SHANGANAGH PARK & CEMETERY PHASE 1 - PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

PLANNING AND RELEVANT POLICIES

Specific Local Objective 109 in the County Development Plan 2022-2028 relate to Shanganagh Park & Cemetery. This sets out the vision for the park and states "To continue the development of Shanganagh Park in accordance with the Masterplan, and to develop a sports facility and improved recreational facilities in the park."

DLR COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028



WHAT IS A MASTERPLAN?

A masterplan is a dynamic long-term planning document that provides a framework for future growth and development. The masterplan for Shanganagh Park included site analysis, recommendations, and proposals for the park that is cognisant of future population growth, transportation, community facilities, and land use development. The plan integrated all of these components into a high quality, coherent design, avoiding a piecemeal approach.

The Shanganagh Park and Cemetery was adopted in 2019 and was subject to extensive public consultation and engagement. This ensured the plans met the future needs of the Shanganagh Woodbrook area as well as the consensus of the local community

SEE OUR MASTERPLAN HERE



WHAT IS A PART 8?

Development carried out by the Local Authority is referred to as a 'Part 8' development. This is a reference to Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, which sets out the procedure for carrying out such developments.

What is the procedure for carrying out a Part 8?

Public consultation is a fundamental element of the 'Part 8' planning application process. As such, interested parties will be invited to engage with the process and submit feedback/comments/observations once this commences. In advance of the Part 8, information sessions will be held to ensure that all members of the Shanganagh Park community are fully informed on what Phase 1 will involve and how this aligns with the longer term goals for the park as outlined in the Masterplan.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

Participation in our public evenings allows you to highlight your support or otherwise for the project. It also provides an opportunity to suggest where you see opportunities to improve the proposal to ensure it meets the needs of all users. During the Part 8 public consultation period, you are invited to make a submission/ observation. This submission/ observation is key to improving Shanganagh Park for the whole community

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROCESS HERE



WHAT'S NEXT?

We will be holding two public information sessions on the Phase 1 implementation plans in mid-January. Full details will be shared online and in the local community in the coming weeks.





NATURE IN THE PARK

BIODIVERSITY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

A key goal of the 2019 Shanganagh Park Masterplan is to protect and enhance biodiversity in the park. The proposed Phase I plans for a new active recreation zone have been designed with this in mind, with measures put in place to ensure minimal disruption to wildlife and to encourage new habitats to develop

PHASE 1 - BIODIVERSITY ACTIONS IN THE PARK



AMPHIBIAN PLAN

Amphibian Conservation Plan for protected species such as newts and frogs, is planned to support movement and protection of species that rely on our watercourses and waterbodies in the park



LIGHT POLLUTION

Directional and timed lighting combined with energy efficient LED lights will ensure that the impacts on surrounding residential areas and nocturnal wildlife is greatly minimised.



MEADOWS

The proposal will see a loss of 2.5ha of meadow within the park to support active recreation. Intensive mowing will result in lower biodiversity within the pitch area. However, our local seed harvesting project collected seed from the area in 2022 which will provide seed to develop over 1.25ha of new meadow



NEST BOXES

boxes for birds, Nesting including the Sand Martin will be located throughout the park to support wild bird populations.



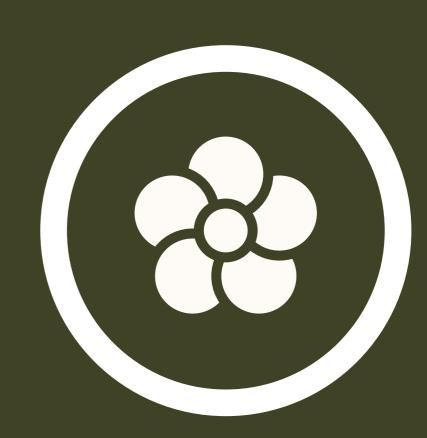
GRASS MANAGEMENT

Natural and organic fertilisers will be used to maintain the pitches.



BIODIVERSITY

New habitats will be created through tree planting, new foraging corridors, connected meadows throughout the park as well as wetland creation



POLLINATOR BULBS

Pollinator bulbs will be planted around the pitches to enhance the meadow corridors in line with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and provide colour and seasonal interest.



