

# Shanganagh Park

## Questions from Public Webinar 26.04.23

Below you will find answers to all questions asked during the Public Webinar held on 26.04.23 in relation to Shanganagh Park Phase 1 Development, as well as a list of general comments made during the session. Similar questions have been grouped together to make the list more user friendly.

### QUESTIONS

**Please help me understand the rationale for choosing to develop the pitch on the meadow as opposed to developing one of the existing pitches?**

**was upgrading the location of the existing pitches ever considered? This would seem to make more sense especially with regard to light pollution from proposed floodlights as there is far less housing adjacent to these pitches.**

**Why are you pushing ahead with plans to turn a park into a sports centre when the report provided by the consultations states only 11% of park users use the park for organised sport**

**Considering the people of Shankill have shown that they are strongly against this pitch and floodlights why do the council think they know better than the residents**

One of the key findings from the January consultations is that the community would like to see the front pitches retained and upgraded instead of the previous proposal to convert this area into a wetland. This has led directly to the decision to amend the Masterplan so we can fulfil this request. However as outlined in these sessions, and as was reiterated by representatives of a number of sports clubs, the huge demand for sporting facilities in the area is such that we know additional facilities in the park are still required to contribute to filling this gap.

It must be recognised that there were multiple views and multiple needs expressed by the community during the January round of consultation – indeed this is reflected in the consultation outcome [report](#) that highlights how the park plays many important, but often conflicting, roles for different users. In fulfilling our role of providing park facilities that meet the needs of the community as a whole, we have had to make difficult decisions that inevitably and regrettably will result in a compromise in outcome for some.

**What clubs /sports are earmarked for the proposed new floodlit pitch in existing meadow space?**

**Can Shankill GAA and Cuala GAA clubs share the front two pitches and if not, why not?**

**What clubs is he referring to? Is this dalkey and bray clubs? Why is it up to Shankill to provide extra pitches rather than their own towns**

**Not clear on what DLR are saying re GAA usage - are they advising that Cuala will NOT be allocated pitches in Shanganagh given all the other pitches that were mentioned as being developed (and noting from an environmental perspective that as cuala are not local they are required to travel)**

Pitches are currently allocated on an annual basis and Cuala GAA are currently allocated the two pitches at the front of Shanganagh Park. It is intended that these facilities will be managed and allocated to clubs through an online booking system and no club will get sole access to the facilities. The bookings can be made well in advance so that fixtures can be planned and coordinated. It is likely that the Council will engage an external operator to liaise with clubs and help manage issues on the site. The provision of these facilities will increase playability and in particular winter usage so all existing and local clubs will be allocated additional time and access to facilities in the park. In time, all our pitch bookings will be through an online booking system.

The proposed pitch is multi-use and suitable for GAA and soccer including small sided play. Cuala GAA and the local clubs will get access to the proposed pitches subject to project support.

**What parking is committed to in this phase and only this phase**

**Is this temporary parking in St. Annes Park Estate?**

**firstly definitely better than the original plan. how do you manage parking, people ignore requests not to park in the local estates**

**How are DLR going to guarantee that there won't be traffic/parking issues in St Annes Park once that new pitch is up and running? As there currently is when the park run is on.**

**Parking was a particular problem last week due to a large number of pitches being in use. Cars were parked all along the main road. How will this not spread to adjoining estates as more pitches are proposed to be used ?**

**With Saint Anne's Park being the closest access point to the proposed new development What is the council's opinion on the impact to Saint Anne's Park residents regarding parking, safety of locals especially children access of emergency vehicles**

**What is the estimated increase in traffic volumes (% and no. of vehicles) arising from Phase One?**

**Why was there no traffic management at Shanganagh Park last week when cars were parked dangerously, on the wrong side, on corners and up on grass verges?**

**What concrete steps (ie not conversations) are being taken to ensure residents are not impacted by additional traffic? Will this be monitored on an ongoing basis ?**

DLRCC are aware that current traffic and parking issues exist in the surrounding estates and roads, and it is an issue we are facing with all parks and sports facilities across the county. We are committed to working with residents to find a solution. This includes working with sports club management, who are actively encouraging members and away teams to use designated parking or public transport. We are also in the process of setting up a community forum to work with the local residents and sports clubs to solve any traffic or parking issues that arise as a result of the sports facilities.

