and professional analysis to propose a series of projects by which its streets and spaces can be improved for the benefit of all.

The plan was initiated by Delgany Community Council with funding kindly provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Government of Ireland's Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2020.

It has been shaped through a highly collaborative and inclusive process, involving residents, school children, business owners, as well as the elected members and officials of Wicklow County Council. Professional support was provided by The Paul Hogarth Company Landscape Architects and Urban Designers, working to analyse the village, facilitate consultation and develop proposals.

Delgany Community Council would like to thank everyone who has participated in this important process and look forward to working with everyone to bring about the proposals outlined in this plan.

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview and Purpose

This report has been prepared to present and summarise the findings, conclusions and recommendations of a detailed process to develop the *Public Realm Enhancement Plan* for Delgany Village, located in the heart of County Wicklow.

It has been prepared by Delgany Community Council (DCC), working closely with the local communities, businesses and schools of Delgany, alongside input from urban design and planning consultants The Paul Hogarth Company (TPHC).

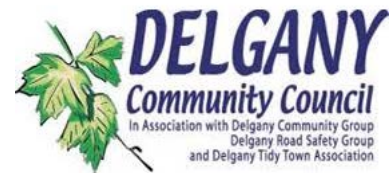
The purpose of this report is to present the ambitions of the wider community of Delgany, alongside opportunities for the village to deliver on these aspirations. Through its objective capturing of the collective ambitions for Delgany, this report aims to function as a practical reference - to help guide the future of this unique and special village in County Wicklow.

1.2 Background and Scope

Following the successful application to the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Government of Ireland's Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2020, DCC procured the professional input of TPHC to develop a Public Realm Enhancement Plan for Delgany Village.

Through the course of agreeing and detailing this appointment, greater insights were developed across the project team in relation to the scope and extent of the brief, allowing the project team to develop a programme that would enable extensive engagement with the wider community of Delgany; this is summarised under the *Process* section in this report.

While the coordination of various inputs and the advancement of project material contained herein has been successfully developed between DCC and TPHC collaboratively, it has remained the intent throughout the development of this project that the emerging ideas and proposals reflect those of the wider community of Delgany, alongside the client team at DCC.



“The design of a safer, more attractive and vibrant village will benefit the area by generating and sustaining the community and neighbourhoods, with wide-ranging economic, social and environmental consequences.

Delgany Community Council
Project Brief, July 2020

“ [...] the purpose of a Public Realm Enhancement Plan for Delgany is to offer a bespoke roadmap for improvements that will strengthen the village as a place to live and work in, to visit and enjoy, and to share with the wider community. It is a unique opportunity to guide the future development of a great village.

Design Team
Brief Response, November 2020

1.3 Delgany Village

Located in the north of County Wicklow, Delgany sits between the coastal town of Greystones and the protected woodlands at Glen of the Downs. The combined population of Greystones-Delgany is over 18,000 people (2022 census) - with an estimated 6,000 residents calling Delgany their home. The area is accessible from the N11 dual-carriageway, as well as the rail network that services Greystones, and various bus routes.

Stemming from the Wicklow County Council (WCC) County Development Plan (adopted 2022), and per the adopted Local Area Plan (LAP) published by WCC in 2013, Greystones / Delgany is a designated 'Large Growth Town II in the Metropolitan area' settlement: the town has a stipulated condition to accommodate an amount of population growth, and to have a high level of infrastructure, services and employment; per the Wicklow County retail strategy, Delgany is designated a *Level 4 Neighbourhood Centre*.

Delgany has experienced significant change and growth through recent times including a notable increase in its **population**, in **businesses**, alongside the emergence of **improved infrastructure, places** and **community facilities** - informed by economic successes of the wider region.

Local commercial advancements, connections via means of active travel (including walking and cycling routes), and a change in living and working trends brought on by Covid-19 have continued to change the shape and functions of Delgany. It is noted that the Village Accessibility Scheme for Delgany (WCC, 2018) may continue to strategically shape the future of Delgany's carriageway configuration and travel infrastructure.

Delgany demonstrates a strong sense of civic pride, evident in local strategies that tie into regional attractions such as the *Delgany Heritage Trail*. Challenges remain, however, particularly in the noticeable number of motor vehicles, the provision of safe and accessible pedestrian infrastructure through the village, and places for people to meet and relax outdoors.

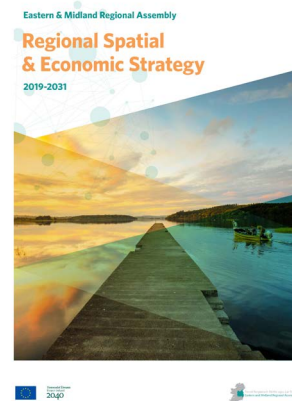


1.4 Policy Context

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031 (*Eastern & Midlands Regional Assembly*)

Adopted in June 2019, this is a strategic plan and investment framework to shape future growth and to better manage regional planning and economic development.

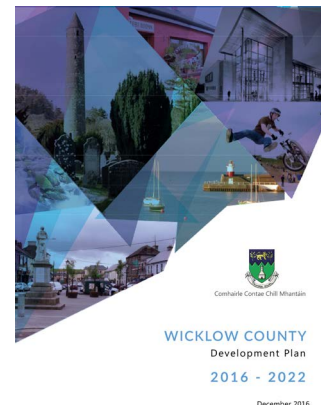
The strategy recognises the significant **role of strong urban design, public realm, amenities and heritage** towards realising sustained economic growth and employment, as outlined in Chapter 4 - People and Place.



County Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (*Wicklow County Council 2022*)

This document sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Wicklow.

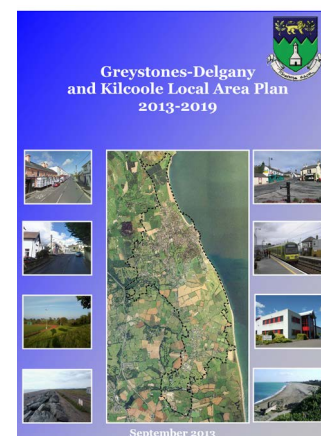
Chapter 8 of the CDP examines strategic **protections around heritage** assets across the county, while Chapter 5 recognises important objectives around **public realm improvements** to stimulate investment and economic confidence in towns, and to act as a catalyst for regeneration and future improvements.



Local Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019 (*Wicklow County Council 2013*)

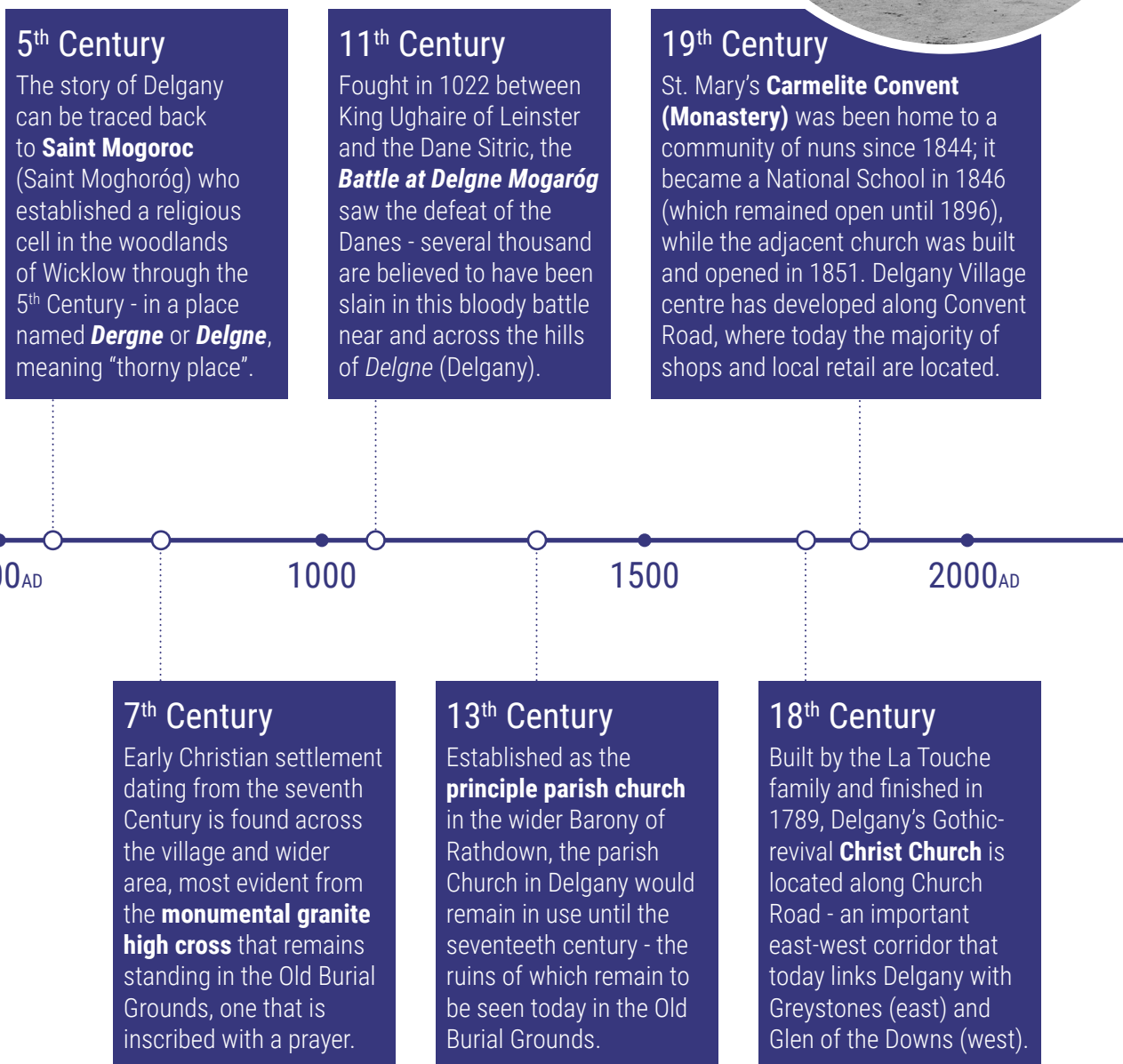
This important LAP aims to establish a framework for the planned, co-ordinated and sustainable development of the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole region of Wicklow County.

Notably, under the plan's retail strategy, this LAP recognises the important role of the **creation of quality public spaces and public realm** (Objective RT15), including improvements to paving, lighting, signage, street furniture and tree planting.



1.5 A Historic Place

The story of Delgany is a rich and colourful history of people, place, movement, development and community. The below timeline illustrates just a few of the village’s notable moments:



2 Process

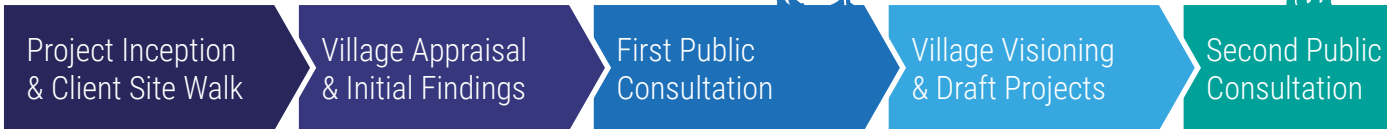
2.1 Community Voice

Central to the process of developing this Public Realm Enhancement Plan has been the voice of the local community. This approach has actively promoted the involvement and engagement of the local community so as to ensure that the resulting proposals are an accurate representation of the wider village.

Summarised below, the process that Delgany Community Council has adopted through the development of this plan has ensured that a number of opportunities have been presented for the community to actively input to the ideas and decisions.

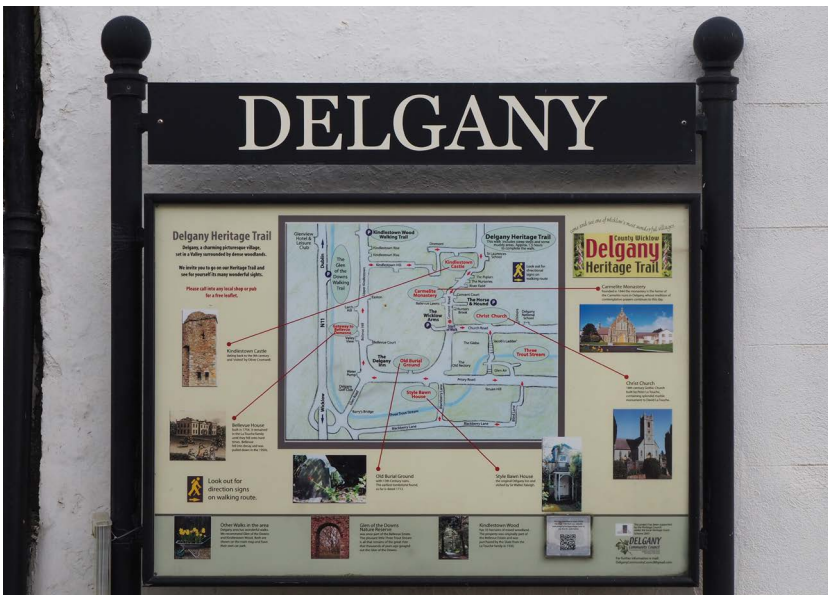
A few ideas on the general direction of Delgany Village

Some feedback on the emerging ideas for Delgany Village



Existing signage and informational boards in Delgany demonstrate local knowledge and pride in the village.

Engaging with local historians allows the team to develop a strong sense of place.



2.2 Development

Ideas and suggestions received from the local community were considered in detail by Delgany Community Council and the consultancy team. They in turn were used to inform a series of aims, objectives and projects for the village.

The Enhancement Plan was then tested in Draft with the public and key stakeholders so that further feedback could be incorporated.

Enabling the local community to take forward proposals



Recognising the architectural and social infrastructure that makes Delgany unique.



Engaging with the people and places that make Delgany special.

