Pullough Village Village Design Statement

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Acknowledgements

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Amanda Pedlow - Heritage Officer, Offaly County Council Teresa Hennerby and Perpetua McDonagh - Offaly LEADER II Padraig Boland and Declan Costello - West Offaly Partnership Sean Ganly and Tom Egan - Bord na Móna Mike McMahon - Shannon Development Councillor Eamon Dooley ('Bog Man be Proud') Councillors Connie Hanniffy and Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy Louis Byrne and Paddy Carroll - Waterways Ireland Steve McNeill - Offaly Historical Society Eamon Waters - Dúchas Mary Butler and Eamon Larkin - Tullamore Library Joe Delaney - Chair- Erin Rovers GAA Club James Hackett - Local Student of Architecture Michael Cregan - Michael Cregan and Associates Residents of Pullough, and most of all, the many residents who gave freely of their time, opinions and experiences to enhance the VDS process

Pullough Village Design Statement

Prepared by the Pullough VDS Core Group In association with Michael Cregan and Associates February 2004

Introduction

Origin of Pullough VDS

The Heritage Council's Waterways Corridor Study 2002 proposed that Pullough should prepare a village design statement. The study stated that the village would benefit from further development to the South of the Canal. It may be added that Pullough's character derived from its location on the banks of the Grand Canal, and the River Brosna, and surrounded by extensive reaches of raised bog renders it unique. Its protection and conservation is therefore important and can be accomplished by means of a VDS.

The Pullough VDS describes the village and its setting as it is in 2003. The description leads to an identification of the character of the village, and the qualities of the village and surrounding landscape most valued by people who live in Pullough

It offers a framework for enabling local people engage in constructive debate about what should be valued and about what changes should occur. The objective is ultimately to ensure that new developments fit the surroundings and are in keeping with the local character. The Village Design Statement and the process of preparing it provide the community with a deeper understanding of the factors that contribute to making the village distinctive, and with a tool for arguing in favour of appropriate developments and actions.

The process has drawn on local people's knowledge and deeply held feelings for the place and on their wish

- To preserve those elements in the village which are valued, and
- To improve areas and features which are perceived to be defective or inappropriate.

Future development and changes to buildings, spaces, and views should be based on the understanding of the village's character, its valued attributes and its history.

The design statement has been produced by a core group drawn from the local community in association with Michael Cregan and Associates, and from the support of many residents. Local knowledge, ideas and concerns, have informed the design statement in a very positive way.

What is the Village Design Statement for?

Pullough, like many villages in the country, has seen progressive change over a period of years. This process of change, although fairly small, is nevertheless likely to continue. The village will experience further developments and more particularly minor adjustments to houses, house plots, open spaces, that will subtly, and sometimes less subtly, alter the look and the ambience of the village. Small scale insensitively designed or located structures can have an adverse and cumulative impact on the look of the village. The VDS process registers in detail the core characteristics of the village and changes that have taken place. It provides a tool for determining what should be protected and what manner of change can positively benefit the village. The VDS has facilitated the identification of potential assets associated with the village whose development would enhance the local economy, and improve the overall appearance of the village and surroundings.

Who is the VDS for?

The design statement has been promoted by both Offaly Leader and by Offaly County Council and in particular by Amanda Pedlow, (Offaly County Council Heritage Officer). These agencies have recognised the fundamental importance to planning of enabling local communities participate in the planning process, and thereby contributing to and influencing planning decisions and activities in their local area.

The VDS was prepared by the community through the work of a core group drawn from the village and through the public participation of local residents. In the course of the work, consultations were held with a number of agencies whose work impinged on Pullough. They included Bord na Móna, Waterways Ireland, Shannon Development, Lough Boora Parklands Group, Dúchas and Offaly County Council.

