

Dear Planner, We wish to support the land use zoning as per Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027: Draft Stage Village Plans for Killeigh. The settlement objectives are sensitive to the village as one of Offaly's earliest Monastic settlements as we observed the following; 1)The open green space area marked on the draft map accounts for some of the area associated with the Augustinian Priory founded at Killeigh in the second half of the 12th century north of the Tullamore – Killeigh road. The historical significance of this area provides a delicate balance of green space to the village settlement. 2)As a significant area of the village is denoted constrained land use area, it is positive to note that the two opportunity sites for future development are reasonably distanced from this constrained land use zone, located within and adjacent to the retail core of the village settlement. 3)Retaining open green space adjacent to flood risk areas is imperative as per LUZO-14 in order to support sustainable community objectives and regeneration objectives as identified in the plan. 4)The draft zoned new residential and strategic residential reserve would potentially complete the village streetscape at a prime location on the L2002, adding to the housing stock of the village, along with what the opportunity sites may present. 5)The considerate approach of balanced land use zoning as per this draft plan is important to a village of such significant heritage as apparent in the Geophysical Investigation around the sites of the former monastic settlement, Killeigh Report 2005, and locations identified within the study. The recent Town and Village Renewal funding for the resurfacing of footpaths in the village green will be a welcome addition to healthy place making and infrastructure objectives. We look forward to supporting local place making activities and the realisation of objectives outlined in the draft plan.

