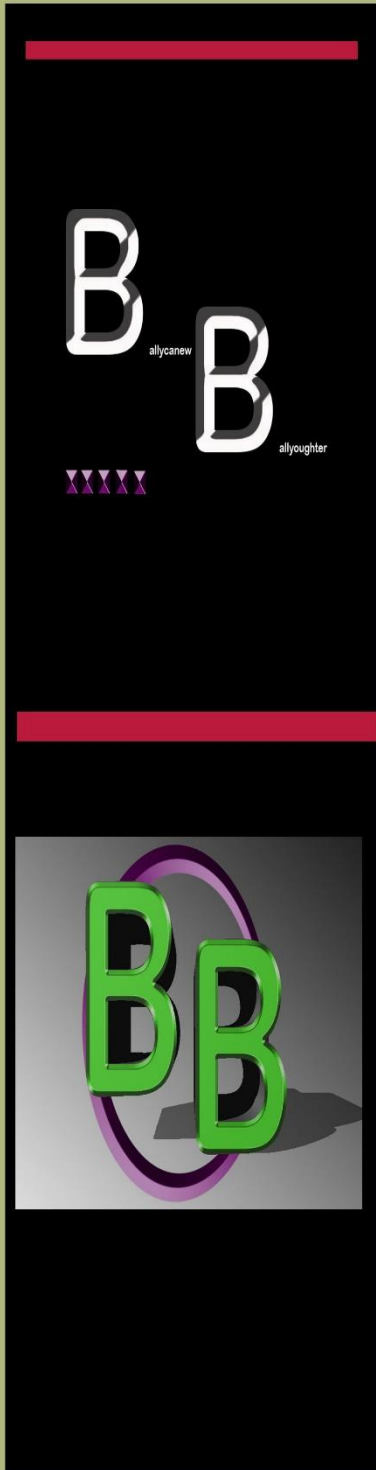


**BALLYCANEW-BALLYOUGHTER
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
PLAN**

2015-2025



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Section 1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Location



Ballycanew village is situated. It is situated in County Wexford, on the R741 regional road 8 km (5.0 mi) south of Gorey. This road is widely known as the "Coast road", approximately 93 km (9 miles) South of Dublin and approximately 35 km (miles) North of Wexford Town.

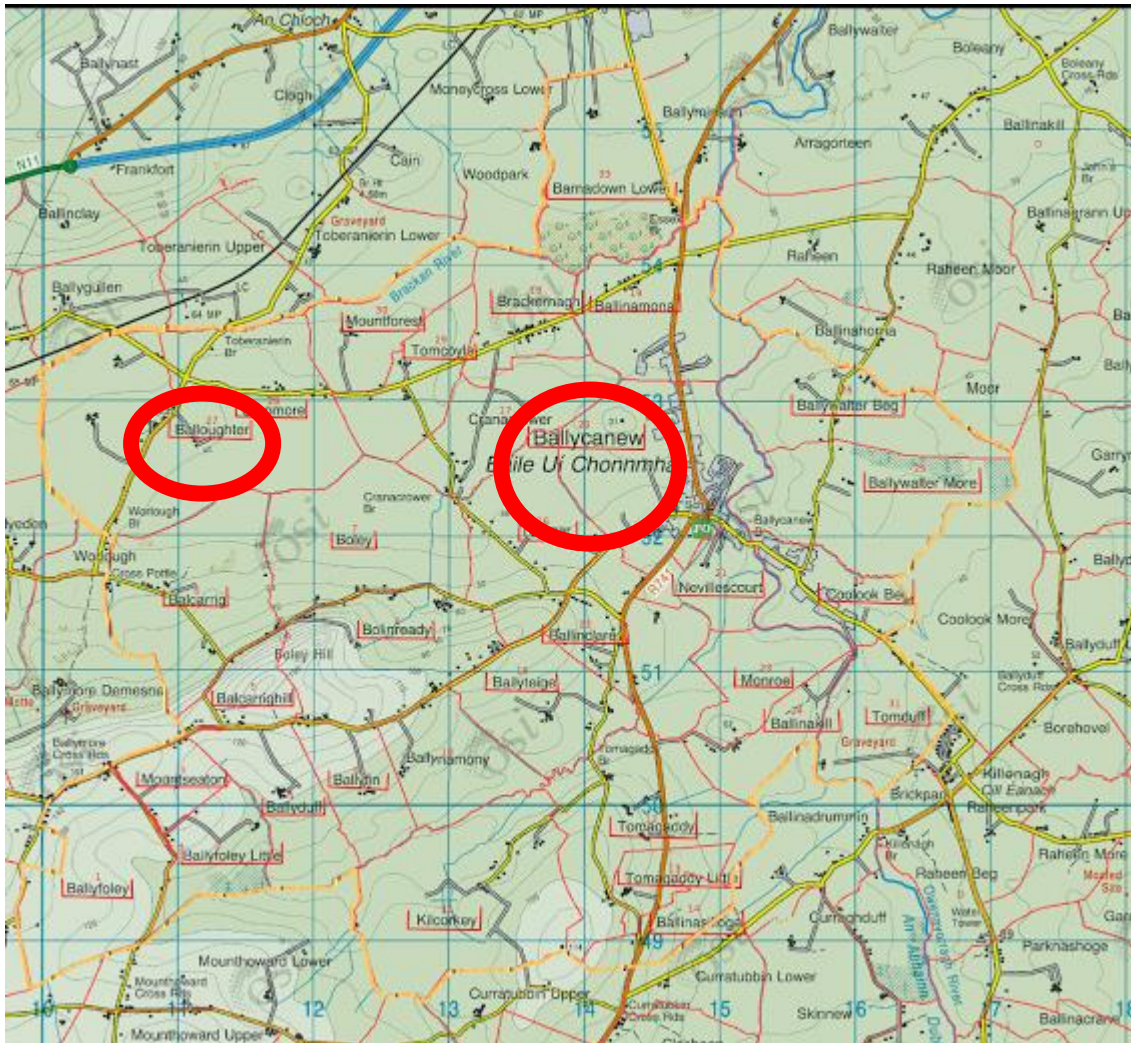
Ballycanew (Baile Ui Chonbhai) is an ancient village dating back to Norman times. The first recorded mention of Ballycanew is in 1247 when it was given to Theodore De Neville by the Norman's. His Estate was called Neville's Court and the place name still exists to-day.