A series of core group meetings were held in the period June 2003 to January 2004. Tasks were assigned to core group members and these included:

- Documenting village history
- Defining the catchment of the village design area
- Conducting and documenting surveys of buildings and related features
- Assessing planning and other development policies and programmes
- Contacting agencies with an interest in Pullough as listed above

A number of public meetings were held initially to apprise the wider local community of the purpose, process and programme for the VDS. The first meeting also invited broad discussion on what were perceived as the important issues affecting Pullough. The core group held a subsequent meeting at a stage when the outline design agenda had been prepared. This meeting sought to elicit the community's reactions to the initial draft agenda, and to provide them with an opportunity to respond and to identify as necessary issues not addressed in the draft. A final meeting was held in February 2004 at which the core group's initial draft VDS was presented for discussion and comment to the Pullough community. The VDS as set out in this document

represents the final statement, modified as an outcome of the community, and approved by the Pullough core group and by the community following that final meeting.

Area Covered by VDS

- Turraun Natural Reserve
- Mick Rigney's on Lemonaghan Road
- Hackett's, Dernagun on Back Road to Ballycumber
- Frank Daly's Cush Road to Canal
- Brook Bridge on Canal Line
- John Daly's, Ring on Derryreavy Road
- To the head of Pullough Road at Heathfield.

VDS Core Group

May Ridgewell Sr. Connie Fallon Ann Spain Marie Regazolli Joe Gallagher Lil Bracken Nicola Heffernan Eileen Devery Joe Delaney Johnny Delaney Marion Molloy

The core group would like to particularly acknowledge Padraig Boland's contribution to the project in his role as facilitator and for the support he provided with unstinting energy and enthusiasm throughout the somewhat long drawn out process - recognised by the group as being way beyond the demands of duty.

Background to Pullough Village

"The lost island in the bog" (Fr. Browne S.J.)

There is little recorded history of Pullough prior to the 19th century - a situation that is not unusual for small settlements. Evidence of settlement in the area dates back to Mesolithic times (7,000 BC) and further evidence of settlement is attested by the archaeological investigation of over 700 sites in North West Offaly, including Lemonaghan Bog.

Accounts of Pullough are particularly associated with the development of the Grand Canal (1801 - 1805).

Prior to that, economic activity in the area was based on Pullough's unique yellows bricks made from Blue Silt Clay.

"Pollach" the places of holes (Joyce - Irish Place Names)

These were placed on rafts and pulled by hand to Ballycumber on the River Brosna.

The completion of the canal facilitated the growth of the brick industry by opening up direct access to other places. There were 14 brickyards in Pullough in the late 19th Century and their impact on the area cannot be overstated. The brickyards continued as the main source of employment during this time. Huge amounts of bricks were transported on the canal to Dublin and other places.

Many of the fine streetscapes in Dublin today contain this unique yellow brick.

The construction of the canal attracted workers into the area who settled down following its completion.

Plunkett Bridge (believed to be named after the director of the canal company at that time) was erected over the canal in 1809, ten years after the completion of the canal. In that intervening decade the canal divided the community. The design of the bridge with its acute elliptical arch enabled the passage of canal traffic under it. Markings are still visible underneath the bridge derived from the use of horses that pulled the barges while walking along the canal banks

The population increase in the area during the 1800's is shown below:

YEAR	POPULATION	NUMBER OF HOMES
1841	267	43
1861	286	48
1881	301	55

In 1872 Pullough National School was built to cater for the educational needs of the young.

St. Mary's Church was started in 1906 and local people employed in the brickyards worked two extra hours voluntarily each week to make bricks for the Church.

In 1932 a bridge was built over the Brosna, which created access to Pullough from Lemonaghan. Previous access was by boat. Prior to the drainage of the river in 1932, the lands were subject to extensive flooding during winter and spring. It was common in those circumstances for the local priest to arrive at the church in wellingtons, while floodwaters lapped the walls of the church. Lands on the flood plain of the river remained susceptible to intermittent flooding however, until the completion of the Brosna Drainage Scheme in the 1940's.

The emergence of the Turf Development Board in Turraun was very significant for this area. When Todd Andrews, then Managing Director for the Turf Development Board, visited Turraun in 1934, he described his visit as a "kind of epiphany" where he saw "in parvo what Bord na Móna was to become in time". Here was laid the foundations of a great turf industry. Pullough has been the first community to recognise the potential of the peatlands through pioneers like Kieran Farrelly (whose descendants still live in the area) who, in the 19th century, drained part of Turraun bog and initiated the creation of peat- related employment.