A report on traffic management around the park was prepared in Dec 2022 - Jan 2023, and updated in Apr 2023. The report is available to view [here](#).

Additional car parking will be provided at Shanganagh Castle as part of the masterplan with temporary additional car parking considered adjacent to the existing car park. It is not possible to give a definite answer on temporary parking for Phase 1 at this time, but no temporary or permanent parking will be located within surrounding estates. There is no temporary parking proposed in any of the residential estates including St. Annes.

**while it is good that 2 pitches have become 1 - at the Jan meeting DLR indicated that they couldn't put floodlights on the existing front pitches and now they are able to put lights on one. Why can't floodlights be put on 2 pitches and leave the meadow as is.**

**how late in the evening do you plan to have the floodlighting in operation for as its very close to the houses in Castle farm and St Annes**

**If floodlights are going in the front, why are they required in the Phase One proposed pitches?**

Floodlighting is proposed on one of the grass pitches at the front of the park in the future. As outlined in more detail above, there is a requirement for additional sports facilities in the Shanganagh area given the proposed population increase and current shortage of facilities. Floodlights will increase the usability of the pitches.

The floodlighting will be operational from 07:00 until 22:00, Monday to Friday and 09:00-20:00 Saturday and Sunday. However, given the fact that the pitches are grass, it is unlikely that floodlights will be used for more than 12 hours per week on average. In addition, significant seasonal restrictions will be deployed as outlined in the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) and AA Screening report to minimize any impacts on bats including no floodlighting allowed in April, May, August and September.

**Are there any facilities for alternative sports being considered anywhere in the county?**

**Is there no where else in the whole of DLR to build pitches**

Multiple locations are being considered and indeed actively developed for sports facilities across the county. As previously noted, the demand for sports facilities in Shankill and the wider area is at such a high level and Shanganagh Park must also play a role in delivering the total level of sports facilities required now and into the future. DLR are upgrading 6 pitches throughout the county and a running track in 2023. Alternative sports are also being delivered on an on-going basis.

**any plan to upgrade the Ballyogan site?**

**Is there a plan to floodlight Stonebridge Road pitches ?**

All options are being considered on an on-going basis in line with the Council's Sports Facilities Strategy, Space to Play.

**How much has the current Masterplan and related Part 8s cost so far?**

**When will consultation for the revised Masterplan take place?**

These costs are not available at this time. The exact plans for the revised masterplan have not yet been determined.

**With the Council confirming they now have to change the Masterplan, why can't Phase One be revised to focus on upgrading the two existing pitches?**

**What ecology studies are required to upgrade the two existing pitches?**

Extensive ecological surveys would be required to upgrade the pitches at the front similar to what has been undertaken in Phase 1 as outlined in the Ecological Impact Assessment. This would take some time.

**How malleable is this proposal or is this nearing the final design?**

**what is the time frame for this, estimated commencement and finishing?**

**Is there an open tender for Phase One at present?**

The final design for Phase 1 is the one published as part of this current Part 8 planning process. The Elected Members have the authority to amend the plans.

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There is currently no open tender for the Phase 1 works. There is currently no time frame for the commencement and completion.

**There is such a emphasis on sports clubs what about facilities for younger children 1-4 years who are too young to take part in sports . how will the playground cater for this? the current facilities are not suitable for them and are extremely poor in comparison to other parks. they are not accessible either**

**Can Eoin tell us when the children's playgrounds will be maintained or fixed? One is out of order for months now and part of another has had one of its amenities missing for 2 years now?**

Children's play is a major part of the Shanganagh Park Masterplan with play to be integrated throughout, including in Phase 1. A major upgrade is proposed to the existing playground as part of the Masterplan to create a large natural adventure play space. Details of this can be found in the Masterplan [here](#).

The items that need to be fixed in the current playground will be brought to the attention of the area parks superintendent.

**Can I ask was any facility for alternative sports (i.e. Skatepark or pumptrack) considered in the park design?**

**where the basketball platform is can a small Olympic handball platform be added? it can be as small as 13x20m**

**As a cricket player - how can the cricket field and soft ball share space. given that the quality and condition of grass is crucial**

All options were considered as part of the masterplan. A balance had to be struck between active and passive recreation to ensure Shanganagh Park is inclusive and accessible for all.