WATER RETENTION

Run-off from the pitches will be filtered in a bio-retention wetland feature capable of retaining up to 5,000 litres of rainfall on site.



WOODLAND

Redevelopment in the park will mean an increase in woodland cover from 14ha to 18ha to support habitat creation and biodiversity. 1 ha of woodland will be developed as part of Phase 1



Comhairle Contae County Council



ACTIVE RECREATION IN THE PARK



PITCH CAPACITY

Improved management and design of the grass pitches to support year round usage, up to 20-30 hours per week.



SOCIAL SPACES

Benches, picnic tables and viewing areas taking in the best aspects of the park will create new ways to enjoy the park in a social setting.



PARTICIPATION

New high-quality sports facilities to encourage an active lifestyle support growing participation rates.



NEW FACILITIES

Phase 1 will include new floodlit grass pitches, 6 lane 100m Sprint Track, Callisthenics, 3v3 basketball, and integrated Cricket and Baseball fields.



ACCESSIBILITY

Improved access over the railway line will provide a link to an area of the park high in biodiversity and with access to the sea. The improved access will offer views across the park.



NATURAL PLAY

Opportunities for play will be integrated into the redesigned accessible crossing, promoting active participation from a young age.

DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES



new residents

There are new communities emerging in Shanganagh Castle, Woodbrook and the surrounding local area. Upgrading the park will benefit the local area and the park will be better equipped to support higher levels of usage and visitor activity.

WHY IMPROVE SPORT FACILITIES IN THE PARK?

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown has the highest sports participation rates in Ireland, with significant investment needed in appropriate facilities to meet this demand. The proposed plans will provide additional facilities for organised sports and other forms of active recreation in the park. In doing so, the total space dedicated to sports will be moved to a more compact, centralised complex to open up new spaces for different uses.

PHYSICAL INACTIVITY IMPACTS MENTAL HEALTH

While Dun Laoghaire Rathdown has the highest participation rates in sport in Ireland, only 42% of adults and 13% children meet the National Physical Activity Guidelines. Currently in the County there is a lack of sporting facilities to meet the demand. To support the increasing communities in the local area, more opportunities for active recreation are needed to support a healthier lifestyle.









OVERVIEW OF PARK UPGRADES

AN OVERVIEW

The Shanganagh Park & Cemetery Masterplan was developed in 2019 through a series of detailed site studies and a well-supported process of public engagement. The plan aims to improve facilities for both active and passive recreation in the park in line with the expected growth in population in the Shankill area. Another important aim is to enhance the biodiversity of the park while protecting existing habitats and wildlife.

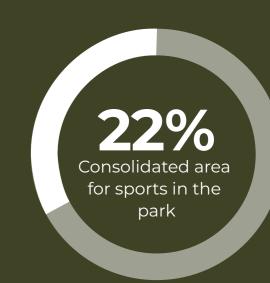
EXISTING

MASTERPLAN



ACTIVE RECREATION

At present, approximatively 20.5% of the park is dedicated to specific sport use. This is because the demand for sports participation in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown is the highest in Ireland. To deliver more opportunities for sport while maintaining a balance with nature we are proposing to consolidate sports into an active area in close proximity to Shanganagh Castle, a future community sports facility. We are adding new sports in the park, including a new pitch, sprint track, callisthenics, 3v3 basketball and a natural playground but we are only taking up an additional 1.5% in the park. This gives us more space for nature.





WOODLAND DEVELOPMENT

Currently Shanganagh Park and Cemetery supports a woodland covering 14ha that is home to rich variety of habitats, flora and fauna. The masterplan will increase the woodland within the park by 22% to 18ha. This expanded tree cover will provide new habitats and help combat climate change by removing and storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere





WALKING ROUTES

The current paths in the park vary in width and surface and present challenges for people with reduced mobility. New resurfaced paths will create additional walking routes and will connect various locations around the park. These routes will include seating to support our Age Friendly objectives and will be considerate other accessibility issues





CAR PARKING

Shanganagh Park and Cemetery have a well used car park with 117 dedicated parking spaces that caters for high active recreational demand in the park. An additional car park facility will be provided to cater for up 70 further cars, coaches and disabled spaces which will support increased park use without impacting our local area. The masterplan, when complete, will deliver 248 parking spaces across Shanganagh Park and Cemetery.