During World War II as demand for turf increased enormously, particular impetus was given to peat production with the establishment of a work camp in Turraun. The camp operated from 1941 until the end of the War.

Bord na Móna was established in 1946 and led to the construction of the ESB Station at Ferbane in 1952, giving a further boost to peat related industries in the local economy.

In 1952 Offaly County Council constructed the first of seven local authority housing developments in Dernagun - a programme that has continued to 2003 with a total of 66 houses now built. These developments, and the siting of the community centre and the GAA pitch in Dernagun, have altered the settlement pattern of the area.

In the last decade the village has experienced resurgence from the general growth in the economy. The village amenities include the GAA Pitch and the Community Centre, which provides a base for community groups and functions.

Pullough attracts visitors who come to enjoy the peace of the countryside, the canal, the church, (including the Michael Casey crafted bog yew alter furniture and Harry Clarke stained glass windows) wildlife (including Turraun Nature Reserve) and possibly the local pub!

The development of modern Pullough has been achieved whilst retaining its historical and natural character.

Community Issues

Population

There are 211 houses in the study area with circa. 700 people. While a detailed assessment has not been made of population trends, it is the view that the population has been stable over the last couple of years.

Employment Trends

Employment trends have changed considerably in recent years. People originally came to live in the area to work originally at brick making and later in Bord na Móna. People are no longer engaged in brick making - the industry has become obsolete and only two men are employed full time with Bord na Móna. Residents of Pullough are now commuting to Tullamore, Athlone and Clara to work. There is a good mixture of employment including-:

Professional - Accountants and managers Self employed trades people - construction industry Service Industry Agencies - Waterways Irelands, Midland Health Board Industrial Factories Agriculture has gone into decline with the majority of those involved on a part time basis

Principal Historical Features

Developments that threaten valuable historical features should be actively discouraged. Support should be sought for the conservation and preservation of valued historical features including samples of older houses in the village.

Principal historical features, which should be retained and enhanced to maintain the village character:

- St Mary's Church
- The village school
- Canal frontage
- Samples of older houses dating from the early part of the 20th century and earlier
- Charcoal factory at Turraun

Location and Landscape

The relationship between the village and the countryside

Pullough is located in the midlands of County Offaly in the broad valley of the Rivers Brosna and Clodagh and to the east of the River Shannon basin. As the crow flies ('the bird way') it is 14km from Tullamore, and on the road it is c.22km. Adjoining settlements are Rahan, Ballycumber and Ferbane.

The surrounding landscape is expansive, low lying and dominated by the enclosing shallow basins of raised bog lands, notably to the east and west. The peat lands and the perceived distance from other settlements confers on Pullough a distinct sense of remoteness - an attribute much valued by the inhabitants.

The village is essentially a dispersed settlement. The backdrop to the east and west is raised bog with distant vistas

North - Open peat lands bounded by hills beyond Ferbane,

South/south west - The Slieve Blooms.

Local authority houses built more recently on the north side of the village are mostly fronting the road with small front gardens

Extensive areas of peat land dominate the south sector of the village. There are areas of cultivated grassland to the immediate north of the centre extending over the river as far as Lemonaghan. The west of the village north of the canal is peat land.

Also of considerable importance are the Lough Boora Parklands, Turraun Nature Reserve and the re-colonising cutaway bog between Turraun and Lough Boora. The area is of great interest both because of its history and because of the fascinating habitat that is emerging.

Beyond the limits of the village there is low lying land with a number of small hills. Lands north of the river and towards Lemonaghan are more undulating. Views of the surrounding landscape are expansive but are frequently obscured by small areas of woodland and scrub.

In summary, lands to the south, east and west are mainly raised bog with reclaimed fields adjoining residences. Lands to the north consist of arable fields bounded by hedges. To the north-west there is another extensive area of bog. The soil is typically acidic and supports many native trees including Birch, Scots Pine, Alder, Willow, Rowan, and a range of shrubs and wild flowers associated with raised bog.

The houses are generally set back from the road by front gardens. There are broad spaces

between the houses. The spaces are in grass contained by trees and hedges and the house plots merge into the adjoining reclaimed grassland or peat lands.

