

Wicklow MD

9th May 2022

Let's Develop our Vision for our Community

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

Joined up, co-ordinated thinking and planning for the future.

More resources – more staff – more efficiencies and coordination

More accountability and transparency

That what is said is acted upon

Need more face to face and better engagement and communication with the local authority – top officials and elected reps

The people in the local authority are too far removed from local people

Local Authority should present the work that they've done to the public as a review of mutual understanding and transparency

Better Website/communication: clear, personable and proactive

2-way communication

Information – Promoting Understanding

More understanding of plans and strategies

Accessibility to good governance guidelines and information

Local Decision Making

More local decision making – less national restrictions

Good Governance

Implementation of the good governance and policies

Good Governance (sensible) that doesn't restrict natural growth and development physically or financially (local work not monopoly)

More understanding of good governance

Good Governance and democracy should be the base of any funding support

Joined up thinking/coordination

More coordination and efficiencies

CCSD need to have more say/decisions in relation to planning in relation to having adequate community spaces and resources

Needs to be a correlation between social demographics and community facilities and resources. So that community needs are met.

Social and demographic needs to be monitored and future proofed

Needs to be legislated for so that communities don't have scenarios where there is a deficit of services e.g., Water infrastructure school places etc. per population.

Less gaps in the system

Deliberative Democracy

More facilities and opportunities to participate

The local authority is responsive

Need more face to face and better engagement and communication with the local authority – top officials and elected reps

That the local authority speaks with people not at people

Survey the public more – more engagement/more feedback

Need local transport – that travels around all estates in Wicklow Town (environment protection)

More engagement & Partnership in decision making – visible outcomes

Joined up, co-ordinated thinking and planning for the future.

Communication, mutual understanding and implementation of the good governance and policies

Values, Culture & Meaning

Equality through belief – a central point

Connectivity/sociability

Inclusion

Share Information for Newcomers – How?

Address non-inclusive practices

Promote positive aspects of new cultures

Local factor: Pro Networking, Con Cliques

Local clubs – become proactive in reaching out

Communication & Awareness Raising

Host cultural events to promote and educate people to different cultures

Advertise: The awareness of approach for local groups/clubs

More on cultures

How do you foster a sense of belonging – with Kids: schools, clubs and parents

Provide platforms/vehicles for communication

Promote local activity

Mutual Respect

‘Do unto others’

Limit Cancel and Woke Culture

Respect inclusive practices

Do not reject existing culture – Do not let tail wag dog!

Integration

Promote social interaction to celebrate our own heritage

Invite new people to suggest how they can be integrated

Protecting Local Heritage/Placemaking

Promote local heritage and culture to avoid the yellow pack town

Health & Wellbeing

Promotes mental health through inclusivity

Resourcing

Provide facilities to allow integration. To encourage local development

Promote own culture & be inclusive of other cultures

Provide resources & opportunities for inclusion & integration

Environment and Sustainability

Leadership

Local Authority led

Environmental Protection

Implementing a coastal protection scheme

Protecting conserving our natural heritage, old buildings, natural resources

Protection of coastal natural amenities

The Murragh Protection – ask the local authority to be transparent

Implement the coastal protection scheme

Protecting, highlighting Wicklow’s natural resources.

Resources

More focused funding to recognise and protect what we have

Need a Parks Department in WCC

Capacity Building

Helping people to research and document local ruins so they can protect the, get funding to preserve them

Transparency & Accountability

Review of last year's plan – What are the results

About their plans around this area

Participatory Democracy

More council community connecting and conversation

Do more polls so people can see where public opinion is on relevant topics. If you want something done and someone else opposes this, a poll will see where public opinion on the issue stands

[Current plan to cut off safe access to the back area, with new apartment plan](#)