The village is also of Ecclesiastical importance. Three separate Christian traditions had temples of Worship - Church of Ireland, Methodist and Roman Catholic. Confirmation of its long significance would follow in the knowledge that 100 years ago remains of a Neolithic man (2000bc) were found in a pre-historic tombs in Bollinready and Ballyduff containing urns of bones and ashes.

The shape of Ballycanew and its Circular road is determined by the existence of the early Christian promontory site on which stands the Church of Ireland Parish Church and its ancient graveyard. The graveyard indicates Reformation importance as both Catholic and Protestants are buried there. The graveyard dates back to 1600, a Bullawn stone is preserved in the corner of the graveyard overlooking the ring road. This stone is said to have curative properties for warts and there are numerous stories of cures. The shape of the site is deliberately circular though founded on a rock.

Ballycanew became the rural centre of another phase of Co. wexfords history when north Wexford received large numbers of settlers from England in the wake of Cromwellian and Williamite wars.

An old Creamery dated circa 1895 occupies a prominent position in the village. It served the local community as creamery and general provisions store until the early 1980's. The building now lies empty, and has been on sale for the past 2 years.



Ballycanew has a distinctive character, which is highly valued by its local residents and visitors. As Ballycanew continues to evolve this character will need to be positively managed so that the unique qualities that contribute to the area's identity can be protected and enhanced, whilst managing future growth and new development.

Ballyoughter is located between Camolin and Ballycanew and can be located off the L1028. Camolin is the current parish of Ballycanew-Ballyoughter and Ballycanew & Ballyoughter is the curacy. Ballyoughter is a small rural hinterland village, but its lack in size is made up by great community spirit.

This Local Area Plan (LAP) for Ballycanew-Ballyoughter will have a lifetime of 10 years. Plans of this nature intend to develop, improve and bring forward the physical environment of the village and the immediate area in a way that is in keeping with its existing character. This Local Area Plan has been prepared by Ballycanew-Ballyoughter Community Development Association to address the future needs of the village area and people of the Ballycanew-Ballyoughter areas.

Planning Context:



Village Function for Ballycanew :

Ballycanew is typical of a village settlement located in a predominantly rural area. The Village, situated on the R741, comprises of two supermarkets, three public houses, post office, filling station, hairdressers, Garage, chipper, laundrette, and engineering works. A store operated by Gambia Plc is also, a provider of most farming materials for the local area. Fox's Engineering is also a large employer for the area.

The village performs an important civic and service function, with a primary School, with an Autism unit attached to the School. A crèche and a Playschool are also available for the community. The need for an up to day Community Centre is apparent as currently the only Hall, is taken up with Playschool in the mornings, which leaves it out of bounds to the wider community when this is going on.

Village Function for Ballyoughter:

Ballyoughter is situated 5.95 KM from Ballycanew and 9.15KM from Gorey.

Ballyoughter is a smaller village, however the local Church is the Parish Church of Ballycanew and Ballyoughter, which also has a Graveyard associated with it, which results in Burial for the Ballycanew and Ballyoughter area. Ballyoughter is serviced by available shops, Post Office, Petrol Station and pubs both in Ballycanew and Camolin.

Ballyoughter National School is a co-educational, Catholic primary school located in Ballyoughter, near Gorey in Co. Wexford. Originally built in 1889 as a one classroom school, a second room was added in 1948 to accommodate growing numbers of pupils. However, the old building was unable to meet the demands of a modern 21st century education system, and was closed at the end of the school year in 2009, to be replaced by a new state-of-the-art school, which was up-and-running the following September at a nearby site, and officially opened on the 22nd of January, 2010. The new school has two classrooms, an administration office, a staff room, a medical room, a learning support room, and showers and toilets. It also has more than three quarters of an acre of playing space.

The original School now lie's empty, but could be updated to allow a small Community Centre for the Various Groups in the Area, this area would also be beneficial to the local School to allow School Concerts to take place in the locality

This Report was compiled by Aislinn Dune in Conjunction with Development Association

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Local Area Plan is to take a long term view of the future development of Ballycanew and Ballyoughter in order to manage change in the village's physical environment and provide for new development that contributes to and enhances the existing qualities of the village. This shall be done by ensuring that development is planned in a comprehensive and co-ordinated manner through the development policies and objectives set out in this Plan for the next Ten years.

Population

The information relating to the population of Ballycanew and Ballyoughter area has been obtained from the most up to date source - the Census 2011 from the Central Statistics:

NAME	COUNTY	2011	2006	Change 2006-2011	%Change
BALLYCANEW	WEXFORD	1104	1009	95	9.4%
BALLYOUGHTER	WEXFORD	483	443	40	9.0%

Office (CSO).