The houses are single storey and small in scale with good-sized plots and an abundance of trees and hedges. The combination of scale, open space and vegetation helps to merge the village into the countryside.

Features of the village and surrounds of interest include-:

- The canal
- The river
- The bog
- The areas of Turraun and Boora with its vegetation and wildlife
- The monastic remains of Lemonaghan
- Virgin raised bog and notably at the Oughter access to Pullough
- Old style houses

The latter areas are connected to the village by footpaths and constitute important recreational and ecological resources. In the case of the river Brosna, drainage improvement works led to the creation of rough and unsightly grass mounds along the banks.

Summary

In summary the character of Pullough derives in particular from its remoteness. It is a selfcontained hamlet that **experiences little external influence** due its rural location.

The two most prominent features of Pullough as noted above are the bog and the canal. The bog is a source of local pride. Its development has led to an influx of people into the area, and for almost half a century it generated income that contributed hugely to the local economy. In its post-industrial phase it now provides local people and visitors alike with a unique cutaway bog landscape that has uncloaked a world previously hidden beneath peat for 10,000 years. The bog continues to provide for the local community through tourism and related activities [angling, walking, eco tourism and craft activities].

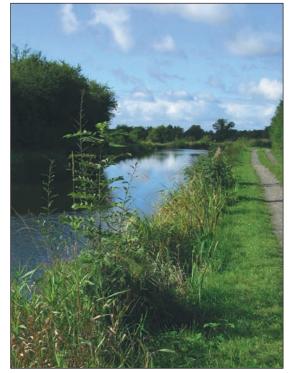
Pullough is first and foremost a close-knit community and a community who actively support local initiatives, indicated for example, by the fact that the community centre was almost completely paid for before it opened.

Living in Pullough has always involved giving support and assistance to neighbours, whether in saving turf, building a home or in response to tragedy.



View of canal from Plunkett Bridge.





The Offaly Way on the Grand Canal.

Church interior.



Typical of the landscape along the Canal Line.



Open space adjacent to Community Centre.



Turraun Wetlands.



Remaining wall of house built of stone and Pullough brick.



St. Mary's Church - Grotto - National School and village Post Office.



Cush Road.



G.A.A. pitch (adjacent to Community Centre).



Unclaimed cutaway bog, lying dormant, covered with heather/ bog plants.



Picnic area along Canal Line.



Example of style of window in one of Pullough's older houses.



The famous bog yew altar in St. Mary's Church.



View from Pullough Bridge towards Heathfield.



Plunkett Bridge.



View of Plunkett Bridge.



Open space village core.



Grotto at St. Mary's Church.



A view of the famous Plunkett Bridge, Pullough's best known landmark.



Bracken's, village grocery store.



A typical older, modernised house on Canal Line.



Only remaining thatched house in the area.



One of the many canal users.



200 year old tin roofed house in VDS area.



A natural entrance to a modern bungalow.



First of Local Authority houses built in 1954.



Village pub - Gallagher's, The Pull Inn.



One of visitors views taken from Ring, Derryneavy.



River Brosna bridge going towards Dernagun and Community Centre.



Pullough National School.



Older house - modernised approx. 250 years old.



View of church, school and canal bridge approaching village core from Dernagun.

Recommended guidelines

Aim: To maintain Pullough as a rural village, closely integrated into the local countryside.

- 1. The landscape and wildlife habitats around the river and the canal should be maintained for the enjoyment of inhabitants and visitors.
- 2. Care should be taken to preserve the wild life habitats to ensure that wildlife remains close to the village and that the network of wildlife corridors is maintained and enhanced. The recommendation particularly refers to the canal habitats and to the peat lands.
- 3. The course of the canal and its environment should be protected to facilitate improvements including the development of improved access paths and associated facilities. New development should not adversely impact on the quality of the canal environment.
- 4. Development at the village edge should not be conspicuous from the surrounding countryside.
- 5. Houses should preserve the small-scale character of the existing dwellings and the ratio of house size to large plot should be preserved notably along the edges of the village to maintain the close merging of the village and the countryside
- 6. Open spaces should be preserved and existing views and vistas from the village should be protected to maintain the relationship between the village and the countryside.
- 7. The river Brosna is a resource that requires enhancement to support the type of eco-tourism associated with Turraun Nature Reserve and the Grand Canal-particularly through fishing and other waterways activities.
- 8. Pullough needs to implement programmes and projects that counteract a growing problem associated with dumping and litter; the appointment of a part-time/full-time warden is recommended in addition to the provision of a facility for non-domestic refuse.
- Proposed developments that threaten valuable features of the natural environment directly or indirectly should be discouraged. Developments that attract/promote commercial activities and enterprise without threatening the natural environment are welcome and should be actively pursued.
- 10. The community needs to enhance its identity as a canal community. The planned bi-centenary celebrations in 2004 offer an excellent opportunity for initiating programmes and projects that would progress this aim.

