CDP/D/44

A Chara, 29th September 2020 I write to you in reference to the Draft Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027 with reference to Killeigh, Co Offaly. In all we agree with the Offaly County Development Plan laid out by the planners and feel that it is a good and considered vision to Killeigh. We have however been made aware of a submission, Ref EXTENSION TO MILLBROOK GROVE, KILLEIGH HOUSING ESTATE seeking rezoning of lands extending Millbrook Grove. This in our view would be most concerning for the following reasons: 1. Size and Scale: Under the Killeigh Housing and Sustainable Communities Objectives SO1 is to ensure that future growth is balanced and sustainable and is appropriate to the scale, size and character of the existing village. Any such development would be in contradiction to this valued point that makes Killeigh the unique attractive village it is. 2. Flooding: Killeigh is affected by a flood zone and we are happy to see the development plan includes this point. The said area requested to be rezoned is in a Constrained Land Use' designation. Local knowledge has indicated that this field is vulnerable to flooding and does so on a yearly basis. Local knowledge would indicate that any development on this area will have an adverse impact and increase the risk of flooding to other locations adjacent to the proposed rezoning. 3. Monastic Site The said area aforementioned is in direct proximity to a Monastic site dating back to the 12th century and of significant archaeological importance. I would be concerned that any development would have an adverse impact on such an important piece of our history and hinder any plans that might want to highlight the archaeological importance of such a site. 4. Traffic Increased zoning in the area of closest proximity to the school goes against the Healthy Place Making and Infrastructure objective as set out in the Killeigh village plan of introducing traffic calming measures and road safety around the school. Thank you for taking the time for reading our submission.