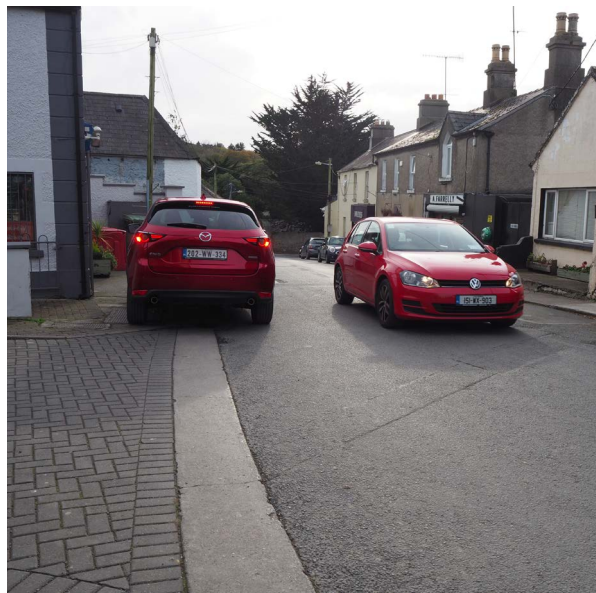


2.3 Findings

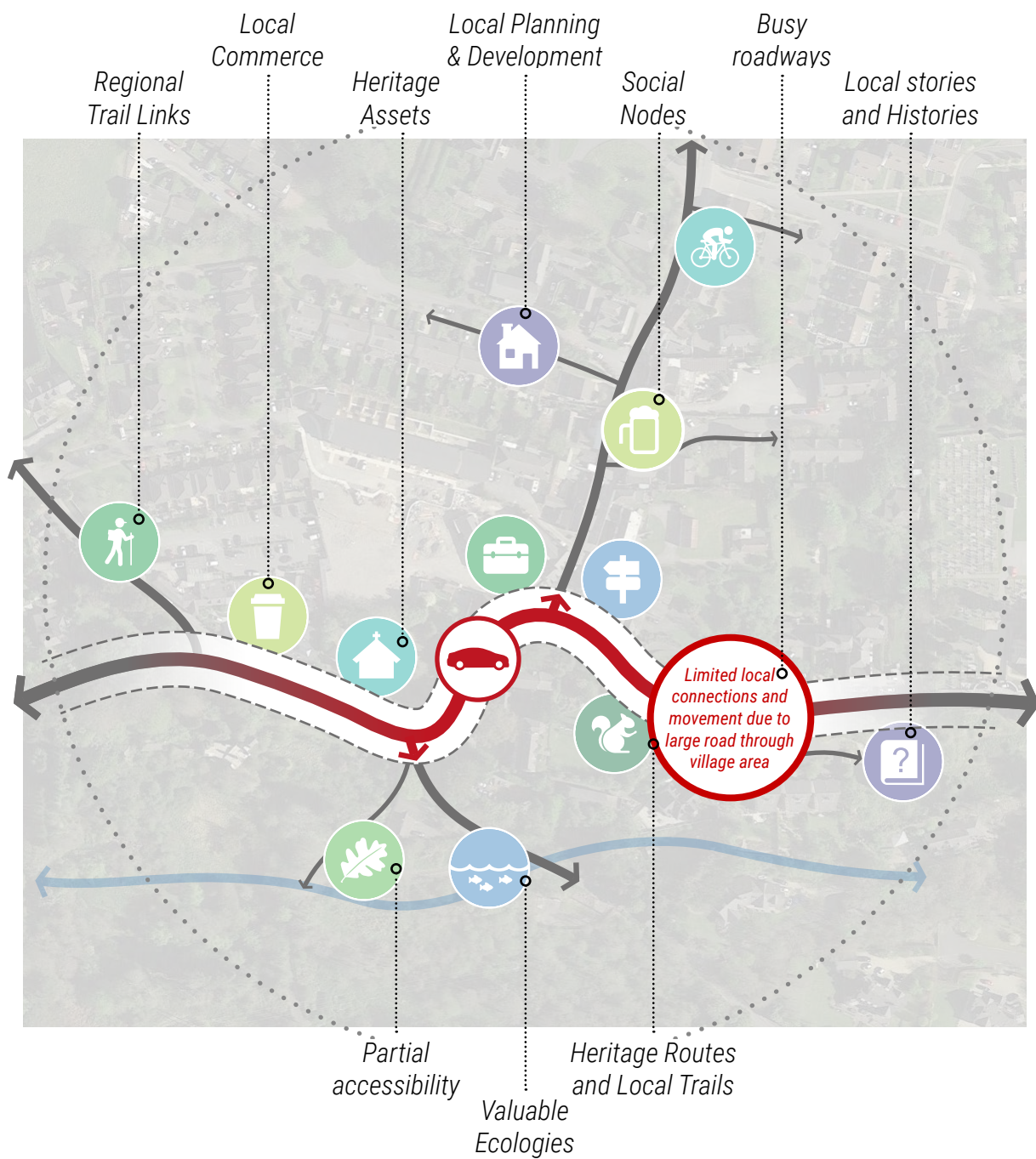
Through the course of this project's development, the community team has engaged in a number of important visits to Delgany Village and around the wider region.

These have been a useful way to continue to gather understandings on the dynamics, functions and popularity of the area, while also picking up conversations with a number of local residents and business people along the way.

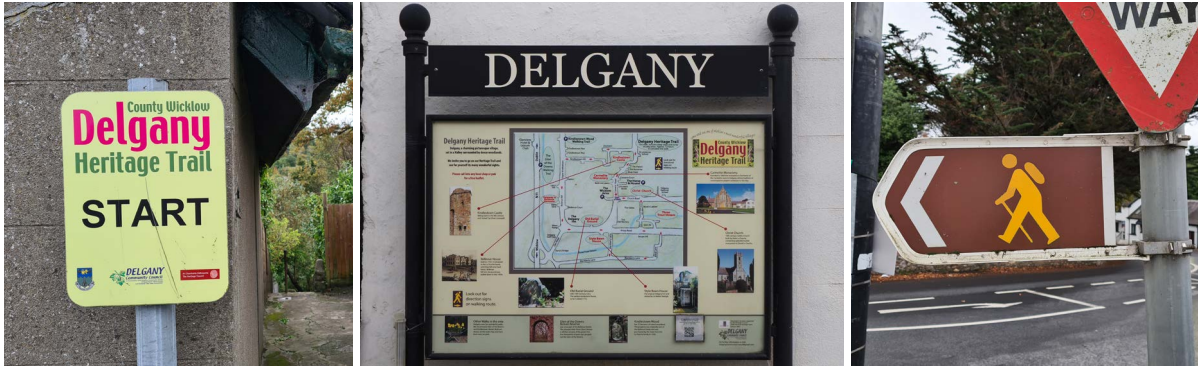
Below observations of existing spatial conditions, demonstrating an imbalance between pedestrians and drivers of vehicles in relation to transport strategies towards and through Delgany Village.



A number of strengths, challenges and opportunities across Delgany Village and the surrounding area have been examined, as summarised below and over the following pages:



Regional Trail Links



Local Commerce



Heritage Assets



Local Developments



Social Nodes



Vehicular Roadways



Local Stories and Histories



Partial Accessibility



valuable Ecologies



Heritage Routes



Stakeholder and community group Involvement

2.4 Involvement

Delgany Community Council has - alongside its dedicated volunteers, contributors and consultant teams - been in a position to inspire great involvement amongst the wider community through the course of this plan's development.

This has been achieved through years of grass-roots involvement between local community groups, political representatives and technical specialists in various fields.



Delgany Community Council
conducting a site analysis walk
September 2021



Introducing community groups
to the emerging proposals
May 2022



Delgany Community Council
members on Convent Road
June 2022

2.5 Feedback

Through the course of developing this Strategy, Delgany Community Council has been conscious to involve as much active input and creative responses as possible from the wider community. This feedback has been important to understand, process and build into proposals. A variety of community meetings, online forum and in-person consultation events have enabled a broad range of responses and feedback comments.



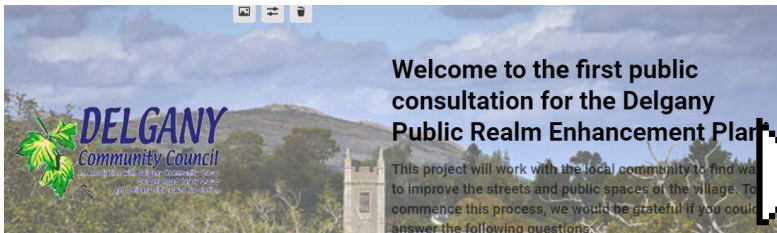
3 Engagement

3.1 Generating Ideas

It is important to the success of these proposed projects that the input of the public remains considered. These community ideas represent the thoughts and ambitions of those who will be the ones who eventually use and benefit from them.

An initial process that allows the local community to generate ideas is referred to here as the **First Consultation**, and is examined in detail through Section 4 of this report. From this First Consultation emerge the team’s Initial Findings.

So as to begin generating ideas on how the village is used, visited and lived in, a series of intentionally broad questions are asked to the public - so as to begin generating ideas; these range from attractions to local architecture:

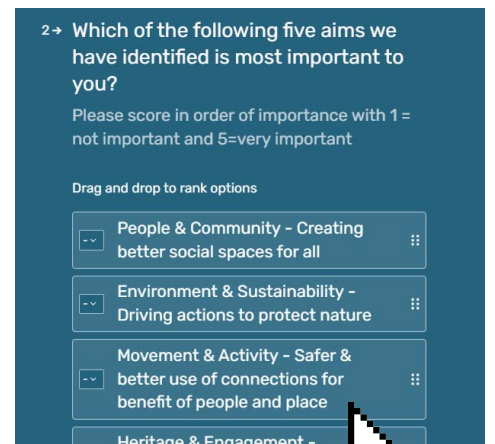
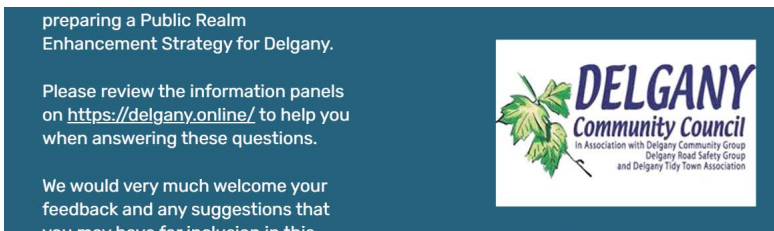


3.3 Refining Concepts

Once the community group has collated these initial findings, an exercise is undertaken to understand what the collective **vision** is for Delgany - beginning to inform proposed projects.

As part of the process of refining these concepts, they are presented as part a **Second Consultation**, the results of which are in the Appendix of this report. This aims to collate accurate findings on behalf of the community and their feedback throughout.

Below Extracts from the second public consultation that was successfully held through both an online and a physical questionnaire format due to constraints around Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.



3.2 Initial Findings (First Consultation)

A broad range of initial findings have been collated since the completion of the First Consultation, with a summary of these findings presented in the next section of this report.

There were almost 400 respondents to this First Consultation - a very encouraging response, given the scale of Delgany Village. This feedback was, across the vast majority of responses, very positive and very enthusiastic about the possibilities for the future of Delgany's public realm.

Given the responses to the first question ("*How often do you visit Delgany?*", 386 respondents) the community team were confident that these findings across this consultation represented the aspirations of a local and very involved group.

3.4 Emerging Strategies (Second Consultation)

This second community engagement presented respondents with emerging project ideas and strategies, tying them directly to an overarching vision. As such, the opening question to the Second Consultation immediately engages with a *draft Vision* for Delgany, followed by a series of **five Aims** - each offering a broad theme for the particular emerging projects.

As is often the case, the uptake of responses to the second consultation was seen to be slightly reduced compared to the first, however the process was supported alongside a unique and engaging activity with the local schools - asking students to draw and design a special place in Delgany. This particular piece of the project, with over 180 submissions from students, offered a rich variety of imaginative and creative solutions.

3.5 Engagement Results

Hosted through an online survey and a printed questionnaire that was available throughout the village centre shops, this consultation was held through September 2021 and received a very successful 398 responses. The following questions were presented to respondents:

398 survey responses
September - October 2021

Below sample of the questionnaire that was available through the first public consultation.

Delgany Public Realm Enhancement Plan Public Consultation Questionnaire

Welcome to the first public consultation for the Delgany Public Realm Enhancement Plan. This project will work with the local community to find ways to improve the streets and public spaces of the village. To commence this process, we would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:

01 How often do you visit Delgany Village?
 Every Day A few times a week Several times a month Several times a year

02 What brings you to Delgany Village?
 Live here Work here Study here Visit here
 Socialise here Other (please specify) _____

03 What are the top three things that you like and dislike about Delgany?

Like	Dislike
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

04 What do you think makes Delgany Village special and unique?

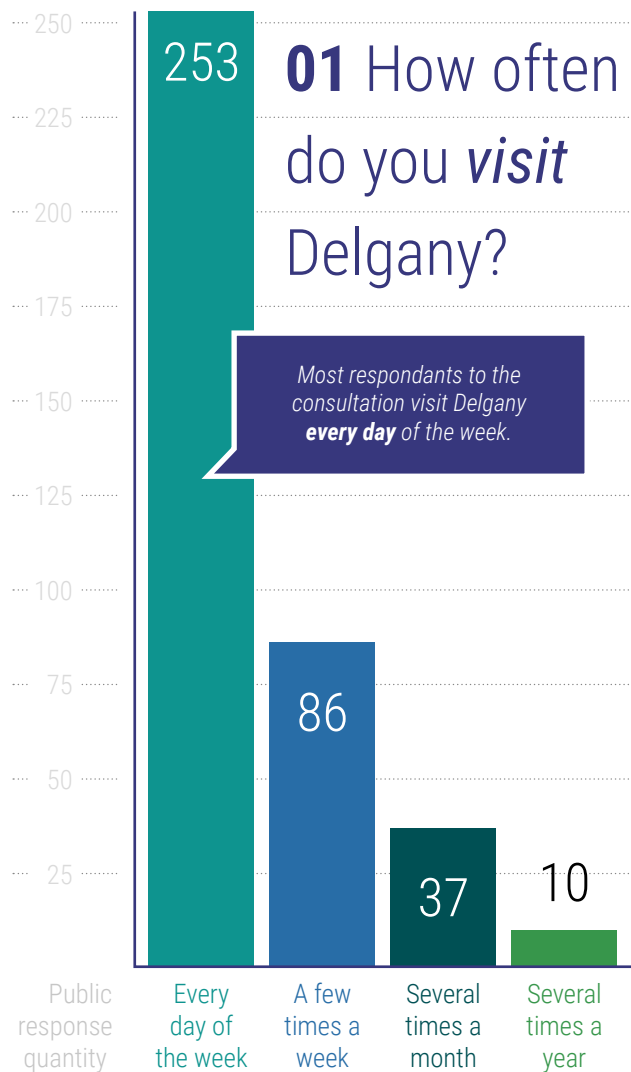
Please turn over!

under 18 18 - 24 25 - 34 35 - 44
 45 - 54 55 - 64 65 - 74 over 75

Many thanks! If you would like to be kept informed of this process, or to make a more detailed submission, please do not hesitate to contact us at delgany@paulhogarth.com, or leave your name and contact detail below:

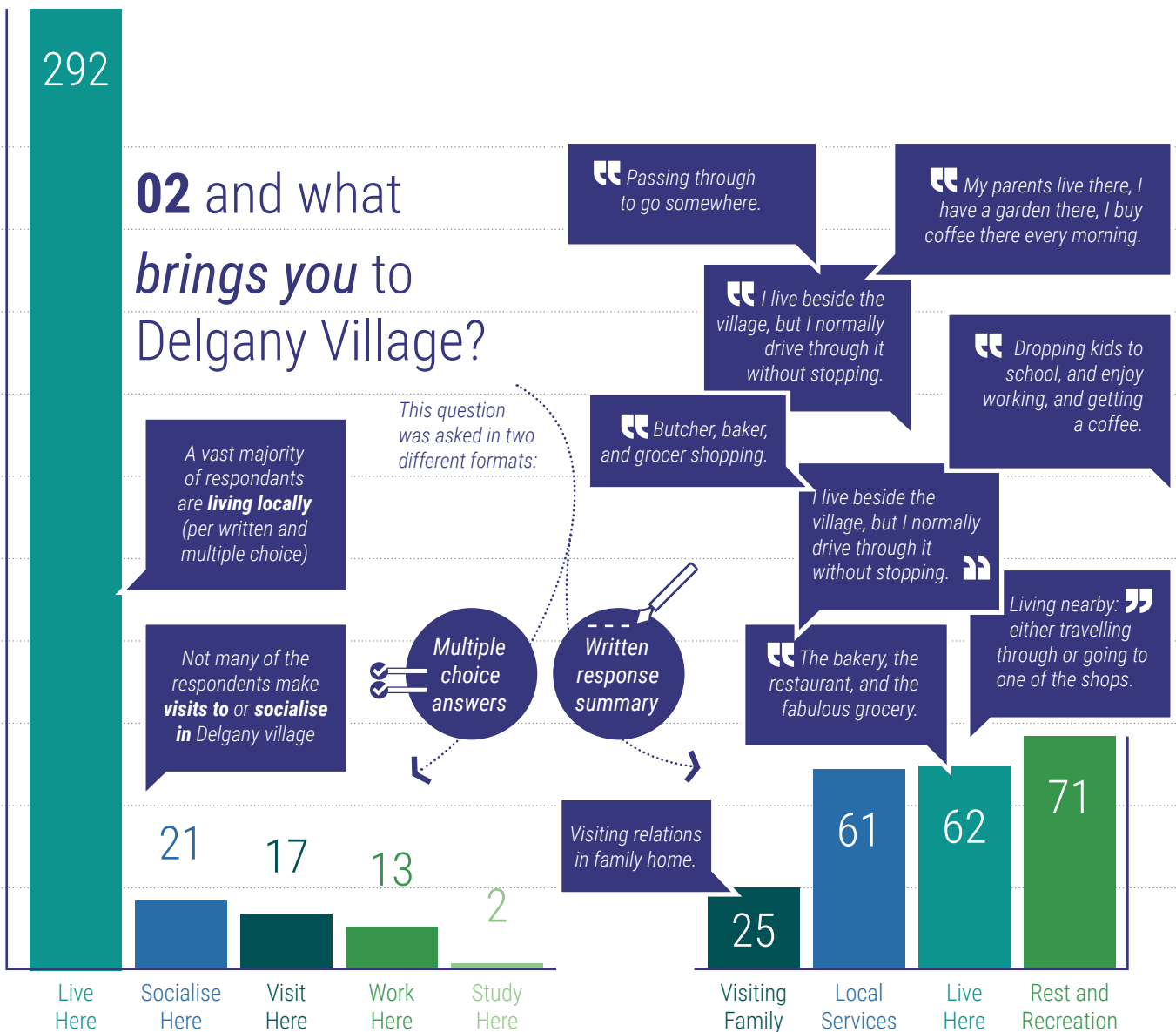
Name: _____
 Email: _____

The Paul Hogarth Company is a Data Controller under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This notice confirms the company's commitment to protect your privacy and to process any personal data submitted by you in a manner which meets the requirements of the Data Protection legislation. Any information provided will be used solely for the purposes of this consultation process.

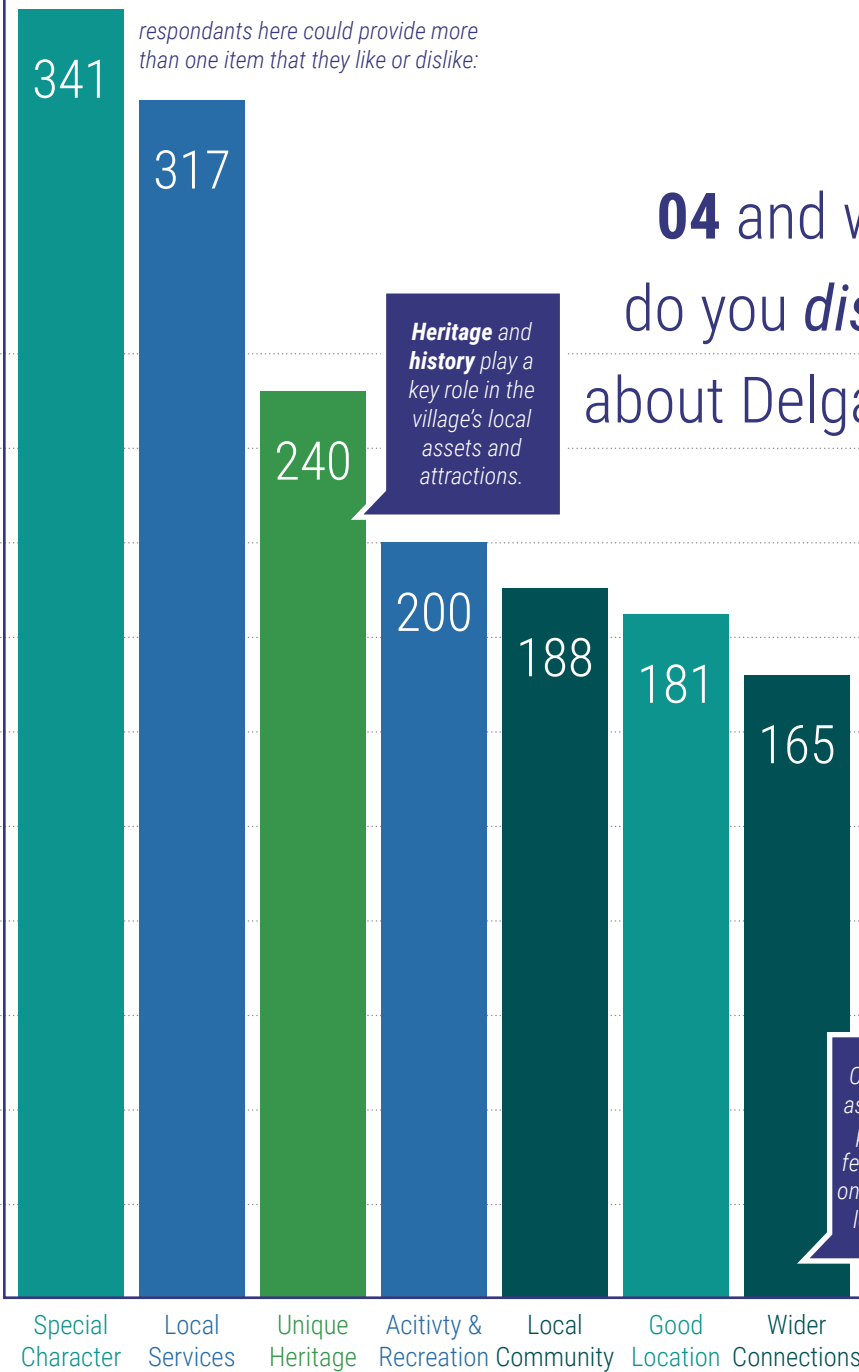


292

02 and what brings you to Delgany Village?



03 What do you like about Delgany?



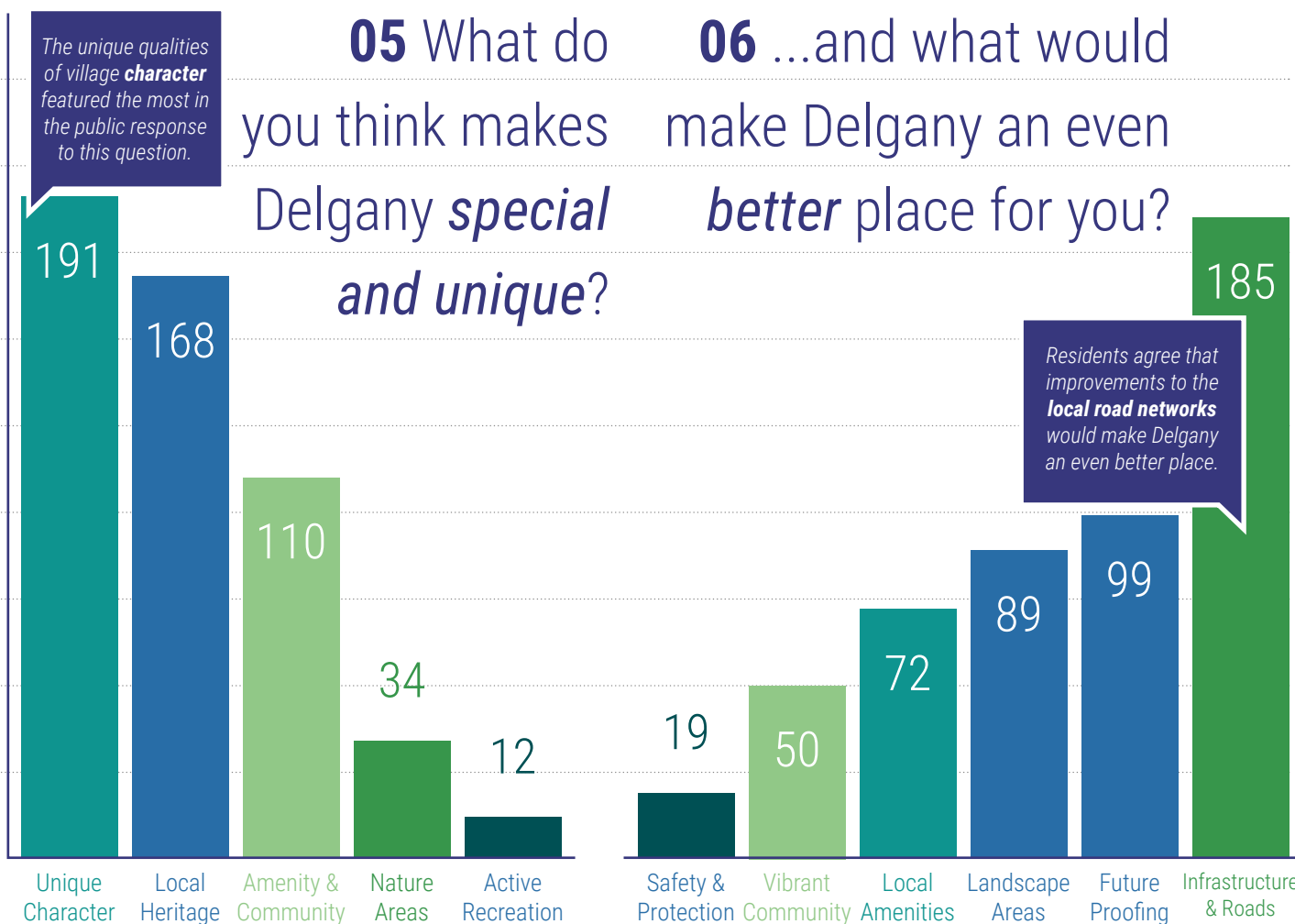
04 and what do you dislike about Delgany?



Summary

It is understood that Delgany is home to an **actively engaged** and enthusiastic community: residents enjoy the provision of local **amenities and services**, including in particular the **shops** and **cafes** across the wider area of Delgany.

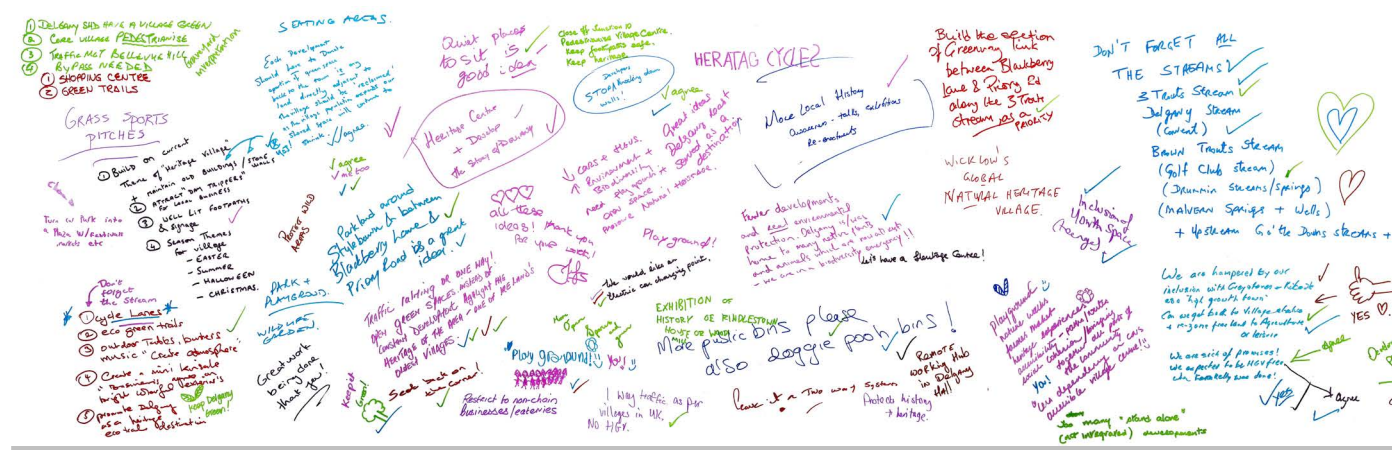
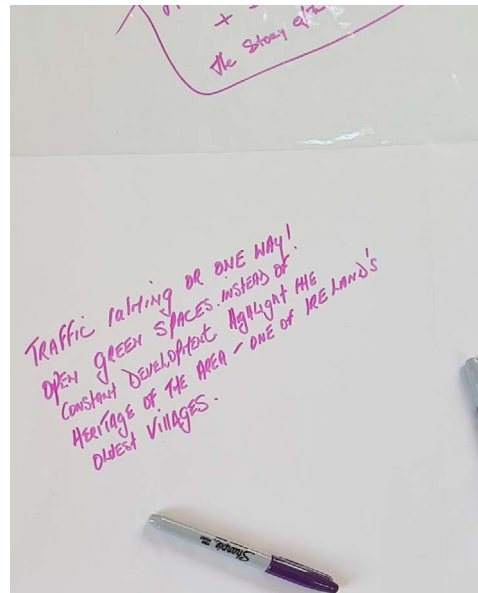
A particularly strong interest exists in the village's special character and unique heritage, while improvements in **safe movement** and greater **access to open space** is desired.



3.3 Emerging Strategies

Alongside the formal questionnaires that were central to community engagement, a number of strategies have been informed and shaped by the written ideas of respondents.

Below is another example of how Delgany Community Council reached out to local residents, businesses and schools to garner a variety of ideas and responses using large-scale whiteboard notes and written post-its.



3.4 Local Schools Involvement

Through the course of collating residents' responses, Delgany Community Council worked in tandem with the two local schools of St. Laurence's National School and Delgany National School to understand what local children would want to see and do in Delgany. As part of this, each student was asked to design a special place in Delgany - a number of creative responses to which are in the Appendix of this report.