Sustainable Energy

Retrofitting – contractors should get the grant funding – weed out the cowboys

Community Power

Sustainable Transport

Smart buses

Electric trains from Dublin to Wicklow

Shuttle train service from Wicklow to Bray/Greystones Dart

Transport Public Network

Cycle lanes – 'Wicklow' Cycle system

Sustainable Behaviour

Drinking taps/fountains

Environmental Access

Joined up walkways' trails

Rainwater harvesting to water gardens and flushing toilets

Connecting in more ways with nature

Resource the protection of natural and built heritage and access to it

Sustainable practises and behaviours

Economy & Resources

Natural Resources

Make more of the coast and natural assets

Coastal Greenway

Greenway between Wicklow and Greystones. E.g., Wales promenade concrete steps accessible and coastal erosion

Tourism

Hotels

Leisure industry

Coastal Greenway

Focus more on tourism

Transport Infrastructure

Better Connectivity with Dublin

Better use of rail line: shuttle service between Wicklow and Arklow and Greystones for Dart etc.

N11/M11 bus corridor (no funding for it)

Park and Ride

Transport – So difficult to get around, business employment support links

Train station every hour from Wicklow into Dublin/Bray (shuttle train service)

Bus shuttle service from the villages like Ashford and NMK

If people can't get to facilities, they're not used, so they close

Pedestrianisation of Wicklow Main street with local linkage transport

Local and national transport

Bus and Rail links to Greystones and the Dart.

If we are to encourage business to come to Wicklow and set up the infrastructure isn't there – mainly transport and broadband and park & ride.

Planning & Policy

Good Planning – good design. Good Town Planning

Rates – don't let them become too high as in Dun Laoghaire and drop them for everyone. People will go where they get value and same with businesspeople.

Local Infrastructure

If we are to encourage business to come to Wicklow and set up the infrastructure isn't there – mainly transport and broadband and park & ride.

No supermarket outside the town

Vacant and abandoned shops when they want to take over vacant premises they can

Car parking in Wicklow town especially for the library

Pedestrianisation of Wicklow Main street with local linkage transport

Courthouse needs to be reopened for a spin-off business

Digital hub needed also to house inclusion centre

Derelict buildings should be revamped, and business put in and used for housing

Business parks are fully occupied, good rates return (NTMK). Bringing employment into the area. Therefore an appetite there for more industrial parks

But if places aren't attractive with good facilities people may not be incentivised to stay local

Education & Apprenticeships

Windfarms – Centre of excellence for renewable energy in Claremont – apprenticeships, degrees etc

NMK businesses would say they don't get a lot of business from NMK people (but many from other towns around)

Placemaking

Fitzwilliam Square – best thing that's happened Wicklow Town. Make place (nice) attractive, placemaking. One way system is good. Free flowing towns – people friendly areas

Sports infrastructure attracts people and makes for better quality of life for people. Living and working

Sports connections/links made so people maybe entice to work in Wicklow

Commuting towns need good facilities for better quality of life

if places aren't attractive with good facilities people may not be incentivised to stay local

Pedestrianisation of Wicklow Main street with local linkage transport

E commerce

Online retail and business

Community Resources

Allotments – especially run by Mens Shed

Sports complex/infrastructure

More 'minority 'sports

Difficult for new clubs to find land and resources

Travel & Connectivity/Access

Tourism/natural Resources & Enterprise Development

Local Infrastructure/Placemaking/Community Resources/

Nurturing Community to support local economy development

Social and Community Development

Pandemic has brought positives and negatives

Equality & Inclusion

Is it up to you to include everyone or do your best to include as much as you can?

Cross Generational events

Community based integration

Funding mental health services and continue positive integration

Be open and easy for people to see they can get involved but no pressure

Social inclusion clubs/groups

Social housing integration and policy

Find common connections with age groups

Fairness to go across entire community- facilities, all clubs and all ages.

Accessibility

Disability and mobility services, accessibility lacking.