In the period 2006-2011 the population of Ballycanew increased by 9.4%

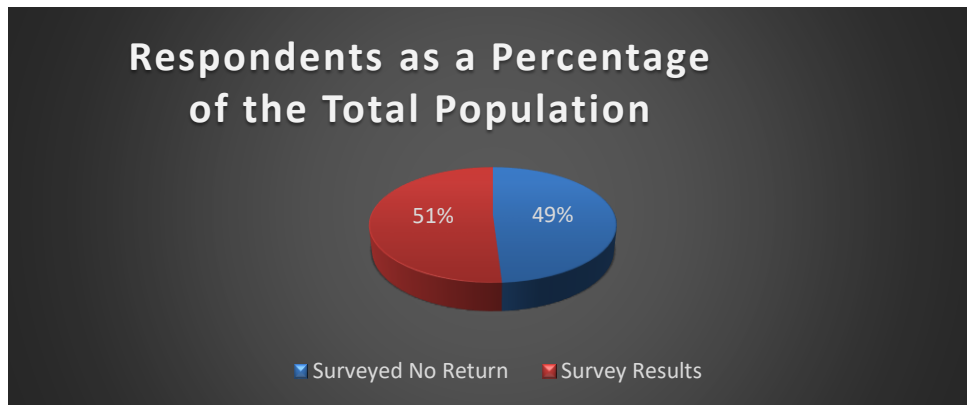
In the period 2006-2011 the population of Ballyoughter increased by 9.0%

The population projections for Ballycanew were calculated taking into account Natural increase in the village's population, the village's role as a strategic growth Area and the availability of wastewater treatment capacity.

Population Results for Survey Conducted in the Ballycanew Ballyoughter Area:

The number of people covered by the *survey amounts to 809* i.e. 51% of the total population.

**This number is derived directly from the questionnaires and represents the total number of individuals in the households who completed the survey.*

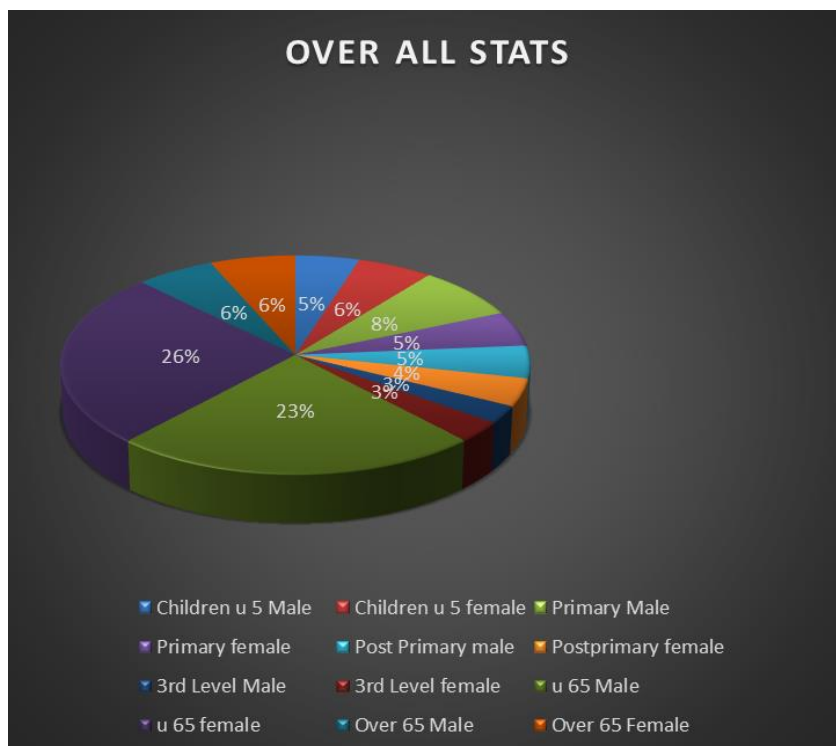


**The survey carried out in December 2014 in the area (Ballycanew-Ballyoughter)*

asked questions across a broad range of areas such as community facilities and infrastructure, services, social activities and problems in the area.

A database of residents from townlands within the community was compiled, using the Electoral Map. The surveys were distributed personally to each person in the Community, by members of the committee and the completed surveys were collected from them or returned to the collection box in Ballycanew. Surveys were distributed to residents within the Ballycanew- Ballyoughter Area.

The results were compiled on computer by members of the committee and the data was analysed to prioritise the needs highlighted by the community



Age Profile of Respondents:

Under 65 Male	23%
Over 65 Male	6%
Under 65 Female	26%
Over 65 Female	6%
Post Primary Female	4%
Post Primary Male	5%
Primary Male	8%
Primary Female	5%
Children under 5	11%

Population Projections 2015-2025

The population projections for Ballycanew were calculated taking into account natural increase in the village's population, the village's role as a strategic growth Area and the availability of sewage treatment capacity.

Taking into consideration the current economic climate, the projected levels of Population to 2025 are not expected to grow at a fast rate. Three different growth Scenarios have been prepared based on high, medium and low levels. Due to Infrastructural restraints it is estimated an additional 22 dwelling units will be Constructed due to the constrains on the village until the Sewage treatment plant, is updated based on the average household size of 2.8 per household this will accommodate a population growth of approximately 62 people in the coming years. This would provide for an expected population of 1166 on completion, this growth represents a 37%. It is anticipated that the medium growth scenario would be most likely for Ballycanew.

A Low Growth outcome is anticipated, as the improvement of Roads and Service's in the area, plays a large part in its daily village life.

Name	YEAR	LOW (5%)	MEDIUM (15%)	HIGH (37%)
Ballycanew	2025	1118	1149	1166
Ballyoughter	2025	485	488	500

Age Profile of the Village:

As you can see from the below charts, that currently the largest age range is the Under 65's, which is to be expected, however, we will need to plan for services to be made available to them as they get older in years.

Also with the youth currently take up a large percentage in the Charts, if you take into consideration, that they range from 0-21 years, we need to develop services to allow them to develop potential in the community, this would include services from sports to drama, Playground, to giving the best services possible to the youth of the community.