Fun, mall ✓
 if you're neglected but have a walkway (Hawthorn) ✓
 Yes ✓
 Agree x10 →
 One way system through the Village with protected cycle lanes, paths and public seating areas - there is no where to sit in Delgany! Walking through Village now is a safety risk especially with a pram!!
 NOT VILLAGE TRAILS AROUND EVEN OF THE DOWN'S ✓ Agree

CYCLE PATHS!!! ✓
 Where the Fairy Trail where Fun (if you're neglected but have a walkway)
 Yes ✓
 Agree x10 →
 One way system through the Village with protected cycle lanes, paths and public seating areas - there is no where to sit in Delgany! Walking through Village now is a safety risk especially with a pram!!
 Better Street Lighting on side ways to cycle lanes + public seating areas + green spaces + safety lighting at night
 Clear Signage on cycle paths + road crossings
 Developer to take care to maintain these facilities + make it a priority
 Better access to markets + village
 Space for more local businesses
 Reduce height of apartments
 Wasted land on side of the road (check by cycleway) would be a great spot and accessible from village
 Community Gardens to be managed by locals with shared produce
 Small scale Farmers market for local produce
 Not safe to walk to village to on school ✓
 AND THE MARCHES?
 Where's the Monks?
 Delgany est. c. 492 by St. Mochoy (Deilgne Mochoy)
 Safe & welcoming pedestrian access to and within the village (for all-weathering season) ✓
 Main door of the village should be open for helping people for helpings + prams
 Love fruit & veg as a village
 and good connections into the village
 Old children who appreciate the village
 Provide positions to attract some estate on the way
 COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR ARTS AND CRAFTS ✓
 Music Centre
 Need you!
 Reduce noise pollution and improve quality

4 Vision

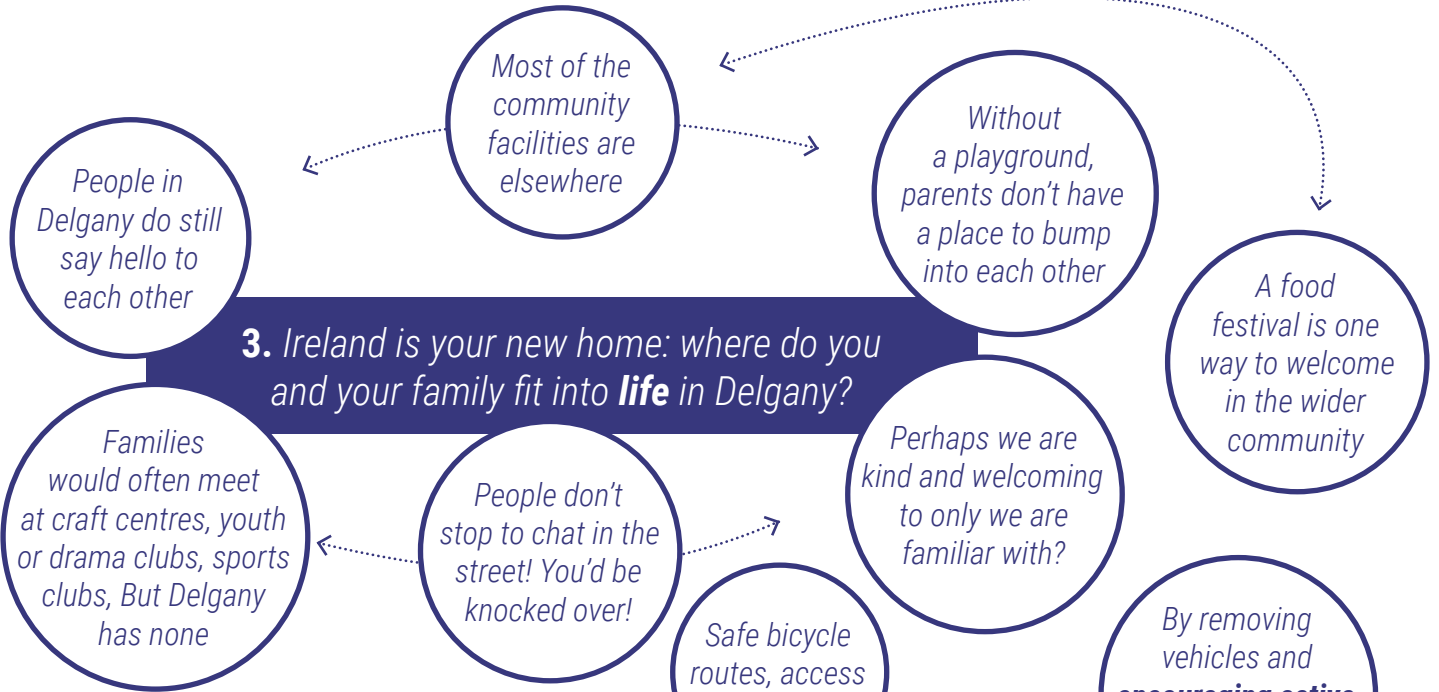
4.1 Vision Development

As part of the process to develop a **vision** for Delgany Village - one that captures the values and aspirations of the local community and the community groups - a number of questions were posed to the working group, as **outlined below**.

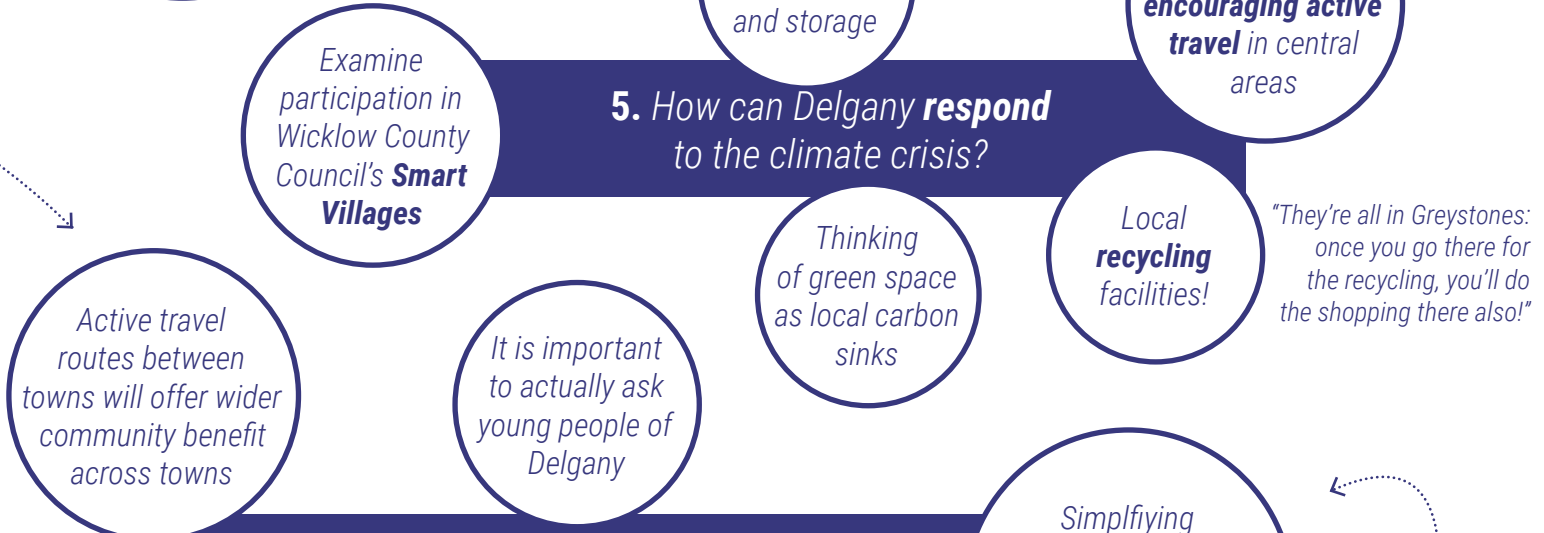
These questions were developed so as to encourage broad thinking and conversation around what can be aspired towards for the future of the village and its wider area:



3. Ireland is your new home: where do you and your family fit into **life** in Delgany?



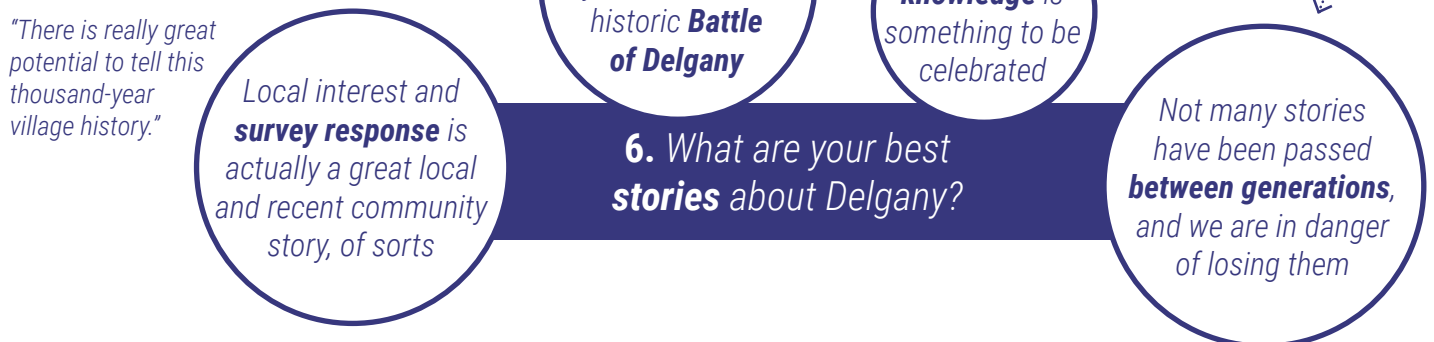
5. How can Delgany **respond** to the climate crisis?



4. You are fifteen years old and living in Delgany. What does it **offer**? And what **should** it offer?



6. What are your best **stories** about Delgany?



4.2 Vision Statement

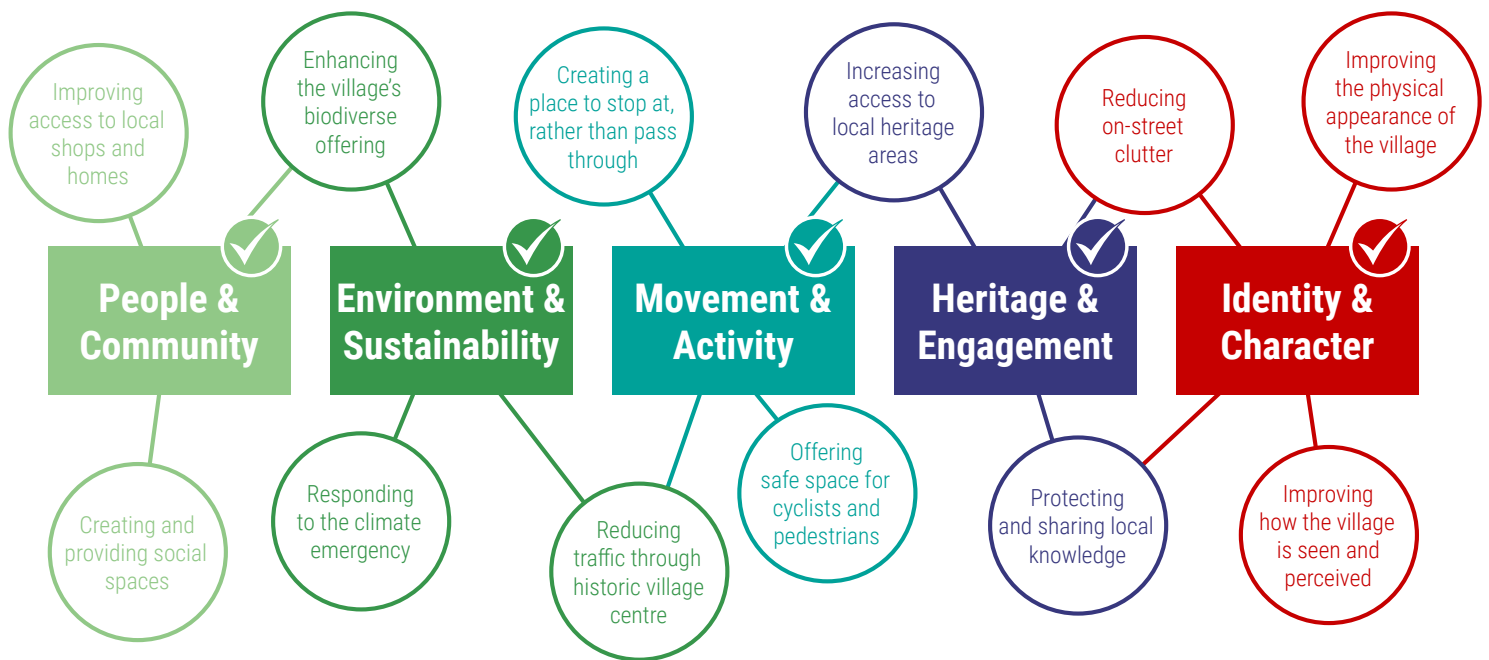
A vision statement has been drafted by the working group to reflect the community's aspirations in relation to Delgany's public realm. This *Vision Statement* is as follows:

“ To **strengthen** its special sense of place between the Wicklow Mountains and the Irish Sea, Delgany Village is to be **celebrated** through its rich **landscape setting**, an appreciation of its **vibrant community**, and the area's diverse **built** and **natural heritage**.

As a recognition of its people, location and its history, these aspirations reflect a vibrant and **engaged community**, while respecting Delgany as a truly distinct place to **live** in, to **work** at, and to **visit**. This vision presents an exciting direction for Delgany, its **people** and its **future**. ”

4.3 Project Aims

Each of the following has been determined by the village community as an important aim to support project proposals:



Protecting and enhancing the unique and special character of Delgany Village and its surrounding landscape has remained central to the development of this public realm plan.

Central to this has been recognising and celebrating those particular elements, assets and details that set **Delgany Village** apart from its close urban neighbour of **Greystones Town**:

Mountainous enclosure



Coastal exposure



Delgany

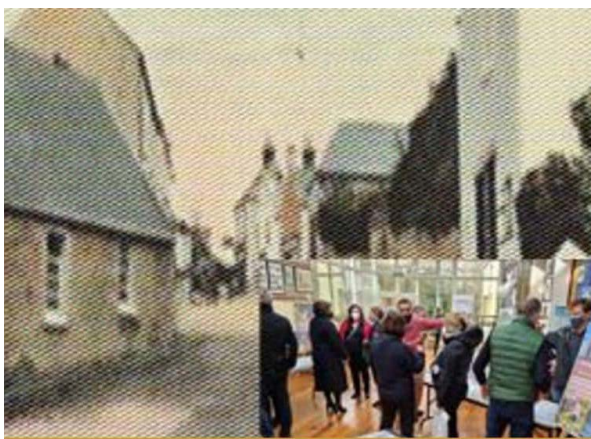


Greystones

5 Project Proposals

5.1 Schedule of Proposals

A Sit With Me in Delgany	Delivering site specific outdoor seating areas adjacent to local businesses, offering comfortable and safe spaces for every generation to meet, linger and enjoy Delgany village centre.
B Definitely Delgany	Consolidating a recognisable colour and material palette plus signage guidelines. Unique and adaptable street furniture , offering a unique style and approach for Delgany. A tool for engagement with developers.
C <i>I Am Delgany</i>	Seeking community involvement to augment and preserve a unique archival catalogue of local stories, photographs, histories, maps, tales and people.
D BioDiverse Delgany	Seeking to improve and strengthen the variety of opportunities to protect and enhance the village centre's rich ecological and biodiverse offering.
E Destination Delgany	Detailing a public realm master plan for Convent Road, taking into consideration the recently developed carriageway options as potential strategies and approaches.
F Discovering Delgany	Cultivating the existing local trail into a show stopping story-telling and immersive experience : unique to Delgany before expanding into further trails linking into the region's celebrated pedestrian network.
G Delgany <i>Delve Right In</i>	Developing a recognisable identity for Delgany, to be simplified for ease of sharing across a variety of platforms, media, communications and services.
H Let's Go, Delgany!	Extending active travel connections : providing bike stands and segregated infrastructure to encourage safe local travel and exploration: increasing footfall, and improving well-being.
I A Playful Delgany	Providing local spaces for play and forest-based woodland activities for users of all ages to re-engage with the wild environment themselves and nurture a respect for nature.
J Brighten & Lighten Delgany	Recognising a strong creative energy, proposing the development of community-led floral, planted, illuminated and colourful interventions across pocket spaces to further enliven the village.
K The Delgany Ticket	Curating an inclusive events programme centering on an annual Village Festival, with family-friendly performance such as Viking re-enactment events and the Battle of Delgany.