Buildings in the Village

The VDS core group undertook a building-by-building survey of the village during the summer of 2003.

The style of buildings in the village is important to the character of the village. Thus principles for building, design details, and finishes are core elements of the village design statement.

Although the village has developed over many years without any common plan or design, the variety of building styles contributing to its appearance is quite constrained. Vernacular forms have dictated style. These were influenced by the availability of materials, local needs and most particularly the ground conditions, which determined structural requirements. The vernacular has influenced more recent developments. The village buildings are simple in design and appearance. Many of them are older dwellings that have been modernised. There are a smaller number of new dwellings. The village has retained a small number of the vernacular and historically important buildings associated with the evolution of the village. They merit retention and enhancement as necessary.

Notable examples are the remains of a stone house at Canal Bridge, and at the Street, and a thatched house at Ring.

There are a number of common themes.

Scale

Most buildings in the village are residences and consist of single storey detached houses standing on their own plots and the more recent single storey local authority semi-attached housing. There are no large residences. The houses are hipped with a façade facing onto the road or with a gable presented to the road. Some houses have a small porch at the front door and the recently constructed local authority houses have been similarly designed. The other village buildings include the Church, School, pub, the community centre and the resource centre.

Density

A principal characteristic of village/rural housing is that the density is lower than that found in urban /suburban areas. Most of the private buildings in Pullough are situated in generous plots of between 40 and 200 sq. m.

A characteristic of any rural residential development is the reasonably generous ratio of total plot to building plan area. In Pullough the average private plots are in the range of 5-10 times the building area. The local authority plots are much smaller.

Form and Materials

Facades are typically symmetrical. Many houses have two windows to the side of the door with one window on the opposite side of the door. Houses are in brick or concrete block with stucco render finishes and pale coloured paint [white or beige], or pebbledash.

Some recently built houses have been built either with stucco finish or in red brick and have been more lavishly treated with articulated dormers and elaborate paint treatment around doors and windows. The dormers have slate roofs and the ridge tiles are emphasised.

In the past, roofs were in a variety of materials including thatch or corrugated iron. Now materials are clay tiles or slates with the verge detail as a plain edge to the site. All buildings have chimneys on the main ridge, rectangular in plan, at right angles to the ridge and capped with clay pots. Chimney finishes match the façade finishes.

Windows

These are typically placed symmetrically in relation to the door.

The following treatments are characteristic-:

- Simple treatment with frames and doors recessed slightly into the wall.
- Simple sills.
- Horizontal emphasis.

House plots

These are bounded by a wide variety of materials including hedging and timber fencing and plastered block walls. Under Local Authority rules, plot boundaries must be positioned 4m from the edge of the road. Many of the roads houses are not screened from the road. Houses on the Cush road and on the Rahan towpath are attractively screened and set back from the road.

Very little purposeful ornamental work exists and where it does it is modest. Examples are the treatment of window reveals, quoins and façade base with contrasting darker paint finish.

House gardens

Gardens vary in size from the small plots to the front and rear of the local authority houses to the significantly larger plots associated with the detached houses. Individual gardens have distinct boundary features. The predominant treatment is a block wall with a stucco finish matching the house façade finish and capped with a shallow flat coping. Gate pillars are similarly treated. Other treatments include timber post and rail fences, decorated pillared concrete walls, and hedges. In conformity with local authority requirements boundaries are set back from the road by 2m and the space is surfaced with either grass or pebbles.