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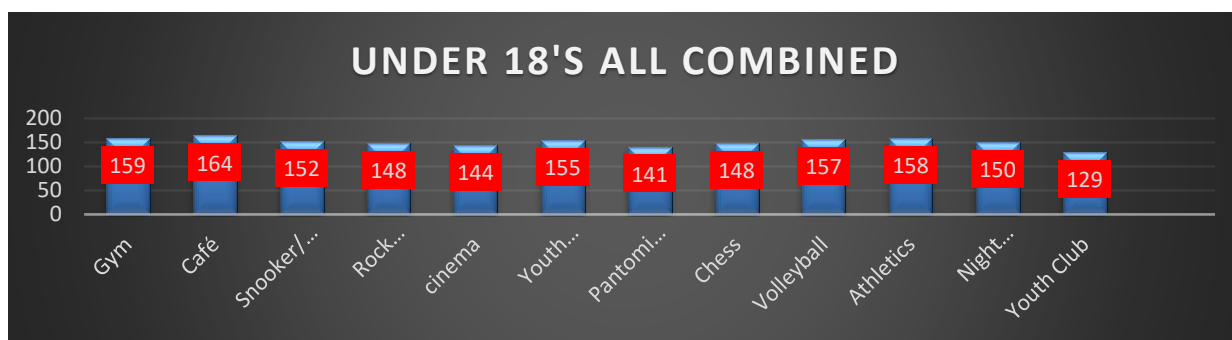
Age Profile of the Village:

The age profile of Ballycanew has a high representation of younger people. This has important implications in terms of both education and employment provision and recreation facilities in the community during the life of the Plan.

UNDER 18'S SOCIAL REQUIREMENTS:

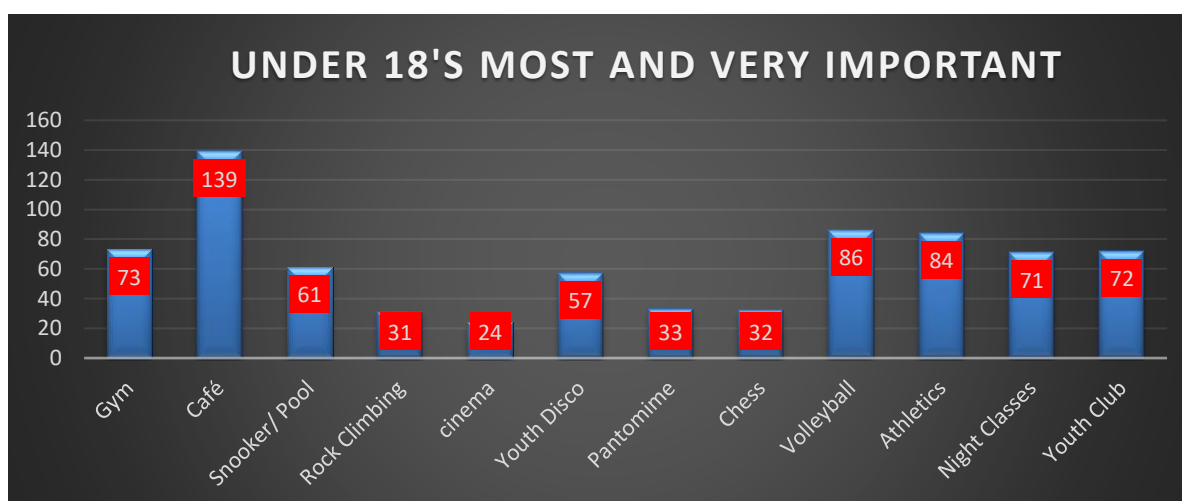
The needs of our youth were also taken into consideration while conducting this survey. As you can see from Charts above, this equates to 38% of the population Surveyed.

Below is a Bar chart, which our youth have requested as a necessity in the community.



1. Café
2. Gym
3. Athletics
4. Volleyball
5. Youth Disco

Now we will look at what they considered as the Most Important and Very Important Activities.



The Café is by far a winner here 53 points ahead of all the other options available.

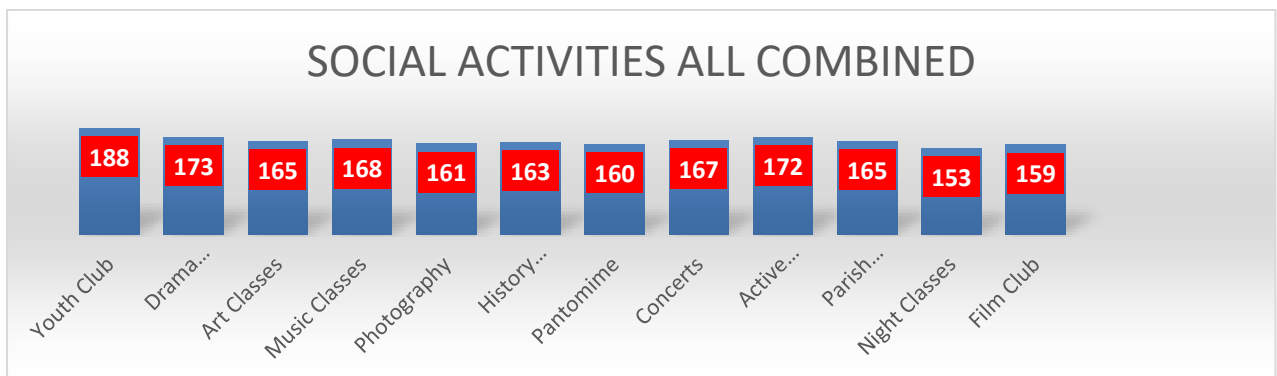
This Report was compiled by Aislinn Dune in Conjunction with Development Association

As has been the case in numerous communities throughout North Wexford, spiralling property prices in the capital over the course of the years from 2000 to 2008 saw an augmentation in housing developments to cater for an increasing number of people who chose to commute to the city for work, city dwellers who sought a better quality of life in the countryside in addition to a burgeoning “local” community. Two housing estates of scale; The Village gate and Ballycanew Court were built in Ballycanew in 1999, with many housing clusters and one off homes also built in the hinterland around Ballyoughter and Ballycanew in the intervening years.