**PUBLIC REALM DRAFT PLAN
OPEN HOUSE
HOSTED BY DCC
April 2nd 2:30-6:30PM
April 3rd 2-5PM
The Old Schoolhouse, Delgany**

The image shows an aerial view of a village street with several people gathered, likely at the public realm draft plan open house. The text below the image provides details about the event.



A Sit With Me in Delgany

Delivering site-specific **outdoor seating areas** adjacent to businesses and homes, offering comfortable and safe spaces for people of every generation to meet in the village centre.

This project will provide an extensive network of localised pocket park and seating areas - with a focus on areas recognised by the community as being under intensive demand where people meet. One particular area that was mentioned extensively and enthusiastically through conversational engagement and through written feedback was the street space directly outside the Horse and Hound Pub and directly beside The Bear Paw cafe on Convent Road, which presents itself as an opportunity for community seating.



Multi-functional and adaptable on-street furniture configurations, aiming to provide greater public seating and facilities while also reducing the dominance of the private motor vehicle in sensitive town centre environments
Brackbury Village, United Kingdom

Seating Opportunity Mapping
Delgany Village

Seasonal street adaptations
Philadelphia, United States





B Definitely Delgany

Developing a special and unified palette of **materials** and **colours** alongside bespoke signage guidelines - ensuring an adaptable suite that reinforces a special sense of place.

A very strong interest emerged from the community in infrastructure that is robust, attractive and well-designed. This includes street furniture, paving, signage and lighting. Additional to this, the *Definitely Delgany* project would consider how these can visually and formally tie together through a repeated motif, colour, logo or form (shape). This project would aim to procure a palette of materials that offers a unified appearance across various places within Delgany, while retaining the unique qualities of each particular place.



Robust and user-friendly design
NeoBarcino Street Furniture



Incorporating old and new
stone setts at local access points

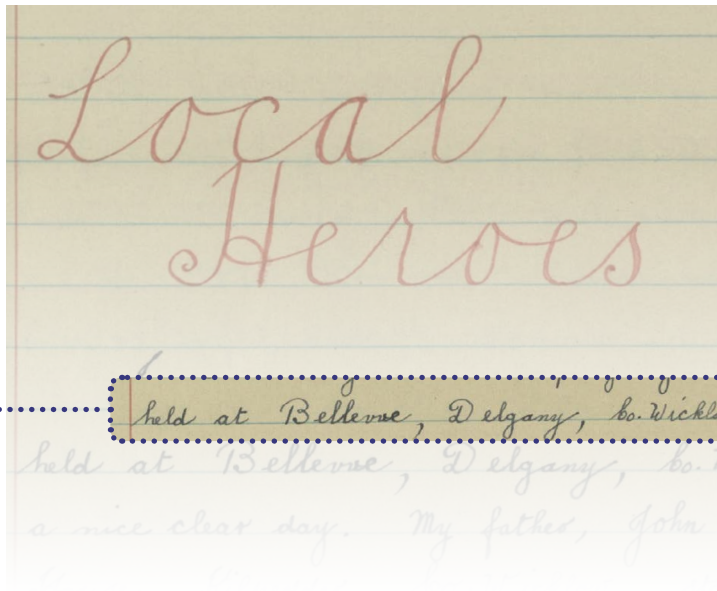
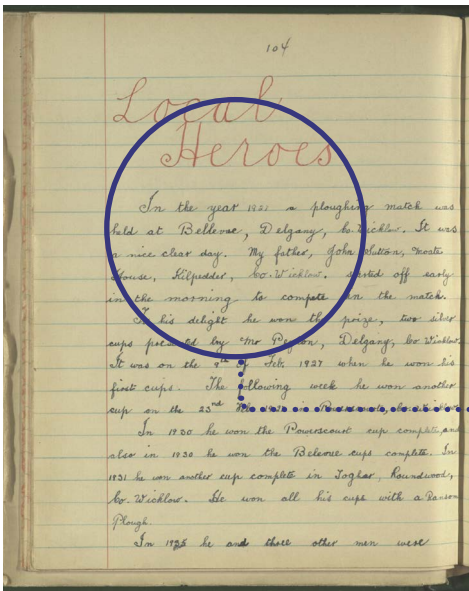




C I Am Delgany

Collating Delgany's diverse social histories into community-led contributions to an existing and exciting **archival catalogue** of stories, photographs, maps and characters - to be continuously updated through the *Our Wicklow Heritage* archive from the local Heritage Office.

Envisaged as an expansion of the online catalogue of archival documentation that relates to the rich heritage of Delgany, this project has the potential to expand to become a local interpretive and visitor centre that allows for both locals and visitors to continue to learn these local important stories.

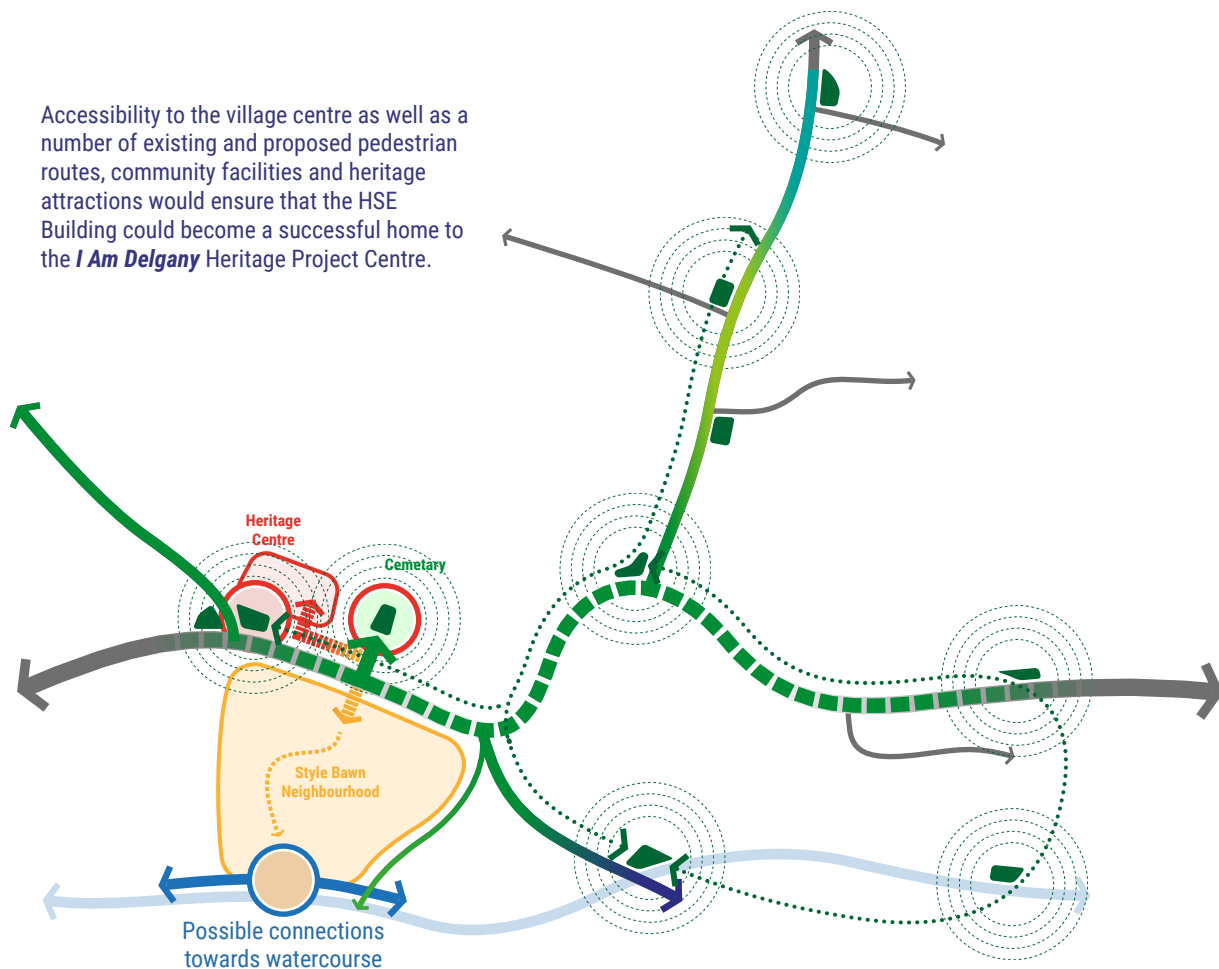


It is envisaged that the **I Am Delgany** project could, depending on the resources and funding opportunities available through the community group's efforts, develop from it's current online environment to ultimately become a physical space, through the longer term development of a heritage centre, perhaps at the old HSE Building.



Community Centre
Drumshallon, Louth

Accessibility to the village centre as well as a number of existing and proposed pedestrian routes, community facilities and heritage attractions would ensure that the HSE Building could become a successful home to the **I Am Delgany** Heritage Project Centre.





D BioDiverse Delgany

Seeking to improve and strengthen the variety of opportunities and locations to protect, sustain and enhance the village's rich **ecological** and **biodiverse** offering.

Adaptations across the village centre can cater for a number of improvements to the ecological conditions and environmental functions of the wider area, alongside infrastructural upgrades to transport networks, utility systems and other built works. When considered from the early stages of a project, these green (plants, vegetation) and blue (watercourses) systems can contribute to a more biodiverse place for a variety of plants and animals, as well as proven benefits for residents and businesses across the urban centre. Considering these streetscape upgrades can provide greater space for people-focused activities, while limiting the village's loud motor traffic.



Climate resilience through management of water and ecological corridors
Hammersmith and Fulham, United Kingdom

On-street planting areas as buffers
Westport Town, County Mayo





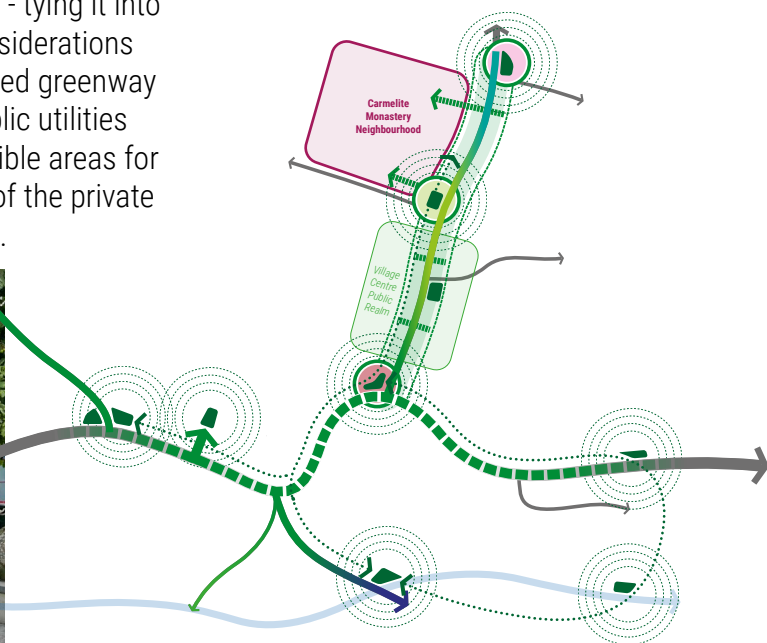
E Destination Delgany

Developing a **detailed public realm and street design plan** for Convent Road, taking into consideration the recent carriageway options as potential strategies and approaches.

A detailed public realm and street design plan for Delgany would consider a number of other adjacent strategies including *Sit With Me in Delgany* (outdoor dining and seating areas) and *Definitely Delgany* (a cohesive furniture palette) - tying it into a spatial plan with technical and geometric considerations around building access, connections (to proposed greenway routes, for example), parking and transport, public utilities access, lighting, seating and universally accessible areas for people to enjoy, while reducing the dominance of the private motor vehicle passing through the urban centre.



A People-focused Village Centre
Clonakilty, County Cork



Comfortable Courtyard Space
Katz Orange Cafe, Berlin



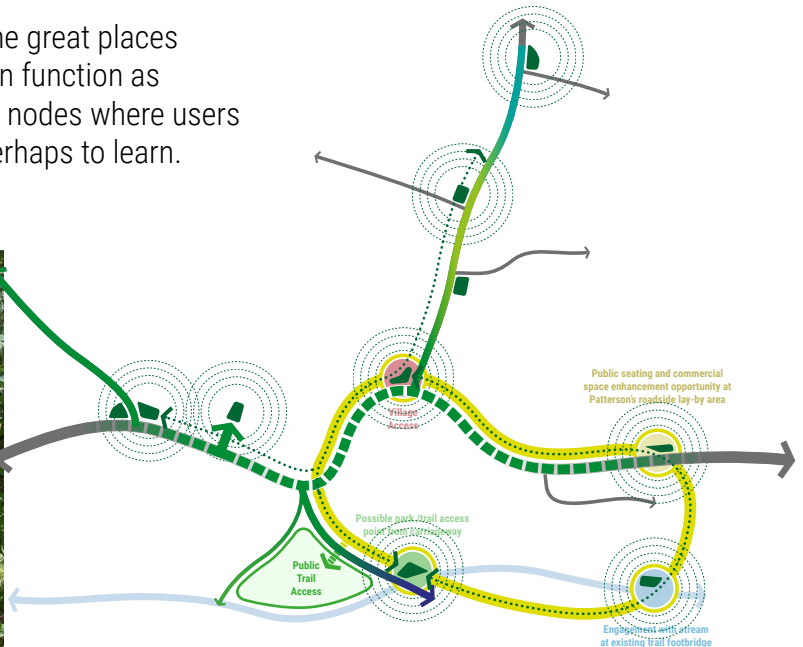
F Discovering Delgany

Augmenting the area's existing local trails into a **memorable story-telling experience**: to be expanded over time to link with wider trails linking into the region's celebrated network.

Delgany Village has stories to tell, and some great places to tell them. A number of outdoor areas can function as recreational, informational and interpretive nodes where users can find a moment to meet, to relax and perhaps to learn.

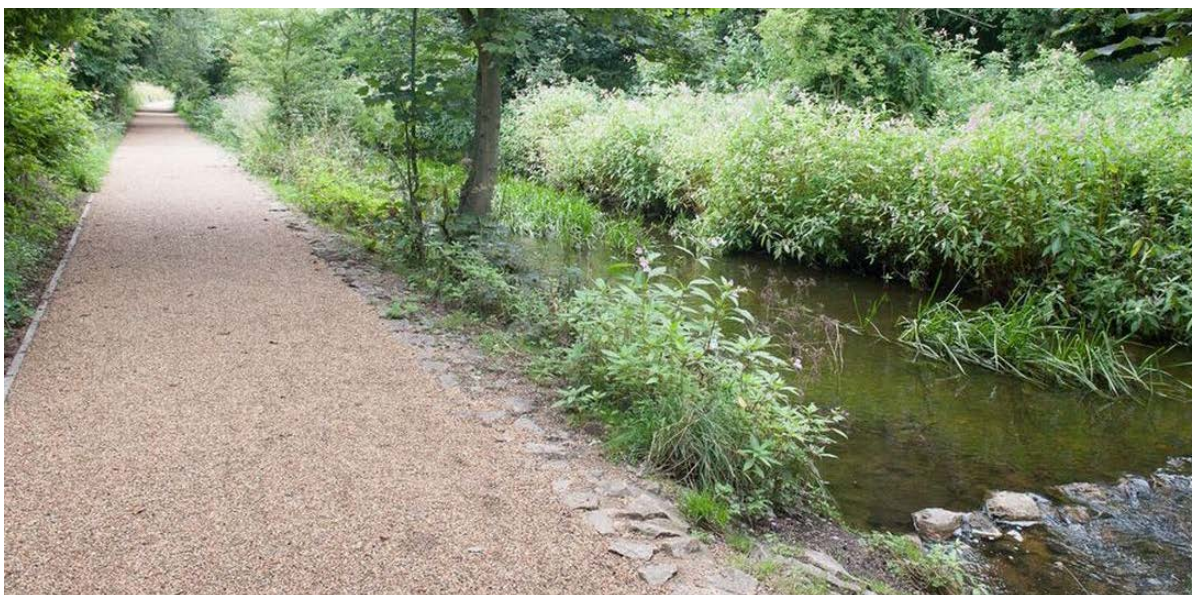


QR Codes such as those adopted into the trail network at Tsútswecw Provincial Park in British Columbia would allow visitors to explore further layers of history hosted on the Wicklow Heritage website (as developed in *I Am Delgany* - project C).