Plants and Planting

There are many mature trees and groups of trees and hedgerows in and around the village. The vegetation is important to the village, enhancing its rural setting, providing attractive screening to residences, providing wildlife habitats. A new and extensive area of woodland has been created to the north of the village centre on the southeast bank of the river.

Planting in public areas of the village is confined to a small number of locations including the grotto adjoining the church, the bridge embankments and the small picnic area on the south side of the canal.

There is considerable opportunity to enhance the village with a carefully prepared programme of planting which would include planting in public places and encouraging residents to improve their property boundaries with sympathetic planting.

Recommended Guidelines

Aim: To maintain the village as a low density settlement with small scale building developments in sympathy with the local vernacular

- 1. All housing developments including extensions and conversions and alterations of existing facades as well as new housing should respect the rural nature of the village. The essential nature of built form in the village is simplicity
- 2. Any alterations and extensions to old style houses should be sympathetic to their unique design. Their original structure should where possible be preserved.
- 3. Sufficient space should be left between properties to preserve views of the surrounding countryside.
- 4. Buildings should respect the traditional form and finish of existing, using materials, colours, and general design features sympathetic to the village. Particular attention should be paid to windows, doorways, chimneys and ornamentation.
- 5. New buildings and spaces should respect the form and colours of nearby existing buildings.
- 6. Modern materials, especially plastics such as uPVC, should only be used for replacements when they fully respect the colour, form and proportions of the original.
- 7. Boundary treatment of individual plots should respect the form and materials of nearby properties and in general should be simple plastered and painted low walls matching the building façade or timber post and rail with hedge.
- 8. The surface treatment of road set back should likewise match that of adjoining properties and should be agreed as gravel or grass with appropriate planting.
- 9. New developments should include retention of existing vegetation and the provision of additional planting using indigenous plants.

Roads, Footpaths and Public Lighting

It is recognised that the presentation of the village is very much influenced by the character of the approach roads.

There are two principal road approaches to the village - from the south [Tullamore/Blue Ball] and from the north - the Ferbane side. The overall quality of the approaches is variable. From the north the approach is weakened by the frontage to the Community Centre - an area of gravel used for parking, and more particularly by the boundary to the GAA pitch which is a high concrete block wall set back from the line of the road. The southern approach could be improved by attention to boundaries including roadside vegetation, plot set back and plot boundary treatment. The hub of the village is centred on the Canal Bridge and the street and buildings along the canal. There is a need and an opportunity to enhance this sector of the village, as it is the core.

Street lighting is confined to the core area and the vicinity of the community centre. The remainder of the village is left in darkness at night, which adds to the rural atmosphere. However the lack of stronger lighting is of concern in areas where public activity occurs.

Street furniture and traffic signs have been kept to a minimum and are unobtrusive. There is a need however to enhance public safety around the core area and the community centre and to improve traffic movement across the Plunkett Bridge. Traffic calming measures would address the former. The bridge requires alterations to its structure, and to the road ramps, that will prioritise the safety of pedestrians and improve the safe movement of vehicles over the bridge. It also requires - at the very least - the replacement of the unsightly safety barriers by a much more attractive arrangement that would enhance the appearance of the bridge.

Recommended Guidelines

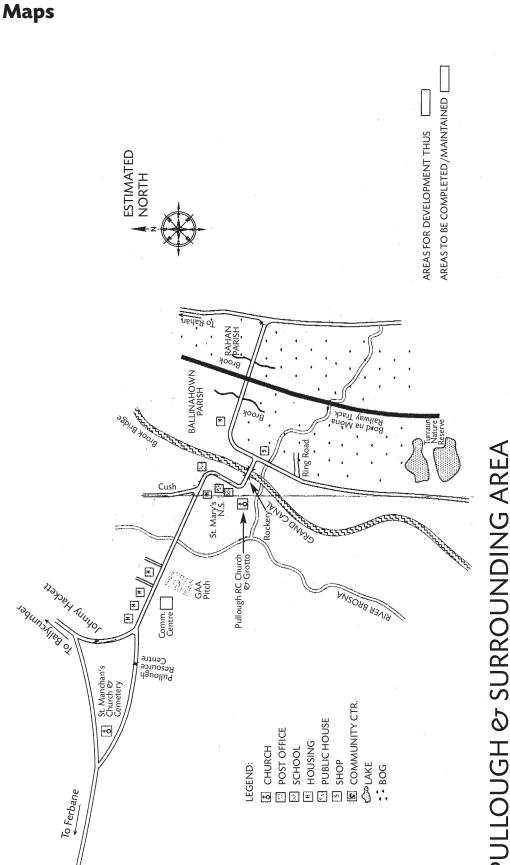
Aim: To maintain the rural atmosphere in a fairly informal road system and at the same time improve safety and the overall appearance of the village