Below are the Social Activities that the Adults and Elderly of the Community would like to be able to avail of:

Social Activities: ADULTS

The following is the results of the social Activities that people who completed the Survey are interested in:



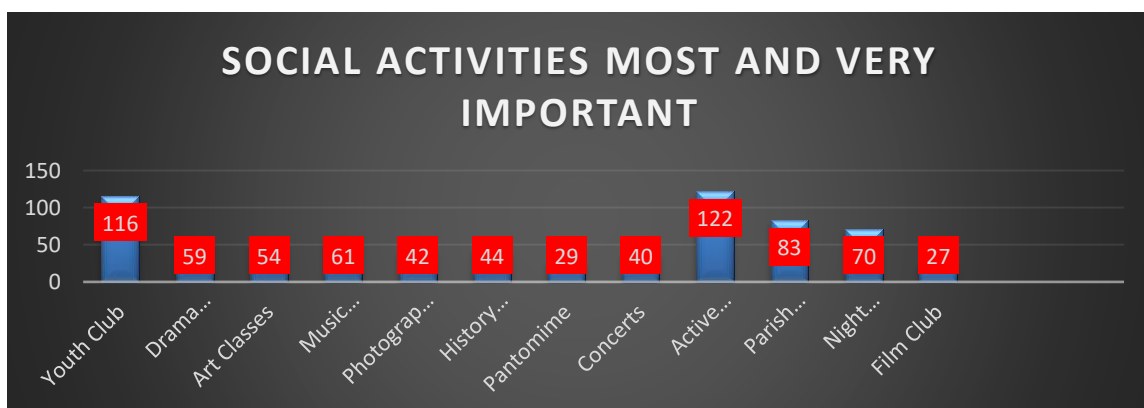
The following Values were used again:

8 (Most Important) **4 (Very Important)** **2 (Important)** **1 (Important)**

Below are the top 5

1. Youth Club
2. Drama Society
3. Active Retirement
4. Music Classes
5. Concerts

Below is a graph to show the results when the Most Important and Very Important are used:



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Analysis of the Village: Ballycanew

Strengths:

- Village Core
- Landscape and setting – Ounnavarra River, Mt Lenister Views
- Village is traditional centre of rural hinterland
- Good range of local services (i.e. pubs, shops post office)
- Good accessibility to nearby larger towns. The R741 connects to Gorey, connects to Main M11 just before Gorey Town, and South to Wexford on to Waterford
- Recent new developments

Weaknesses:

- Traffic Volumes (due to Enniscorthy Flooding, and traffic in Enniscorthy)
- Lack of infrastructural capacity to allow expansion of urban area
- Lack of amenities for all
- Sewage scheme needs to be update
- Narrow Roads
- Pedestrian Safety
- Lack of Facilities (local school Children have to perform Christmas concert in Gorey)

Opportunities

- Development of amenities for the area, including a Community Centre, where recreational facilities are encouraged for all sectors of the community
- Infill development opportunities (derelict houses, Creamery Gardens could easily be turned into community facilities.
- Villagescape could be improved (Foot paths and lights could be extended)
- Widen road which would alleviate pedestrian safety problems)
- Extra Pedestrian safety measures
-

To ensure the sustainable development of Ballycanew, the strengths and opportunities outlined above need to be encouraged, protected and developed. The Weaknesses need to be addressed and monitored.

Analysis of the Village: Ballyoughter

Strengths:

- Landscape and setting –Mt Lenister Views
- Village is traditional centre of rural hinterland
- Good accessibility to nearby larger towns. The R741 connects to Gorey, connects to Main M11 just before Gorey Town, and South to Wexford on to Waterford

Weaknesses:

- Village Core
- range of local services (i.e. pubs, shops post office)
- Lack of infrastructural capacity to allow expansion of urban area
- Lack of amenities for all
- Narrow Roads
- Roads in Dis-repair
- Lack of Facilities (local school Children have to perform Christmas concert in Gorey)

Opportunities

- Development of amenities for the area, including a Community Centre, where recreational facilities are encouraged for all sectors of the community
- Infill development opportunities (The old School could easily be turned into community facilities).
- Villagescape could be improved (Foot paths and lights could be extended)
- Extra Pedestrian safety measures

To ensure the sustainable development of Ballyoughter, the strengths and opportunities outlined above need to be encouraged, protected and developed. The Weaknesses need to be addressed and monitored.

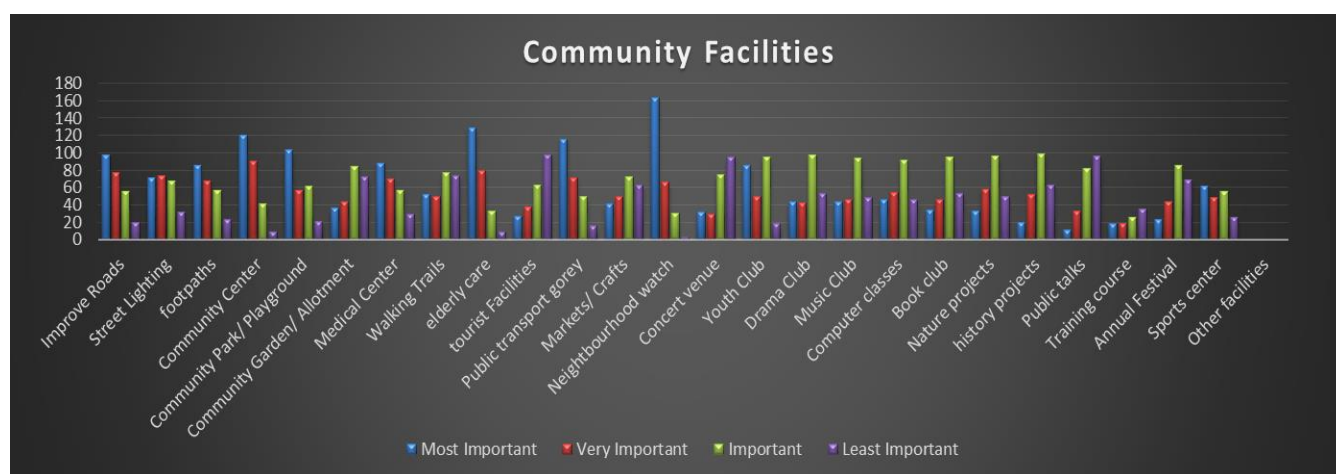
Community Facilities:

The provision of good quality accessible, socially inclusive, community facilities is Essential. These facilities promote community cohesion and identity, and this in Turn helps combat social isolation. Community facilities include educational, Religious, health and sporting clubs. At present, there is a basic range of Community facilities in the plan area. The local Garda station is situated in Courtown, a community centre to fit the populations need would send us to Ballygarreth , graveyards are located in Ballyoughter. The day-to-day health care needs of the local community are currently provided for in Gorey Town including GP and dentists. Public healthcare services are also provided in Gorey Heath Centre and HSE centres in the Palms and Gorey Medical Centre.

