

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class Thoughts, Observations and Findings for Planning for Our Community 2022-2028

Our Local Area: We focused on Inch

We are in the Parish of Kilmaley, on the Ennis side of the Parish. For this project we focused mainly on the community of Inch.

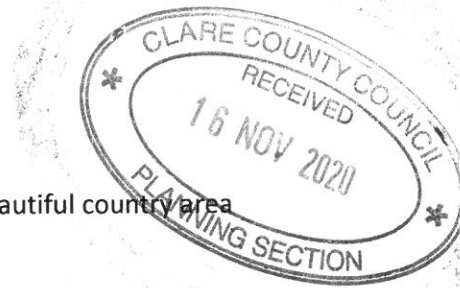
### Your Local Area

- What is your favourite thing about your local area? Is it a building, or an area of open space? Explain why you like it.
- Is there anything that you would like to improve in your area? Do you have enough services in your area?

As a class, we voted on the following aspects of our community to be the most favourable aspects of our Community.

- Our school
- Our church
- Our pitch

We would always like our community to be enhanced, in keeping with the beautiful country area that it is. Our plan outlines what we would like to enhance.



### Community and Recreation

- What is your favourite outdoor space? Please explain why. Do you have enough green space? Is there enough play areas? Where do you go to play sports?
- What community facilities are in your area, can you name them? What community facilities would you like to see in your area in the future, why?

Our favourite outdoor space is our school, outdoor play area and our pitch. We have ample green space, but would love for a community playground to be established, that could serve the local community of Inch, the preschool and the school.

This would enhance the education of the children within the community, from toddler to primary school student. Recent studies have shown how children are coming to primary school without the fundamental movement skills of hopping, jumping etc. The addition of a playground would greatly enhance the development of the children within our community.

The addition of an astro turf would serve not only the school, but the local community and would provide an outlet for adults to play soccer etc on it. This enables the community to come together socially, while benefitting their physical and mental health.

Our local pitch is an excellent addition to our community. However, we propose that a walkway would be put in around the perimeter of the pitch, to enable walking and running groups of all ages

to use. Many parents would use this as a means of getting their daily walk or run in, when they drop off children to school or before they collect the children. Also, our older population would have a safe walking area without having to travel into Ennis to walk.

We were shocked to hear that we were not allowed apply for the CLÁR funding, even though we are a rural community. Many schools around the county have been granted funding for all these wonderful things, including Connolly NS, which is in the same parish as us! This we believe is not fair.

### **Transport**

- How do you travel to school, is it by walking, cycling, by car or by bus?
- Is there a need for more cycle lanes or footpaths?
- Is there a need to improve existing cycle lanes or footpaths?
- Is there public transport in your area?
- Do you know if there are any electric charging points in your local area? If not, do you think there should be? If yes, how many are there and where are they located?

As Inch is on a busy road, the ability for many children to walk or cycle to school is hindered.

We propose that rumble sticks are put in on the road on the approach to the school to ensure motorists are slowing down while passing the school. Many trucks and cars travel at great speed on this road.

We do propose that more footpaths are put in on the church side of the school to allow children walk home or to their childminders in comfort.

There are no electric car charging points but our local church car park has ample space for one to be installed.

There is no public transport available in our area. Community shuttle buses from the parish of Kilmaley, which would serve the community of Inch, would be a great addition to both young and old alike. This also protects the environment as there would be less traffic on the road, and less cars fighting for car spaces in Ennis.

## Environment and Climate Change

- Do you think enough is being done to help protect the environment in your area?
- What do you and your family do to help protect the environment?
- What more could be done to help protect the environment in your local area?

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- Are there recycling banks in your local area? If so, where are they located? Is there a need for more?

Our local community are very active in helping protect our environment in our area. Each year we have a parish clean up and our school always participates on Spring Cleaning.

As a school, we have been awarded Green Flags for recycling and energy conservation and continue to work on many more issues.

There are no recycling banks in Inch. We discussed how a bank would be good for the community but then discussed how the addition of one may impact on car spaces in the school/church car park. The car park can be back logged at certain points during the day. We are on a very busy road. Would this pose a health and safety issue?

We hope that you liked our suggestions. Thank you for allowing us have our say!

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class,

Inch NS