- Traffic calming measures should be introduced through the village as part of an overall plan to improve safety, noise and visual amenity. The erection of 30mph speed limits at approaches to the village core is an immediate need and the erection of ramps at Dernagun should be discussed with local residents.
- 2. Measures to enhance the safety and the appearance of Plunkett Bridge should be designed and implemented.
- 3. Street lighting should be improved while ensuring that the rural atmosphere is preserved.
- 4. Footpaths should be installed in the village from Pullough to Dernagun.
- 5. Street furniture that reflects the character of the village is required.
- 6. Road signage is required on all approach roads that welcomes visitors to Pullough. The signs and the street furniture should be constructed of material indigenous to the area.

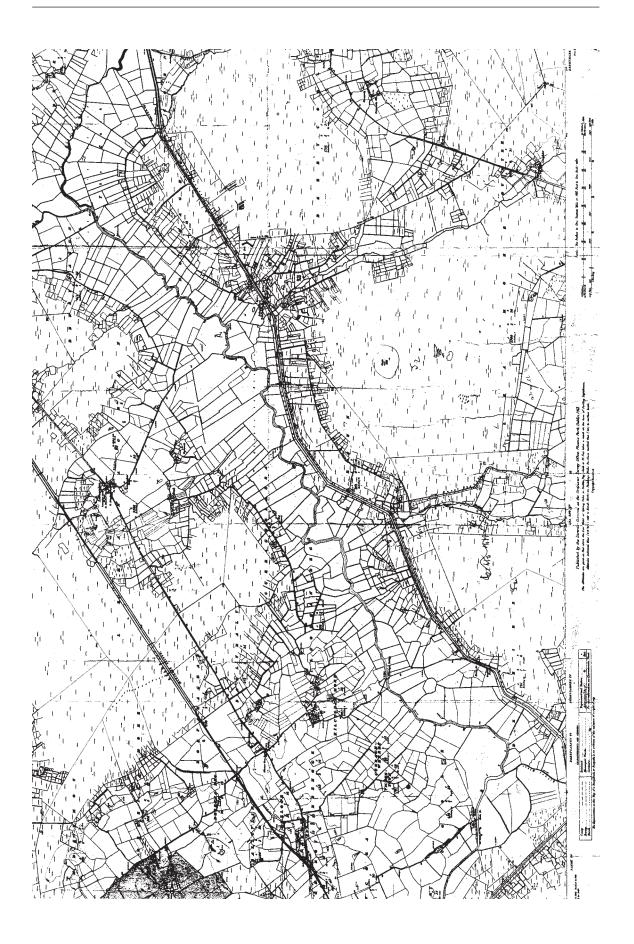
Community Action List

In the course of the production of the village design statement, members both of the core group and the community presented ideas in general on actions that would improve the village. These are beyond the scope of the VDS but are an important by-product of the process and relate to a number of the guidelines. It was considered important that they be registered. The following list is a compilation of significant actions, which the community would like to see happening in Pullough