Engaging Story-telling and Interpretation
Slieve Gullion Forest Park, Newry





Connecting points of interest
with active travel infrastructure
New Hall Valley Cycle Loop,
Birmingham, United Kingdom



G Delgany - *Delve Right In!*

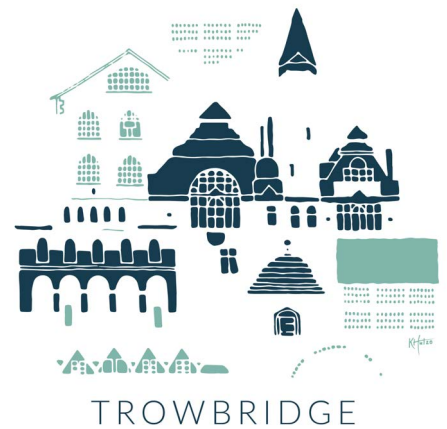
Developing a unique and **recognisable identity** for Delgany - to be visually recognisable for ease of legibility across a variety of platforms, communications, media and services.

It is recognised that visual communications can be a simple and strong tool to develop a bespoke language and identity for a village or area. This project presents an opportunity to augment Delgany's unique presence within the wider Wicklow region using a consolidated visual appearance across a number of physical and virtual media. It is possible within this to include a dedicated typeface, colour or graphic motif.

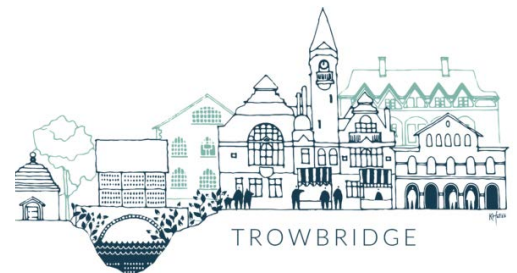
This project would require collective and strategic buy-in from community groups, commercial premises and institutions from the village and area, ensuring that each entity is aligning towards established common goals for the community.

This visual identity for Delgany can be linked with the recently developed *County Wicklow Tourist Passport*, allowing for a recognisable appearance to connect visitors with the wider region, and ensuring that Delgany remains visually distinct.

Below Through workshop studies, the unique topography and architecture of Delgany Village is explored:



Above & Below Celebrating architectural heritage using geometric abstractions
Trowbridge, Wiltshire, United Kingdom





Above Simplified geometry of visually unique points or features of the town are celebrated in bold design
Lismore Heritage Town, County Waterford



Above & Below Unique detailing of building's features is abstracted into repeated geometric motifs across media
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, United Kingdom



Motifs are easily transferable between physical, digital and online media, with a tagline of *A Shrewsbury One-Off* being adopted across local commercial and heritage places





H Let's Go Delgany!

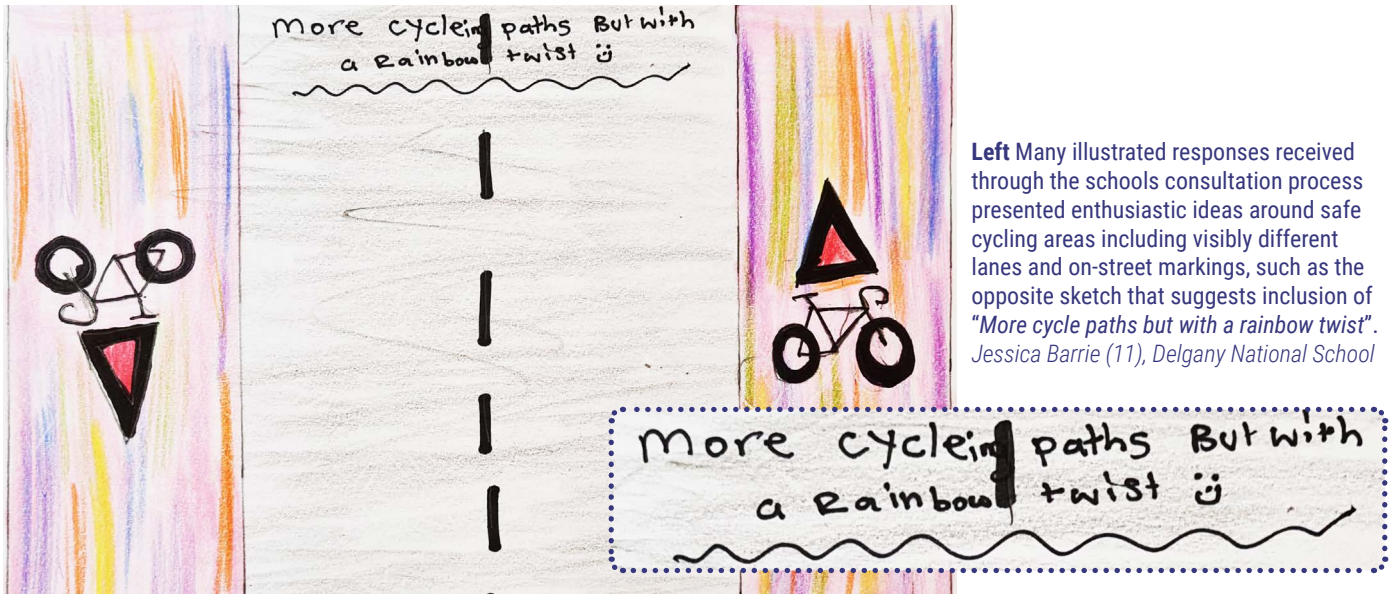
Extending **active travel connections**: providing bike stands and segregated infrastructure to encourage safe local travel and exploration: increasing footfall, and improving well-being.

Through the course of public consultations, it was determined that a strong local interest exists in improving and expanding the local active travel networks into and through Delgany. This project would examine the expansion of dedicated and safe cycling infrastructure to include lanes and parking stand areas, with safe and standardised connections towards regional attractions and connections including Greystones Train Station and Glen of the Downs Nature Trail. Village centre upgrades would enable for greater commercial operations and seating:

Right Existing cycle infrastructure into and through Delgany Village is sporadic, outdated and unsafe for local journeys - including those to and from local schools.



Left A re-imagined village street in Ireland with dedicated safe space and accessible infrastructure for cyclists, pedestrians and motor users; this configuration has allowed for increased outdoor commercial space for local vendors alongside public seating space and localised pockets of vegetation. *Blackrock Village, County Dublin*

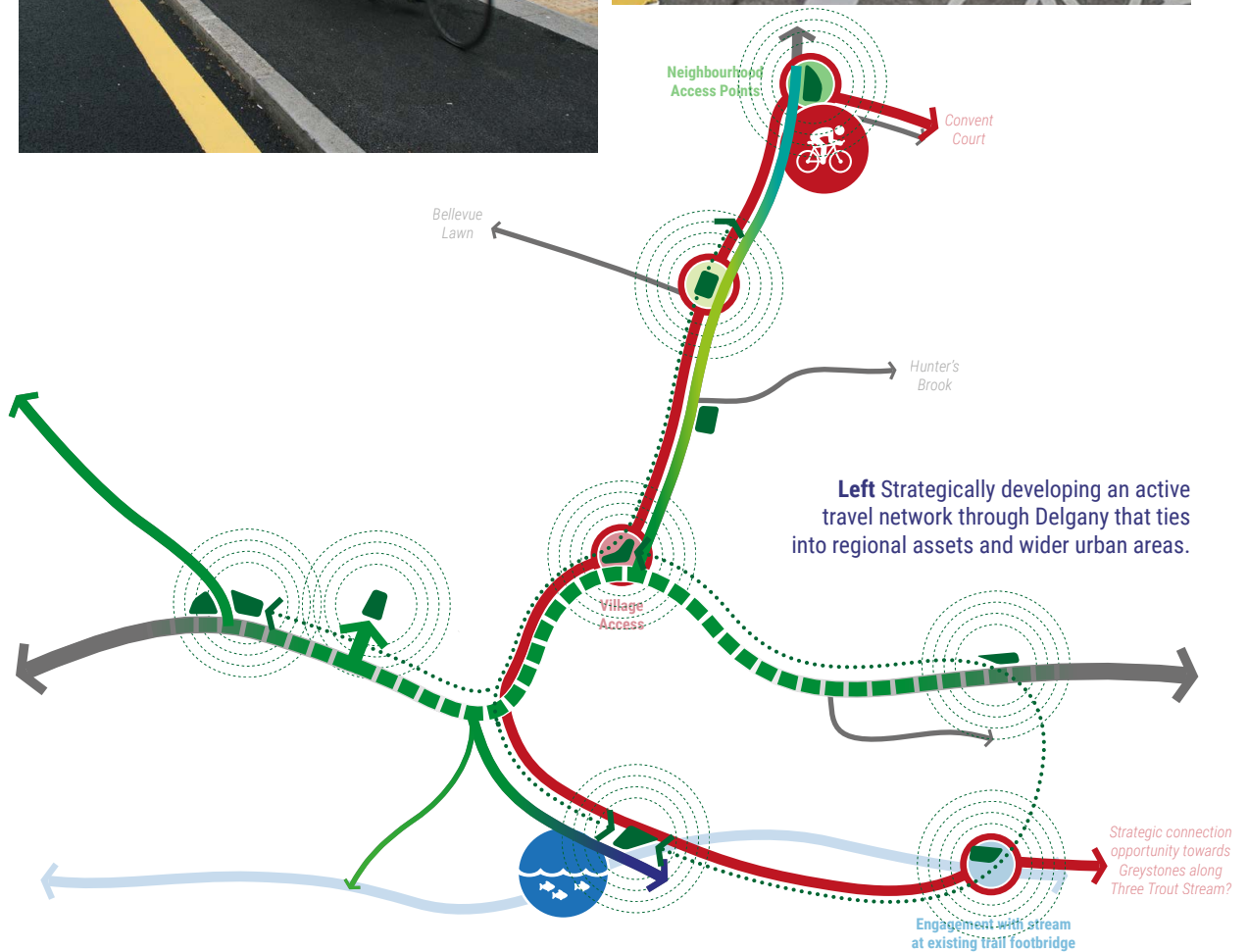


Left Many illustrated responses received through the schools consultation process presented enthusiastic ideas around safe cycling areas including visibly different lanes and on-street markings, such as the opposite sketch that suggests inclusion of "More cycle paths but with a rainbow twist".
 Jessica Barrie (11), Delgany National School



Left Simplified and colour-coded networks allow different types of active travel users to understand the requirements or challenges of the wider area; this is considered in the context of Delgany as the village is located in a topographically challenging area of Wicklow County.
 Bicycle Trails Map, Killarney, County Kerry

Right & Below Dedicated cycling infrastructure can offer safe routes and rest points for local journeys; segregation and ease of access provides a viable alternative to motor journeys.



Left Strategically developing an active travel network through Delgany that ties into regional assets and wider urban areas.



I A Playful Delgany

Providing local **spaces for play** and forest-based woodland activities for users of all ages to re-engage with the wild environment, and to develop and nurture a respect for nature.

Active engagement with the surrounding woodlands emerged as a unique and particular local interest of many consultation respondents. Working with forestry specialists, as well as those who have previously worked to develop the successful *Delgany Heritage Trail*, a network of woodland play attractions could be developed as part of a woodland recreation strategy.

A Playful Delgany aims to offer Delgany with a unique and engaging network of spaces for all ages of play and engage.

Below Play facilities that work with the surrounding woodland landscape
Fort Chaplin, Washington DC, United States





J Brighten and Lighten Delgany

Proposing the development of community-led floral, planted, illuminated and **colourful interventions and enhancements** across pocket spaces to further enliven the village.

New pockets of vegetation present an opportunity to promote the importance of biodiversity and pollinator-friendly species. These can be worked into either a protective infrastructure capacity, or as a school project that enables involvement from the wider village - becoming an active educational resource.



Above Left On-street screening adapted with a vegetated buffer
Malahide Town, County Dublin

Above Adaptable overhead canopies with a playful and colourful twist using colourful umbrellas
Apple Market Lane, Waterford City

Left Community mural development involving local students as part of an "Art Bomb Brigade" project
City of Akron, Ohio, United States



K The Delgany Ticket

Curating an inclusive **events programme** centering on an annual Festival, with family-friendly performance such as Viking re-enactments and the Battle of Delgany, or the early Christian era of Delgany's development.

Surpassing a thousand years since the Battle of Delgany, a strong focus remains on the community's celebration of local history, lore, and culture. *The Delgany Ticket* would establish a programme of events to include music, performance, as well as active involvement from local restaurants and cafes.



Left A family-friendly mix of food stalls, fruit and vegetable stands, book shops and local performance
Marley Park Markets, County Dublin



Left Flexible street space that safely allows for dynamic uses such as on-street conversation, presentation, debate and public engagement
NLA Project, London, United Kingdom

6 Action Plan

6.1 Actioning and Priorities

A schedule of the project proposals is presented opposite, with indicative labels for the *Priority* of its delivery and the *Cost* that its delivery may incur. Alongside these columns is an understanding of the prospective stakeholders that may require involvement. This provides a framework for further detailing and action on a project-by-project basis, and DCC may reserve capacity to assist in project delivery (or part thereof) alongside each recognised stakeholder.

6.2 Funding and Progress

In February of 2022 - through the course of Delgany Community Council developing and finalising this Public Realm Enhancement Plan - the Government of Ireland published the Town Centre First (TCF) Policy – a major policy that aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and **breathe new life** into our town centres. TCF will assist in the co-ordinated alignment of various new and existing funding streams to support the implementation of the TCF Plans on the ground.

This includes funds such as the:

- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)
- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)
- Housing for All Crói Cónaithe (Towns) fund
- Active Travel Fund
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme
- Climate adaptation/retrofitting
- Built Heritage supports such as the Historic Town Initiative (HTI) as operated by the Heritage Council

A core aim will be to ensure specific TCF funding streams within each programme which targets delivery of the TCF Policy and implementation of TCF plans locally.