Pathways, cycleways not upgraded to be inclusive for people with mobility issues

Capacity Building

Technology deficiency when social media has many benefits

Community Supports/Services

Mens shed – gives sense of belonging /needed

Groups to give life in communities. Need funding and resources: Tidy Towns, Greenways, History, Meals on wheels, active retirement.

Organic start for groups

Community holds most areas together

Community Connection

Resources

Need funding and resources: Tidy Towns, Greenways, History, Meals on wheels, active retirement.

Free public facilities

Encourage events attendance by advertising and small fee

Community Development officer: connection with community

Funding mental health services and continue positive integration

More support for community groups trying to build up areas: commuters, refugees, traveling community, older person and youth groups

Free or subsidised services i.e., childcare

Transport

Public transport not fully accessible or regular

Having access to Dart, park & ride needs to be a priority

Local link routes more frequent and drop off at each estate

Tolerance is core. Acceptance is needed. Fairness is needed across the board

Communication & Coordination

Communication and joined up thinking with communities and groups

Placemaking

Planning vitally important. No connectivity to facilities

Town sizes 10k should be able to be self-sufficient and fully accessible

Accessibility, Inclusion & Integration for all

Resource Community Supports & Activities

Transport & Connectivity

Health

Transport

Public transport: Bus to Greystones; little busses around town

Public accessible transport required to access health facilities in Wicklow town.

Older people and others need access to public transport to get out – if not available can become isolated and lonely.

Transport also an issue for Carers moving around the town

Cycle lanes, wheelchairs

Public transport: shuttle train service between Wicklow and Greystones/Bray

Bus Corridor – funding needed to achieve linked to this Park and Ride to be developed

Broaden services provided at Wicklow Town PHC: have to travel to Arklow for Xray and Scan

There is a local link bus that goes to the PHC in Wicklow Town

131 stops near the PHC

Natural Environment

Manicured v. Roadside weeds and landscaping

Funding & Resources

Finance Council spend allocation

Piers for the Murrough????

Health Facilities & Resources

More facilities in Wicklow Town & NMK

Aging population in Wicklow Town so need more facilities

Gaining access to a GP in Wicklow Town can be an issue. Need to support and facilitate doctors to set up as GPs. Discuss how to do this with GPs

In case of emergency: Magnet with Eircode for fridge and bottle with green cross in fridge with prescription in it

Planning/Placemaking

Planning to be holistic – consider current and future needs of community at development stage.

Flag when development site what needs are/will be of the community. Trigger action that will result in area fit for purpose

Have a list of community needs (facilities) when considering development

Green area in housing estate and green areas in the community should not be segregated, need central green space to meet.

Planning issues in NMK

Issues in NMK around Community Centre and Playing fields

Joined up thinking/coordination

Greater collaboration/linkage/communication between Council Departments (e.g., CCSD and Planning)

Have a list of community needs (facilities) when considering development

Need a whole community approach.

More communication between Health section of Council and ARA

Policy & Resources

Rising cost of fuel and living costs impact on health

Development contributions should be ringfenced and priorities for the area.

Proper Planning and Development contribution to stay in area

Accountability & Transparency

Database of development contributions kept and available to view. It to show contribution paid and what it was allocated to.

Communication & Accessibility

Someone to speak to in 'customer service'

Citizens Information service office to reopen in Wicklow Town.

Tourist and Community info office also required.

Mental Health Policy & Practice

Consider mental health of people in jobs – consider what can I do to make this better

HSE focus in relation to mental health to change from CBT and pills to broader: need to consider what's causing the anxiety/depression. Training in understanding and dealing with Trauma (Development and Event Trauma)

Need increased resources for Mental Health sector.

Educational system has a role dealing with mental health issues – self esteem

Parents and Education role in building childrens' resilience

Overhaul Education system – Leaving Certificate as it is putting huge pressure on teenagers

Wicklow Rovers need their own grounds rather than using space all around the town.

Transport & Accessibility of services

Planning & Placemaking for health & wellbeing

Resourcing public & community services

Communication

Mental health policy & practise