**Below is the Survey Questions Asked?*

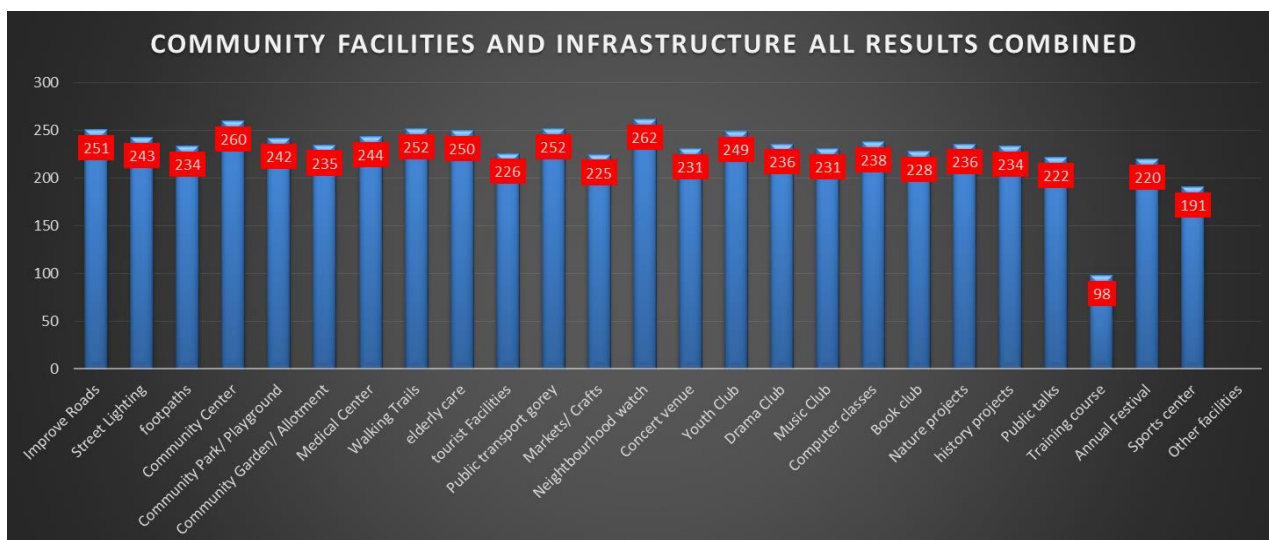
Question 7 Community Facilities/Infrastructure

We asked everyone to rate, the following as Most Important, Very Important, Important and Least Important.



The above shows the Most Important, Very Important, Important and Least Important as a standalone.

We can see that Neighbourhood Watch, Elderly Care, Community Centre, Public Transport, Park-Playground are the top 5



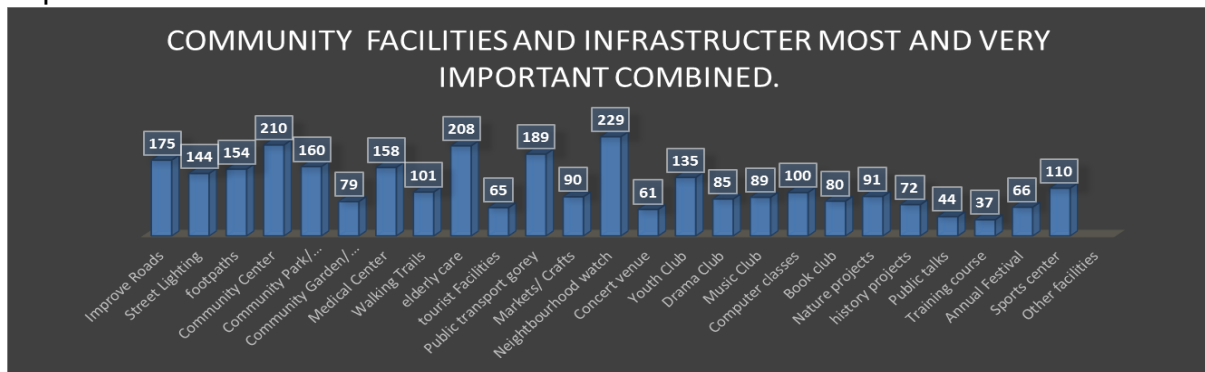
The above is the full results of the 4. Points were awarded to the Value of **8 (Most Important) 4 (Very Important) 2 (Important) 1 (Important)**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Neighbourhood Watch | (262 points) |
| 2. Community Centre | (260 Points) |
| 3. Public Transport to Gorey | (252 Points) |
| 4. Walking Trails | (252 Points) |
| 5. Improve Roads | (251 Points) |

We can now break it down into Activities and Infrastructure

Activities	Infrastructure
Neighbour Hood Watch	Community Centre
Elderly Care	Walking Trails
Public Transport	Medical Centre
Improve Roads	Community Park/ Playground

To Drill down even Further, we look at the results for Most Important and Very Important:



The following Values were used again:

8 (Most Important) 4 (Very Important) 2 (Important) 1 (Important)

The Top 5 here is as follows:

1. Neighbourhood Watch (229 Points)
2. Community Centre (210 Points)
3. Elderly Care (208 Points)
4. Public Transport to Gorey (189 Points)
5. Improve Roads (175 Points)

To summarize when all accounts are looked at, the top 5 remain the same. What I do see from this is the lack of both Activities and Services in the Ballycanew-Ballyoughter area at present.