A Sit With Me in Delgany

B Definitely Delgany

C *I Am Delgany*

D BioDiverse Delgany

E Destination Delgany

F Discovering Delgany

G *Delgany Delve Right In*

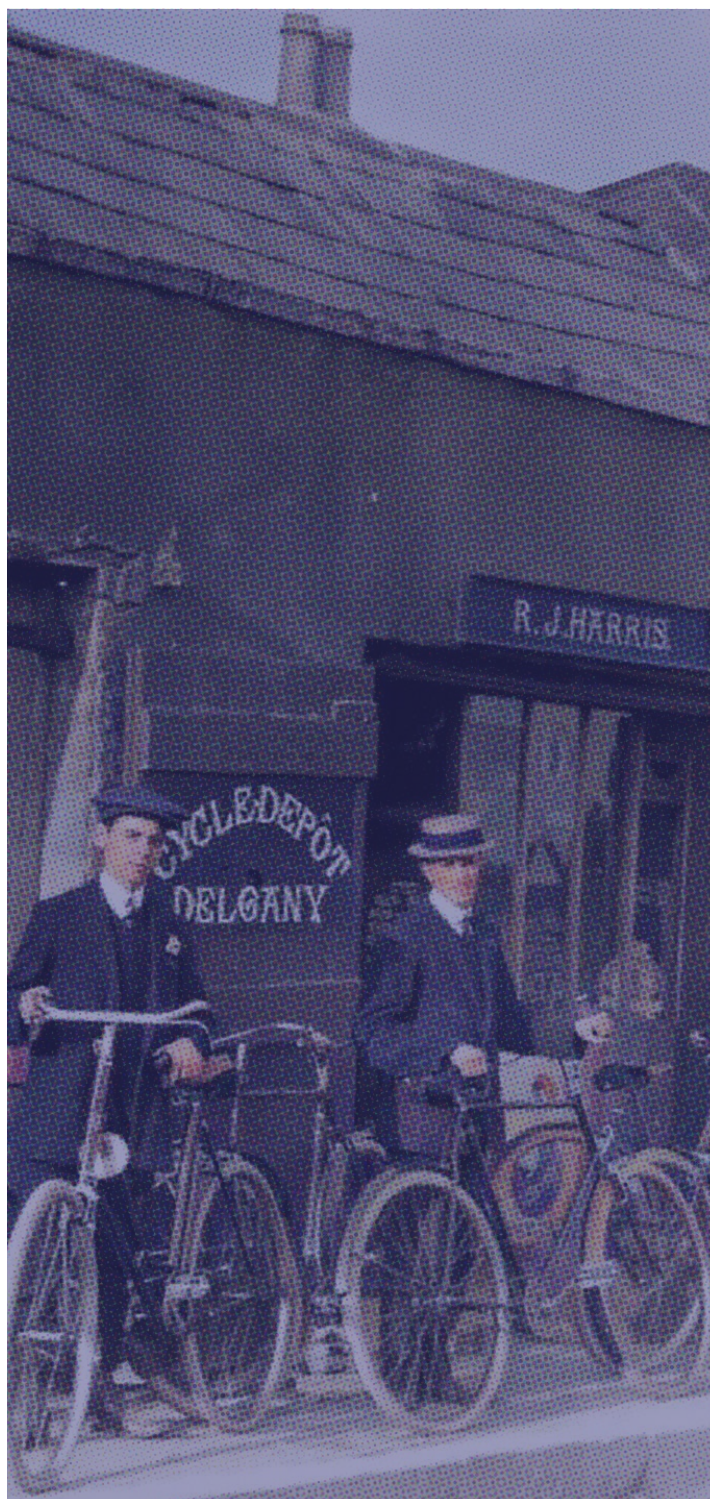
H Let's Go, Delgany!

I A Playful Delgany

J Brighten & Lighten Delgany

K The Delgany Ticket

Priority	Cost	Stakeholders
!!!	€ €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Tidy Towns, Delgany Community Council
!!	€ €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Tidy Towns, Delgany Community Council
!!!	€	Delgany Tidy Towns, Delgany Community Council
!!!	€ €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Tidy Towns, Delgany Community Council, Local Schools
!!	€ € €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Community Council, Delgany Village Business Alliance
!!	€ €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Community Council, Local Schools
!!!	€	Delgany Community Council, Delgany Village Business Alliance
!	€ € €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Community Council, Delgany Village Business Alliance
!!	€ €	Local Schools, Delgany Tidy Towns, Wicklow County Council
!!!	€	Delgany Tidy Towns, Delgany Community Council, Delgany Village Business Alliance, Wicklow County Council (<i>licensing authority</i>)
!!!	€ €	Wicklow County Council, Delgany Community Council, Local Schools, Delgany Village Business Alliance



7 Appendices


7.1 Second Consultation

Hosted through a virtual and physical questionnaire, and with a consultation kick-off held as an Open House event at The Old Schoolhouse community hall, this second engagement aimed to garner more detailed understandings on the emerging proposals, strategies and project for Delgany Village.

159 survey responses
April - June 2022

Below sample of the questionnaire and advertising for the second public consultation.

Delgany Public Realm Enhancement Plan
Public Consultation




the paul hogarth company

Have your say!

It is important that your thoughts and ideas are heard on the future of Delgany Village's open space.

Public consultation is now open on draft ideas and proposals, as well as our kids' *Design Delgany* project.

All information about the enhancement plan and much more about Delgany Village is now available at the website www.delgany.online



Sit With Me in Delgany
 bespoke outdoor seating arrangements offering both comfortable and safe spaces for every generation to meet within the village as well as having the potential to be a playful asset within the streetscape incorporating artistic lighting.

Definitely Delgany
 Creating a recognisable colour and material palette plus signage guidelines and adaptable street furniture reinforcing a compelling sense of place offering a unique style and branding approach for Delgany. Providing a tool for early engagement and partnership working with developers to ensure aspects the community most value are fully considered.

I am Delgany
 Gathering momentum in collating Delgany's rich social history through various multimedia methods to create a unique archival catalogue of local stories, photographs, histories, maps, folklore and characters. Ultimately developing this from a virtual to a physical space - through the longer term development of a heritage centre, possibly the old HSE building.

Be Diverse Delgany
 Seeking to improve and strengthen the variety of opportunities to protect and enhance the village centre's rich ecological and biodiverse offering. Child friendly trails in unexpected places.

Destination Delgany
 Detailing a public realm master plan for Coonest Road, taking into consideration the recently developed carriageway options as potential strategies and approaches.

Discovering Delgany
 Cultivating the existing local heritage trail into a slow stopping storytelling and immersive experience for all ages unique to Delgany before expanding into further trails linking into the region's celebrated pedestrian network.



01 A draft **Vision Statement** for Delgany Village: to what extent do you agree with this vision below?

*“To strengthen its special **sense of place** between the Wicklow Mountains and the Irish Sea, Delgany is to be celebrated through its rich landscape setting, an appreciation of its vibrant community, and the area’s diverse built and natural heritage.*

*As a recognition of its people, location and history, these aspirations reflect a vibrant and engaged community, while respecting Delgany as a truly **distinct** place to live in, to work at, and to visit. This vision presents an exciting direction for Delgany, its **people** and its **future**.*

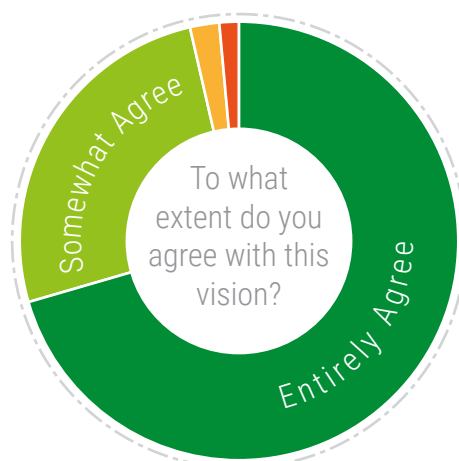
87% response rate
(139 out of the 159 respondents)

98 Entirely Agree

36 Somewhat Agree

3 Somewhat Disagree

2 Disagree



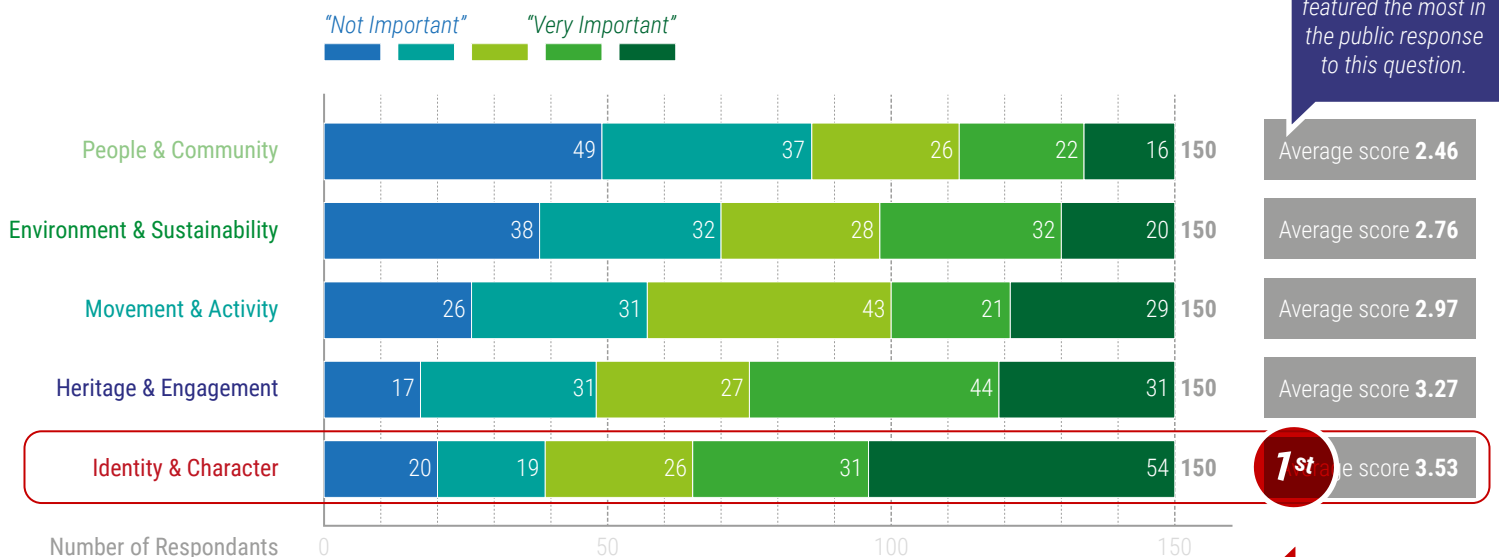
Over 95% of survey respondents **agree** with the draft vision statement for Delgany Village.

02 Which of the following five identified **aims** is the most important to you?

Gathered and simplified from the first consultation, a total of five aims were identified for consideration:



1 = not important -----> 5 = very important



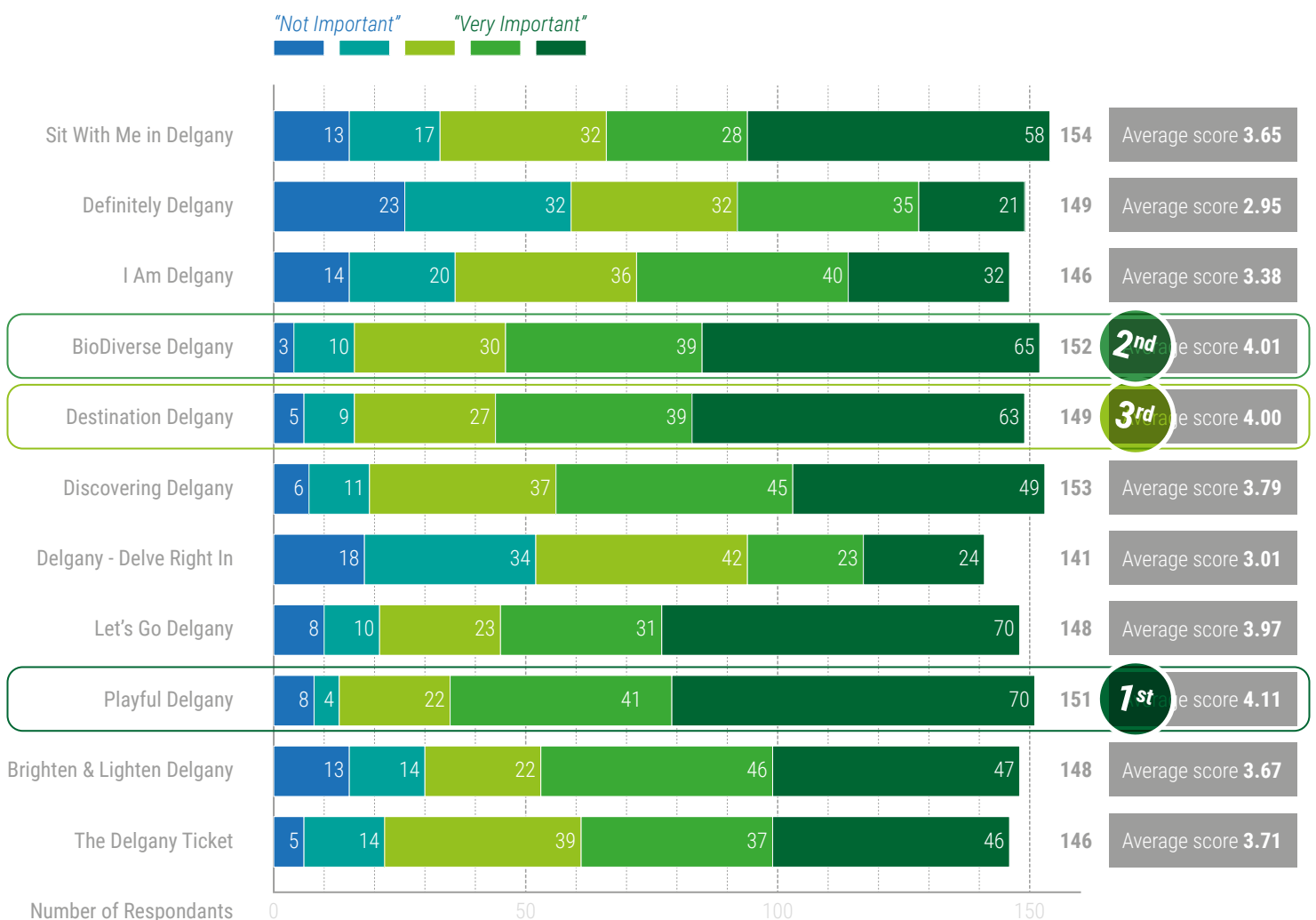
The unique qualities of village **character** featured the most in the public response to this question.

In relation to projects for further development, public responses demonstrated most interest in how best to celebrate **Identity & Character**.