Cricket and baseball can use a shared facility and this has been discussed in some detail with the clubs.

**What exactly is this sports building they are referring to at the castle**

**Hi, is the sports facility in shanganagh Castle subject to this part 8 or is that part of a seperate development? Have the plans been finalised for this facility? Who can I contact about the shanganagh sports facility?**

There are plans to repurpose a building adjacent to Shanganagh Castle as a community sports building with changing rooms, a small gym, club/community rooms, toilets, showers, storage, etc.

**Why is access for those with mobility issues not catered for to get across to the spaces east of the railway line?**

**Why is the ramping of the opposite side of the dart line not included in this phase? Seems odd to do one side when the other side will still effectively be a ski slope for want of a better way of putting it.**

The Masterplan has to be delivered in phases based on available budget. Access is being improved over the DART line and a new viewing/resting area is being created.

**please can you open the chat function for openness and transparency? Thanks**

**So no member of the public attending this meeting will be allowed to speak?**

**are you not allowing everyone to see chat contributions?**

The decision to run this webinar's Q&A with participants submitting questions directly to hosts only was made for a number of reasons.

As you can see from this longlist, we received a large volume of questions on diverse topics during the session and so having one Connect the Dots host directing questions to dlr representatives allowed us to get through more questions than would have otherwise been possible.

Having given those who prefer to have an open discussion an opportunity to do so in previous sessions, this session took on board feedback from those who did not feel comfortable expressing their opinions in a public forum. Our goal throughout this project has been to give anyone who wants to contribute their views the opportunity and space to do so, and this requires using many different formats.

**Why is there no community meeting in person**

As we are now into an official statutory stage of consultation with the Part 8, there are stricter processes in terms of community consultation and how community views can feed into the final decision making. Submissions must be made through either the dlr website, email or a written submission by post or in person and so we have decided against another in-person event as we do not want to mislead/confuse people who think that feedback given at this event can be considered as an official submission.

Instead we feel that online sessions that goes into the details of the plan, gives people an opportunity to ask questions and ensures they know the steps required to make an official submission will provide the most benefit to the community at this stage in the process and make

sure that as many people's views as possible can be included in the final Chief Executive's report at the end of the Part 8 period. Both sessions include a significant amount of time given to a Q&A.

**Will this upgrade result in the park achieving regional park status? If so what are benefits of get this status?**

Generally our regional parks have a certain level of facilities which may or may not include active recreation but generally include public toilets, a café, etc. They are generally maintained to a slightly higher standard than our local parks with a high quality horticultural offering. Regional Park status is likely when Shanganagh Castle is integrated into the park and not after the proposed Phase 1 works.

**How does the proposed investment in the park compare investments made to parks elsewhere in the county?**

It compares favourably to other investments in our public parks.

**Why are there plans for a pond beside the current footbridge when it doesn't flood there. The flooding occurs to the left of the bridge coming from the sea side along by the DART line. Would it not make more sense to put any pond there?**

This is a bioretention area to replicate natural field drainage and will take the surface water from the pitches and track. It will also encourage and facilitate biodiversity.

**Where did this .55 hectares increase in size on the front meadow come from?Very strange determination!**

By our classifications, the central area is divided into meadow (long grass) and amenity grassland (grass that is cut on a regular basis in line with how pitches are cut). Currently the meadow (long grass) is limited in size due to the baseball outfield and other areas of amenity grassland that are cut on a regular basis, in line with how pitches are cut. The meadow (long grass) will be increased by 0.55 Ha in the new plan, which has more benefit in terms of biodiversity measures for the park.

**Can you give a position on the crematorium - if is happening, what allowances are being made for parking? If not, please confirm that this is the case.**

This land has been earmarked for the crematorium and is not available to use for other uses, including parking or sports facilities

**Does DLR guarantee the proposed new floodlit pitch (where the existing meadow is) will never be fenced off and therefore will always be available for local users when not booked by a club ?**

The pitches will be open to everyone and accessible. Existing pitches are open to all park users when not used for training and matches and are used for informal games and for picnics and other passive uses. DLRCC confirm this will continue to be the case.

**What additional land are the Council looking to acquire?**

If additional private land in the area is put up for sale, DLRCC will consider purchasing it at this time to expand the park. Much land in the area has already been zoned as residential or for other building purposes and so may not be suitable.