The following is the Results for the Ballyoughter area only:



1. Neighbour Hood Watch
2. Improve Roads
3. elderly care
4. Community Centre
5. Public Transport to Gorey

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3. Elderly Care

Facilities:



The Current Parish Hall, Which was once the Old School House in the Village. A Back Extension was put on in the '80's.

Recreation Facilities for Teenagers:

Teenagers and young adults have different play and recreation needs to younger children. Within the plan area the introduction of sports facilities would provide an opportunity for them to get involved in various sports or to just 'hang out'. Other appropriate facilities which the Council will encourage are a youth cafe and youth clubs. The community facilities could also be used for the purposes of providing Invaluable health, education, mentoring and life skills training for teenagers and young adults.

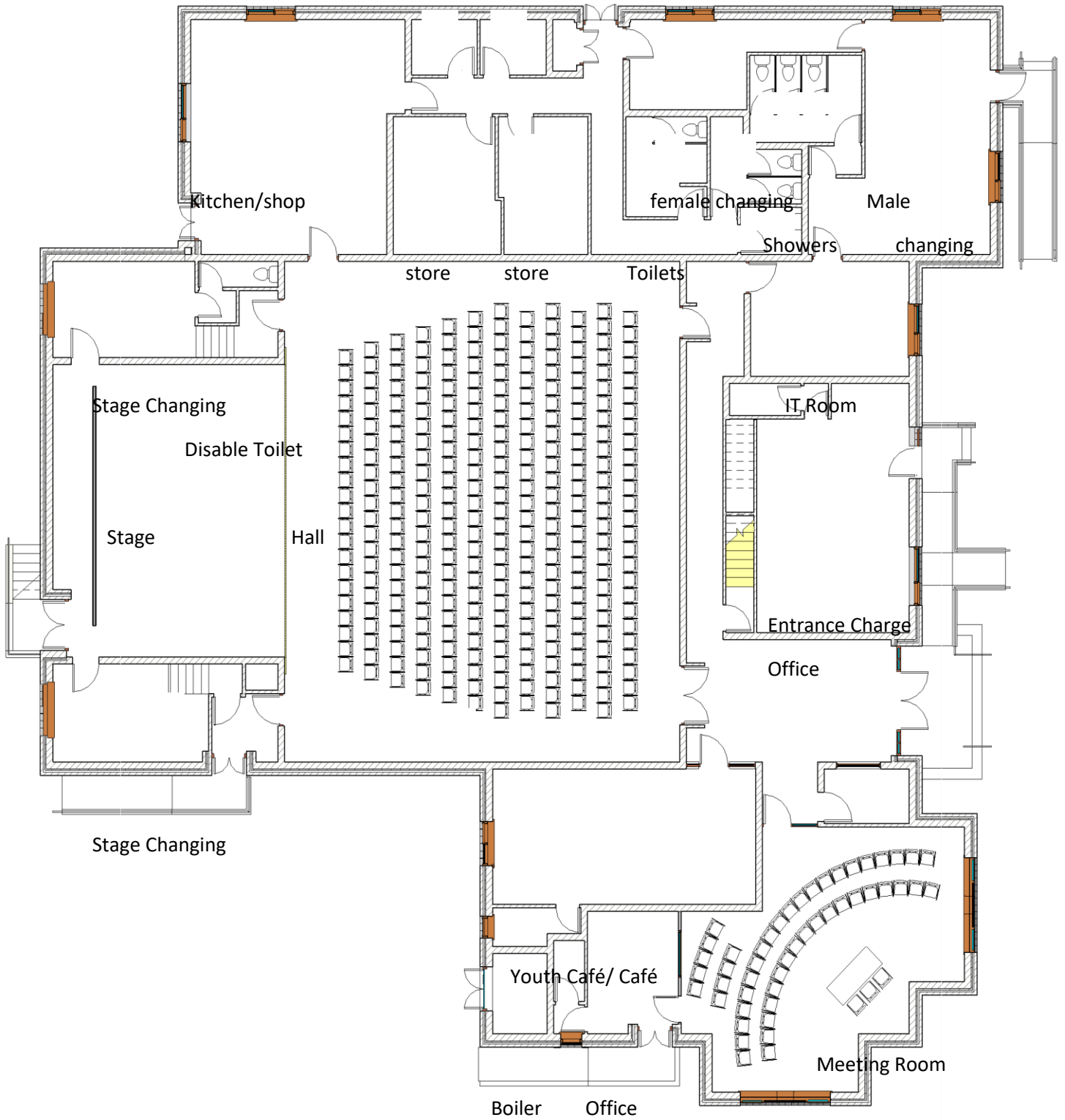
Recreation Facilities for Older People:

Alongside outdoor recreation activities such as walking and cycling, a range of indoor recreational facilities could be provided for older people such as fitness and exercise classes and clubs focusing on communal interests like arts, music, cooking and craft. Older people can enjoy lifelong learning including training on digital communications, internet, mobile phones and computers. They can also play a vital role in the mentoring of younger people and families. The provision of additional community facilities would provide a valuable space for carrying out these activities.

As you can see from above, the greatest need for Ballycanew- Ballyoughter area is Facilities, below is a Community Centre, to meet the needs of the Entire Community, which would encourage Jobs in the area, by encouraging, training, Local Youth Café/Coffee Shop, and a place to provide social Activities and Social Inclusion into our community.

If we could also put a dual purpose pitch, it would provide much needed Community owned land at our disposal

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Future Facilities:

The above, would provide numerous facilities for all members of the community. As you can see the Meeting Rooms, Office, and the main body of the Hall, could be adapted for Indoor Basket Ball, and Badminton.

This could also provide new facilities for community, social and educational uses.

