



Uimhir Thagarta Uathúil: MH-C52-233

Údar: Sarah Herron

Stádas: Submitted

Aighneacht: Test

Comhairliúchán:

Dáta a cuireadh isteach: 29.06.2021 - 12:55

Material Amendments to Draft Meath County Development Plan
2021-2027

Ashbourne

Caibidil: Volume 2: Settlements »
Ashbourne

Proposed Amendment Number: Proposed Ashbourne Amendment No.

7

I fully support this proposed Amendment and the submission from Ashbourne Playspace. On a personal note, during the 2km Covid19 restrictions I was politely told off for entering the grounds of the local rugby club which is behind my house, with my [Redacted_Personal Information] for a run around. I understood this but to see these private club lands next to me marked as greenspace on maps is very frustrating as I and thousands of non-members do not have access to these spaces. I phoned the GAA club as I saw an initiative in other towns where people were permitted to walk in the clubs but DonAsh club said no, they don't have a walking path. This is a club I am a member of and it was a no to accessing the land during the restrictions (and also it's a no outside training times!).

Therefore I support this land being used as recreational as I disagree with the view that private, fee-paying, specific-use clubs constitute part of the 'greenspace' quota for our town: the large golf club, the rugby, GAA and soccer grounds. These spaces make up the majority of what's deemed 'greenspace' yet all were closed throughout level 5 restrictions. Why? because they are simply not public spaces! None of these spaces were opened for exercise even during an international emergency in a large town with no park, forest or coastline. These are member-only fee-paying clubs. I cannot walk a buggy on a golf course, or have a picnic on a soccer pitch or take a dog for a walk down the shooting range.

During covid we were confined in our thousands to the patches of greenspace dotted around the town. In the map of Ashbourne, I also see land next to me which is completely inaccessible - overgrown, dumped on, fenced off wasteland - down as 'greenspace'.

Please acknowledge this reality. The 'true' amount of accessible greenspace we have here is tiny relative to houses and population and tax paid by this commuter demographic!

Documents Attached: Níl