- Footpaths between the church and the pub and also at Dernagun.
- Jetty located at core of Pullough Village.
- Renovate Plunkett Bridge without any alteration to its character. It is further felt that Pullough Bridge should be referred for inclusion in national bridge building programme. In the interim measures to enhance the safety of the bridge for both pedestrians and vehicles and measures to enhance the appearance of the bridge should be designed and implemented.
- Permanent litter bins constructed from Pullough brick with an inlay facility for frequent maintenance.
- Vastly improved roads infrastructure.
- Signage in bog timbers and Pullough brick.
- Paving/tarmac around Community Centre and Post Office.
- Develop car park at grotto for church and school.
- Play facilities for children.
- Better utilisation of open places e.g. play areas and parks.
- Improve access to and around Turraun for use as a local amenity and for attracting tourists to area.
- Plant climbing plants at wall outside GAA field.
- Develop fishing facilities on River Brosna and Grand Canal.
- Improve walking routes Pullough is the cross road for the Grand Canal Way and the Offaly Way.
- Improve appearance of grass embankments along the River Brosna.
- Speed limit/traffic calming for Pullough Village.
- Develop an eco tourism programme with the support of public agencies.
- Develop a walkway on the left bank of the Brosna from the river bridge.
- Preserve a record of Pullough brick by reference to the frontage of the school. Works would include cleaning as necessary, and the provision of an interpretative board.
- The brickfields at 'the dolphins' should be preserved.
- The 13 brickfields in the Pullough area should be signposted.



PULLOUGH & SURROUNDING AREA SCHEMATIC LAYOUT (NOT TO SCALE)



Pullough in the eyes of the young

The views of young people were given in their responses to two questions. Included is a representative sample of responses.

What would you like to have in Pullough?

A playground; a swimming pool; a cinema; a karate club; a boxing club; a library; a bakery. *(Classes I, II, III).*

A playground; a swimming pool; a go kart track; a tennis court; a cinema; a library; a sports shop; a café; soccer; bowling. We would like people to stop littering. (*Classes IV, V, VI*).

A swimming pool; a leisure centre; a soccer pitch; a cinema; a park; a chemist; a go kart track; an old folks home; more paths; more lights; classes in the centre; regular discos. (*Foróige members*).

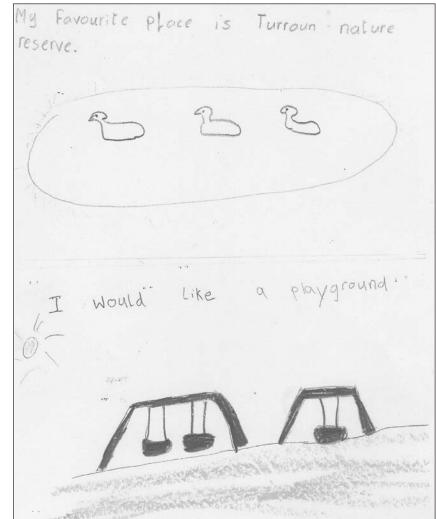
What do you like in Pullough?

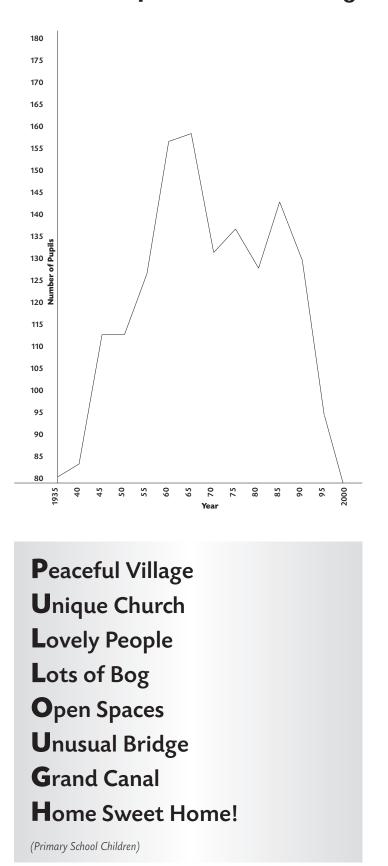
I like going for walks on the canal; I like the Church and the Grotto; I like the shops; I like the chip van; I like it when the boats stop in summer; I like my Nanny's old house; I like the Nature

Reserve; I like Pullough because it is a nice place to live. (*Classes I, II, III*).

We like the football pitch, the Church and the Grotto, the shops, the chipper, the pub, the Centre, the bogs, the canal and the hair salon. (*Classes IV*, *V*, *VI*).

We like the shop, the chipper, the Church, the Grotto, the Centre, the people. (Foróige members).





Record of Pupil Numbers in Pullough N.S.