03 To progress these five aims, **eleven projects** have been identified; please score them in order of importance:

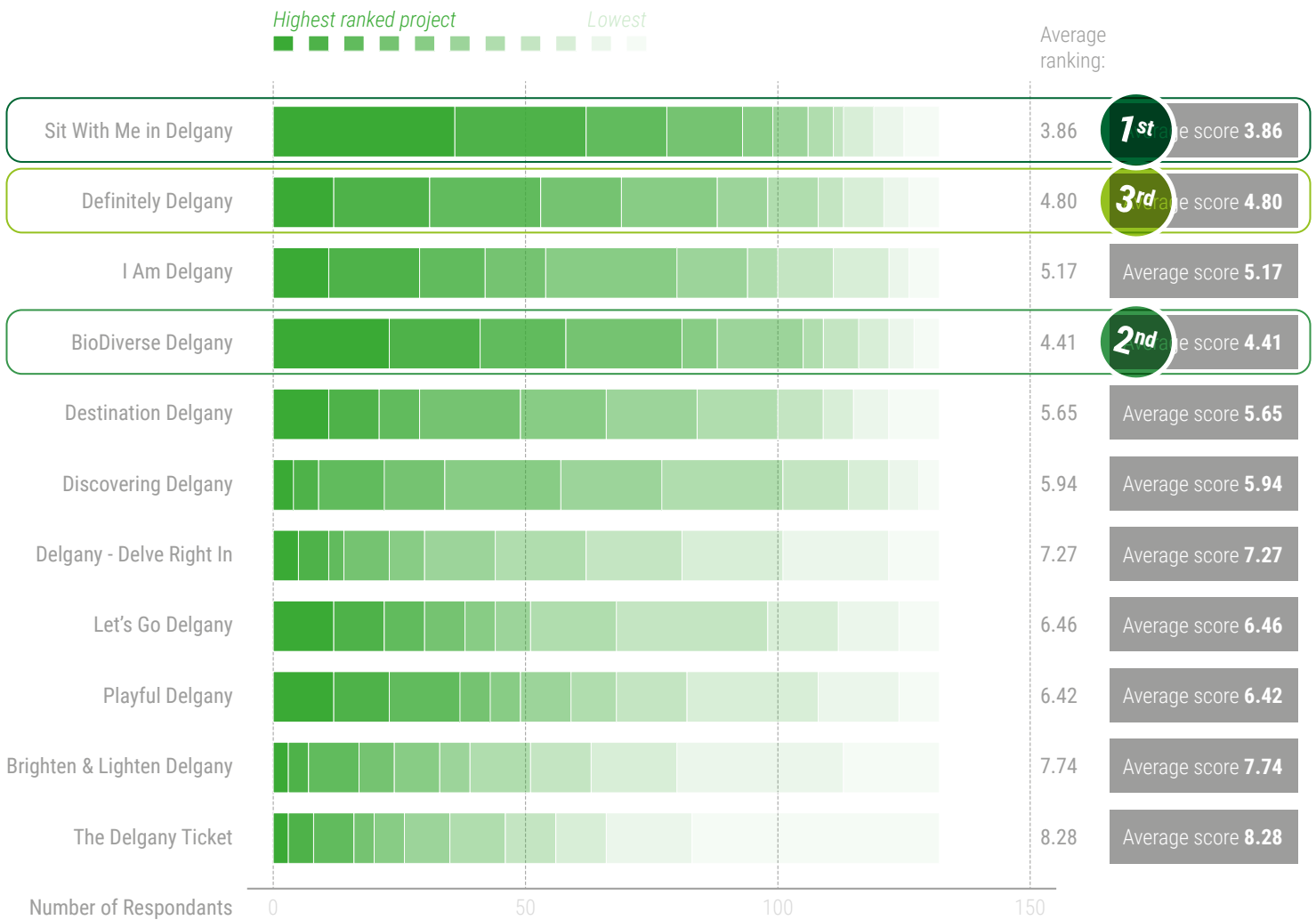
These eleven projects were presented with brief descriptions and indicative imagery for consideration by consultation respondents:

1 = not important -----> 5 = very important



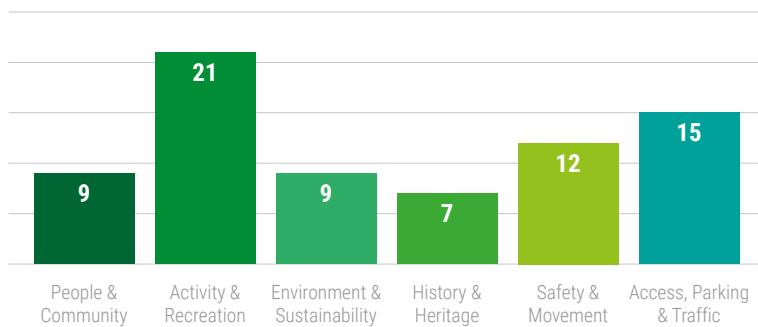
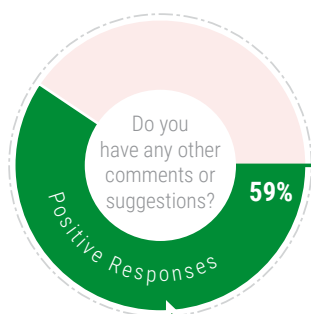
04 Please rank the eleven proposed projects in **order of importance** to you:

A ranking system allowed for respondents to consider each of the proposed eleven projects in the context of one another, to determine which is the preferred project for delivery:



05 Do you have any other comments or suggestions for the *Draft* Delgany Public Realm Enhancement Strategy?

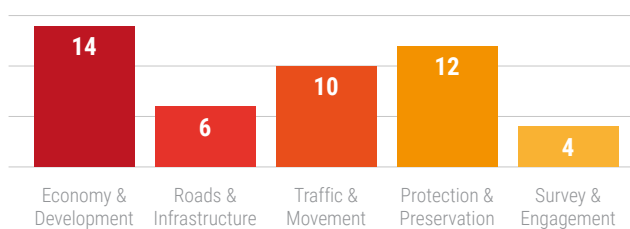
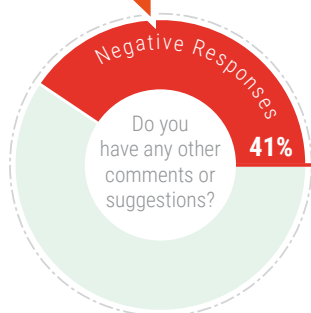
While a broad range of comments were received in response to the above question, these have been grouped first between positive and negative responses, and subsequently categorised to understand comment themes:



Please propose a **ban on more planning permissions** until roads, services, schools, public spaces are created to cater for the **burgeoning population**.

Vitally important is to limit traffic **through the village** and improve access and **safety for pedestrians** and cyclists. Also build and maintain heritage and biodiversity amenities. Thank you everyone!

Through public engagement, it is recognised that a number of road and traffic improvements for Delgany have been developed historically - for the benefit of local community and visitors. While these have advanced in conversation and in concept, it remains that a comprehensive solution is yet to be drafted and agreed locally.

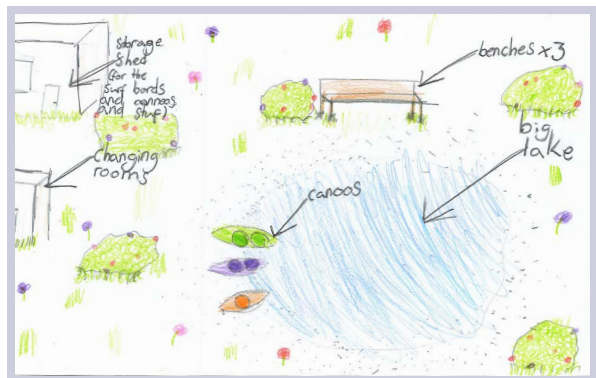
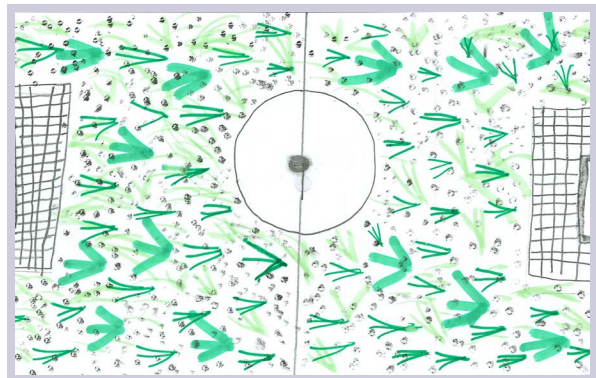


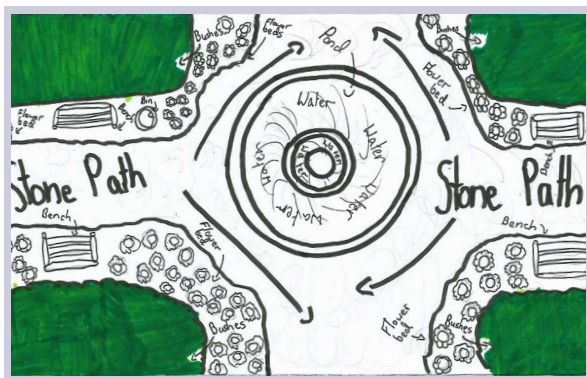
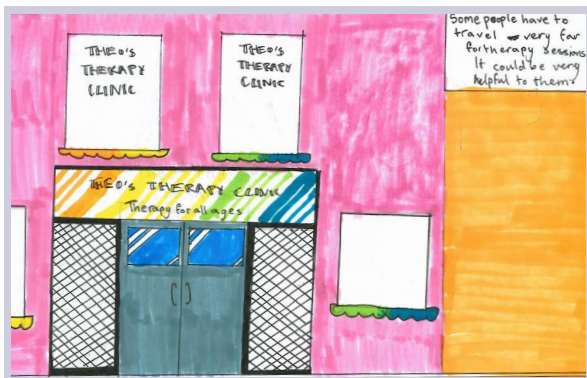
7.2 School Students Responses

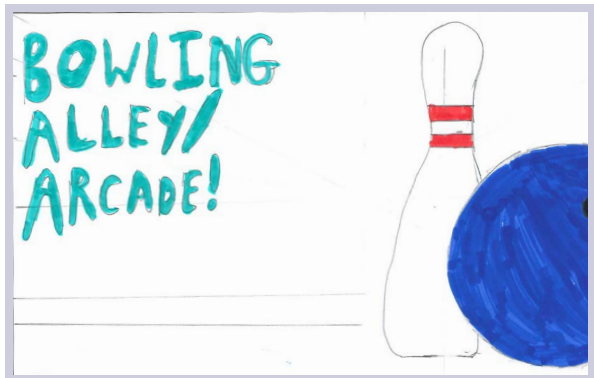
Alongside the general survey for the second public consultation, each of the local schools in Delgany was asked to distribute pages to the students, asking:

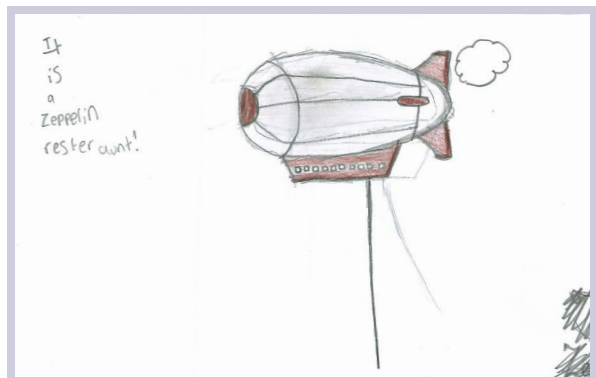
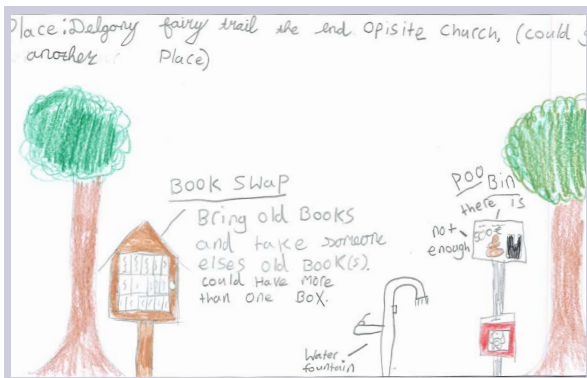
“Please design a special place in Delgany - this place can be set in the past, present or future Delgany. Dare to be as imaginative and creative as you can!”

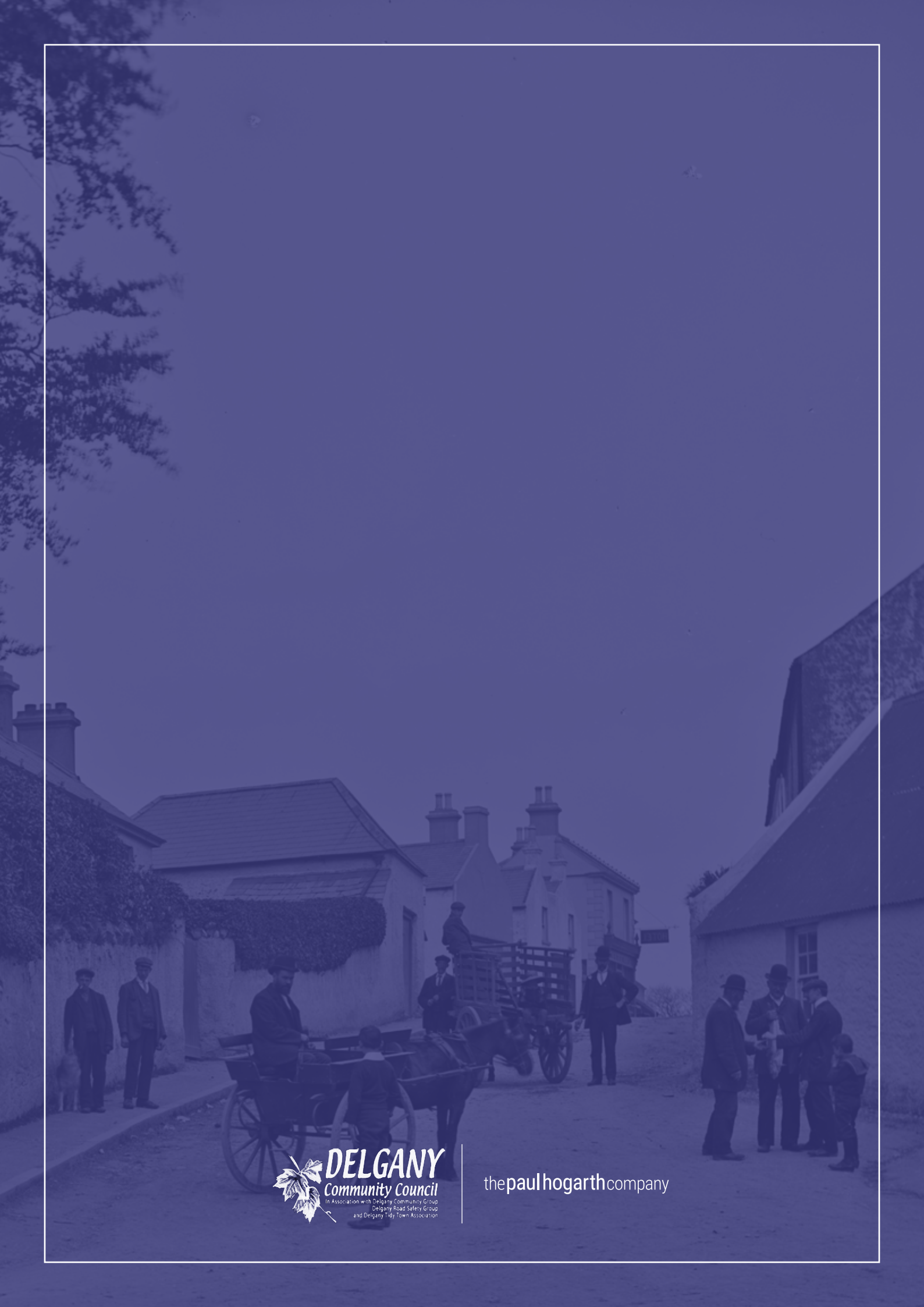
With over 180 responses to this exciting design brief, a number of responses have been included across this report - including those shown on these pages:











DELGANY
Community Council
In Association with Delgany Community Group
Delgany Road Safety Group
and Delgany Tidy Town Association

the paul hogarth company