**Out of the 6 regional parks. How many have sports pitches**

Three regional parks have sports pitches

**Please also ask Council to state that people can ask the Bord for an EIA determination and that the deadline is 4 May.**

Any person may, within 4 weeks from the publication date of new plans (April 6th 2023), apply to An Bord Pleanála for an EIA screening determination as to whether the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment as outlined on the Site Notice and Newspaper Notice.

**How would the quiet nature of the existing open space be protected if sports facilities are added to circa half of it?**

The pitches will not be in use for the majority of the time and can continue to be used as natural, quiet open spaces when not being used for organised sports. There is currently baseball and cricket in this area, showing that sports and natural areas can co-exist successfully in this space.

**Will the Council NOT mow the meadow until the autumn.**

**please ask the Council to guarantee that the meadow in the Middle Field will not be mown until late autumn.**

This request is outside the remit of this planning process.

**Can the Council circulate the 2008 Park plan.**

This plan has now been superseded by the 2019 Masterplan

**Traffic report states that new woodbrook dart station will be within 300-400 meters / 4-5 minutes from the park. Unless there is a proposal for a path through the cemetery which lies between the park and woodbrook I don't see how this is possible. Looking at where station to be located and walking through woodbrook to the main road and then back to the park entrance this distance would be more likely at least 1km. Please clarify this statement on 300-400m distance**

There will be a path through the cemetery linking to the DART line as outlined in the Masterplan [here](#).

**If there is money ready to spend could this not be invested in dog wardens**

The funding has to be spent on capital expenditure i.e. upgrading/developing physical assets such as land, buildings and other facilities.



**Can a plan showing the square meterage of existing meadow and new events be added to the website?**

The extent of the meadow can clearly be seen in the Ecological Impact Assessment (page 38) and the General Arrangement Plan drawing no. 2422-02).

**Why has the perimeter of the existing meadow been reduced when cut this week? It reduces the meadow footprint.**

We don't believe this work has resulted in the meadow being reduced.

**What about the surface water along the area of the path parallel with dart line?**

This will be resolved when the proposed phase 1 works are undertaken (subject to Part 8 approval).

**Will councillors who are members of impacted clubs recuse themselves from any Part 8?**

All elected representatives comply with ethics guidelines as outlined in the [Local Government Act 2001](#). These guidelines do not consider sports club memberships to be a declarable interest.

**How will the land fall of the Dublin grid array affect the park**

Some ducting may be required through the park.

**Travel plan sounds very much like a box ticking exercise - what % of Cuala gaa club currently travel by car v on foot /public transport and how is this projected to change in volume terms.**

We do not have the data to make this calculation

### GENERAL COMMENTS

#### **In favour of the plans**

thank you Eoin for the presentation - I welcome the proposals for Shanganagh park, while it is unfortunate that the original master plan that brought a natural buffer along the road, it is great to see that improvements to the park are progressing as the area develops in line with the objectives in the woodbrook Shanganagh local area plan

congratulations on a well considered revision, excellent presentation and well moderated session. We are proud of DLR parks and grateful for your work.

#### **In opposition to the plans**

It is not realistic to say that active travel will be used by people and children using the park for matched and training this is a critical oversight in the traffic report

#### **On the consultation process (please see above for response to similar questions received)**

I'll add my name to the list of people frustrated. A number of us gave the feedback at the last "consultation" that it was not a consultation. It is a very managed process. I recognise the approach!

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your reasons for not having a open meeting make no sense all of the problems can easily be addressed in a public meeting

Clearly the legal right to protest does not apply to DLRCC stage managed events with the help of ConnecttheDots! This is a totally unbalanced event.

### **Misc**

Proposal still has pitch and track ultimately draining into St Annes Park. Where connection shown at hammerhead outside front of number 90 there is no sewer adjacent. Nearest is either a branch drain to rear of no 90 or across the green to a main sewer across from number 68/69 which would mean ripping up this green to make a proper connection

Overall there should be a drainage risk assessment done for connecting to existing drains in St Annes Park as there has been a history of flooding in this part of the estate

Now that only 1 pitch and running track are being developed it can fit into one of the existing pitches.

Surely the need for another assessment should not prevent this option for being explored to ensure all option are considered.