ACCESSIBILITY & PLAY

Access to the east of the park is currently restricted by the railway line and formal play opportunities within the park are limited to one playground. The masterplan will improve crossing points from one side to the other. Improved circulation will include upgrading the existing approach to the pedestrian bridge by replacing the steep ramped path with a set of steps and a gentler slope. This new layout will also create opportunities for natural, free-play interventions as well as a viewing area.









ACTIVE TRAVEL AND PARKING FACILITIES



CAR PARKING

within the park to accommodate the increased active recreation



BICYCLE



RAILWAY



BUS



HOW TO INCREASE SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL TO THE PARK?

To promote public awareness around sustainable travel Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council are engaging sports clubs and park users to incentivize alternative travel modes when visiting the park. To manage parking in the local area a coordination group for sharing information and reporting any issues will be set up. This will include members from the sports clubs, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and the local residents.



EXPLORE OUR FULL PLANS HERE

MASTERPLAN DEVELOPMENT



EXISTING PARK LAYOUT

The existing extent of Shanganagh Park features c.36 hectares (89 acres). The



MASTERPLAN LAYOUT

create better opportunities for pedestrian/cycling permeability, wildlife corridors



PHASE 1 - WHAT TO EXPECT?

Phase 1 of the upgrading of Shanganagh Park focuses on an area of approximately 8.7 hectares. It aim is to integrate consolidated active recreation into a woodland setting in the centre of the park. This will improve overall management of the facilities. Improved accessibility to the east of the park will create inclusive looped walks and access to an area of high biodiversity for everyday park users and seek opportunities for natural play and other forms of active play.





PHASE 1 LAYOUT







SHANGANAGH PARK PHASE 1 DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATION PROCESS SO FAR

Along with the public information sessions being held this week, DLR County Council and Connect the Dots held a series of workshops on Wednesday 11th and Friday 13th January with key local stakeholders for Shanganagh Park.

At these sessions, participants had a chance to question DLRCC on the details of the Phase 1 development plans and to raise any concerns or ideas they might have. All discussions were noted by Connect the Dots facilitators and are now in the process of being summarised into a report that will be presented to DLRCC to inform the upcoming planning application for Phase 1 of Shanganagh Park development.

This report will be made publicly available at **dlrcoco.ie/shanganagh23** once completed. You can register for project updates at this link to be notified when the report is ready. A summary of the group workshop details can be found below.

WORKSHOP DETAILS

SCHOOLS

Connect the Dots are passionate about empowering young people to be a part of public consultation and educating them on their right to be involved in democratic decision making processes. As important current and future users of the park, it was essential to understand what young people in Shankill want to see now and into the future.

Workshops were held with:

- Student Council, Woodbrook College
- 6th Class, Rathmichael NS

After a short presentation on the proposed Phase 1 plans, students were given the opportunity to ask questions. All students completed a worksheet asking how they use the park now, how they travel to the park and asking what they would like to see in the park in future.

SPORTS CLUBS

Representatives from sports clubs currently using the park's sports facilities were invited to a roundtable discussion. A short presentation on the proposed Phase 1 plans was followed by a Q&A and a general group discussion on both the benefits the plans would have to clubs and any outstanding concerns that members had.

Particular points of discussion included parking and traffic management, encouraging sustainable methods of travel with club members and how to fairly allocate facilities between clubs.

RESIDENTS

Representatives from estates in close proximity to the park were invited to a roundtable discussion. A short presentation on the proposed Phase 1 plans was followed by a Q&A and a general group discussion on residents concerns around the plans and current issues in relation to the park.

Particular points of discussion included traffic and parking issues in estates from park users, age friendly accessibility of the park and serious concerns about the loss of biodiversity and open passive spaces in the proposed plans.