- We would hope that all plans above would protect and enhance the village's physical character and natural environment.
- We hope not to significantly affect neighbouring properties, residential amenities and those of the surround area
- Not to create traffic hazards.
- The above developments would contribute to the revitalisation of the village in a manner that is sympathetic to its character and surrounds through:
Promoting the redevelopment of derelict, obsolete and brownfield sites and ensuring that the design of new development would be in agreement with Wexford County Development plan.

Education Facilities

The existence of high quality educational facilities can attract families, businesses and increase the general development and prosperity of an area. There is currently two schools within the plan area, Ballycanew National School, and Ballyoughter National School. Ballycanew School had an enrolment of 425 pupils in the 2013/2014 school year. Ballyoughter School had an enrolment of 41 pupils in the 2013/2014 school year. The nearest secondary schools are located in Gorey Town.

Childcare Facilities

The Government's guidelines on childcare facilities emphasise the importance of Local assessment of the need to provide for such facilities at the plan preparation Stage, having regard to the provision of existing facilities in the area. The location of These facilities should be easily accessible for parents and the facility may be Combined with other appropriate community uses.

There are currently two childcare facilities in the plan area

Puddle Lane in Ballycanew offers full day care and another play school offers half-day pre-school care.

Changing economic times may present a demand for additional facilities in the Future. The Development Association will continue to support the changing needs of the community in terms of childcare demand and services.

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Vacant and Derelict Buildings:

Several vacant or derelict structures exist scattered throughout the village, these buildings can have a negative effect in terms of urban design and the overall character of the village. We in the Development association would look to turn these areas into community projects, including a playground and a public park.



Creamery Gardens, since the Council is investing money for demolition, we in the community think it would make the perfect spot for a public Park, with parking already available in the Village.





The above, is a house now deserted for at least the past 12 years, this site would make a great addition to the community if it could be turned into a Playground. Parking is already available across the road at the layby for the school. A pedestrian crossing is also located straight across the road from this site.



ZONING FOR OPEN SPACE AND AMENITY:

Currently, zoning changes would have to be made, to change the use of land. We the community do have some ideas of where we could build a new Community Centre, inside the Village, to allow greater access for all community Member to be able to use. This would allow for zero addition of Footpaths and Street lighting.

These Areas would provide for 4-7 acre Green Field/Edge of Town in an existing Residential area. This would allow for the protection and improvement of the residential amenity and the provision of new and improved ancillary services.

As you can see from the above floor Plan of the Community Centre, we have separate shower areas, which would allow for a Pitch to be built in conjunction with the community Centre. This would allow for better facilities for both the local Clubs, Local People and an enhanced addition for young people in the area.

This addition would also allow the Local School to be able to provide more activities for the local Children.



Ballyoughter Area Community Facilities:



We are hoping that we can re-develop the old School (above), to facilitate the local population of Ballyoughter, at present it is currently owned by the Church, but has now had the Electricity and Water turned off for the past 2 years, this is a complete waste and could be re-used for community purpose.

Vision:

The availability and ease of access to recreation, amenity and open space facilities is an important factor in maintaining the area as an attractive place to live and visit. It

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is important that all members of the community including children, older people and people with specific design needs continue to have access to high quality public open space, recreational and sporting facilities in order to maintain and enhance their quality of life.

Community Involvement

BASIC POLICY

As a responsible Group, the Ballycanew-Ballyoughter Community Development Association will actively promote community involvement and other social activities. When engaging in community activities, the Development Association will select themes of activities that suit the culture, social preference of the entire community. Based on this, the Development Association aims to take the best action available, such as collaboration with communities and related Schemes (Such as the Artist in the Community). The Development Association will also work to encourage and support members of the Community to individually take part in community involvement and other social activities on their own initiative.

Basic Services:

- **General:**
- We would also like to extend the range of Footpaths in the village to Fox's Engineering, with appropriate Street Lighting, in Ballycanew. We would also hope that we could provide Footpaths in the Village, Running from Fox's to Ounnavarra Estate, and down to the river, covering the entire village of Ballycanew.
- There is currently no street lighting at Puddle Lane
- We would welcome more street lighting outside the school and church in Ballyoughter.
- We would like to see an improvement in the Roads around the Ballyoughter Area, and some parts of Ballycanew area.

Pedestrian Safety

- The Pedestrian Crossing is not having an effect, we would hope to campaign for a stop go system on the crossing, as several parents have informed us of near miss's at School at 2:40pm.
 - We suggest the moving of the Speed Limit Signs to be placed at Fox's, Moving further out at the approach road to the village Via the Church Road, and the killeanagh road past the Bridge.
-
- **Bus Service to Gorey:**
 - We are fully aware in Ballycanew the dependence of the Local Bus Service, however, CIE the National Operator pulled out of Ballycanew over 2 years ago at the detriment of both Young people trying to gain independence, and Older People trying to maintain Independence.

- **Tourism:**

- We would also hope to develop the area to attract tourism in the area, the 1885 Griffiths Valuation reads "A Village which in 1881 had a population of 233, and is situated on the side of hill sloping to the Owen-a-varra River. A small tannery and a grist mill help to provide occupation for the people.

The Current Church of Ireland was built in the 1600's, and in later years a Mr John Beatty, a Mill Owner, gave the Catholic people land beside the Church to build their own Church. This Church is still standing today, however was converted to small houses. This Church was the Church were Fr. Michael Murphy was the Priest, who was later killed in the Battle of Arklow in 1798. Currently a statue outside the Church in Arklow is in recognition to him. The people of the area here would also like to commerate him. (His body was rescued by his sister, and brought by horse and Cart for Burial in Castle Ellis where his grave can still be found). It is with regret that we do not have any dedication here in Ballycanew.

- We currently have the service to encourage more tourism in the area, with the Caravan Park and the B & B, both located on the Killanagh Road. We are also in a close proximity to many of the Blue Flag Beaches in Wexford.