



Oranmore Area Biodiversity Plan 2021~2024



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Introduction

This plan was prepared by Oranmore Tidy Towns and members of Active in Age Oranmore as part of the Burrenbeo Biodiversity Training and Awareness Programme.

We wish to acknowledge the assistance of Burrenbeo in preparing the plan and thank them for delivering a Community Biodiversity Training and Awareness course between January and April 2021, attended by representatives of Oranmore Tidy Towns and members of Active in Age Oranmore. The programme was funded under the LEADER programme and administered by Galway Rural Development Company.

1. Oranmore: Past and Present



Boulder Dolmen (1994)

1.1 Boulder Dolmen

Sitting on the inner shoreline of Galway Bay, the archaeology of the area surrounding Oranmore shows evidence that it has been an attractive location for settlement from the Neolithic period up to the present day. The earliest trace of human intervention in the landscape is represented by a megalithic structure, a boulder dolmen, which could date to as early as 3000BC (see Appendix 5).

Early monuments such as fulachta fia date from the Bronze Age. There are several ritual wells and ringforts which are likely to belong to the early Christian period.



Medieval Catholic Graveyard

1.2 Medieval Church & Graveyard

In the centre of Oranmore we find the ruins of a Catholic medieval parish church with a walled graveyard. A good portion of the North and South walls survive. Some of the grave slabs date to as early as 1734 and others are engraved with symbols indicating the occupation of the owner. This graveyard is not currently in use for burials. Oranmore Heritage Group have carried out restoration work there and continue to maintain the site.

1.3 The Church of Ireland Medieval Graveyard

Adjacent to the medieval graveyard is the Church of Ireland Graveyard which has not been used for burials for many years, and as an undisturbed area it is a rich resource for biodiversity. It is in public ownership and is accessible with restrictions.



The Church of Ireland Graveyard



1.4 Oranmore Castle

The imposing Oranmore Castle, located strategically at the head of the bay, was originally constructed in the 15th century. From the more recent past, a range of monuments including a moated site, a mill and a brewery are testament to the ongoing evolution of Oranmore.

1.5 St Mary's Catholic Church

St Mary's Catholic Church in the centre of the village dates back to 1803 and is designated as a protected building. The unique design is of a cruciform shape with a belfry and large stained-glass windows. The church was de-consecrated in 1974 when a new church was built on a nearby site. It remained boarded up and abandoned for many years during which time it deteriorated significantly. In 1992 a committee of the Oranmore Community Development Association began a restoration project which initially began with essential repairs to the building and then onto more challenging aspects of the repair works such as the stained glass windows and roof. The restoration was completed in 2001 and the building is now used as a local library and also houses the local community development office.





Oranmore Well in 1994

1.6 The Well Area

Oranmore gets its name from a spring well located on the Station Road. It was originally called “Fuaran Mór (great spring) but in time the “F” was dropped and it became known as Uarán Mór. There are two wells in the area, one is enclosed and the other is an open pond. It is said that the water was ice cold even in the warmest of weather and the water levels never change. The inner well was used by village people for fresh water and the open pond was used to provide water for the local farmers.

The well also provided water for an 18th Century Mill which has since been demolished. The practice of taking water from the well ceased in the 1960’s with the provision of running water to farms and houses.

1.7 Oranmore Town

Oranmore is now a large town with a population in excess of the 5000 recorded in the 2016 Census. There are 26 housing estates within the village zone with more currently under construction. Inevitably, the increasing population and associated housing demand has resulted in increased pressure on biodiversity.

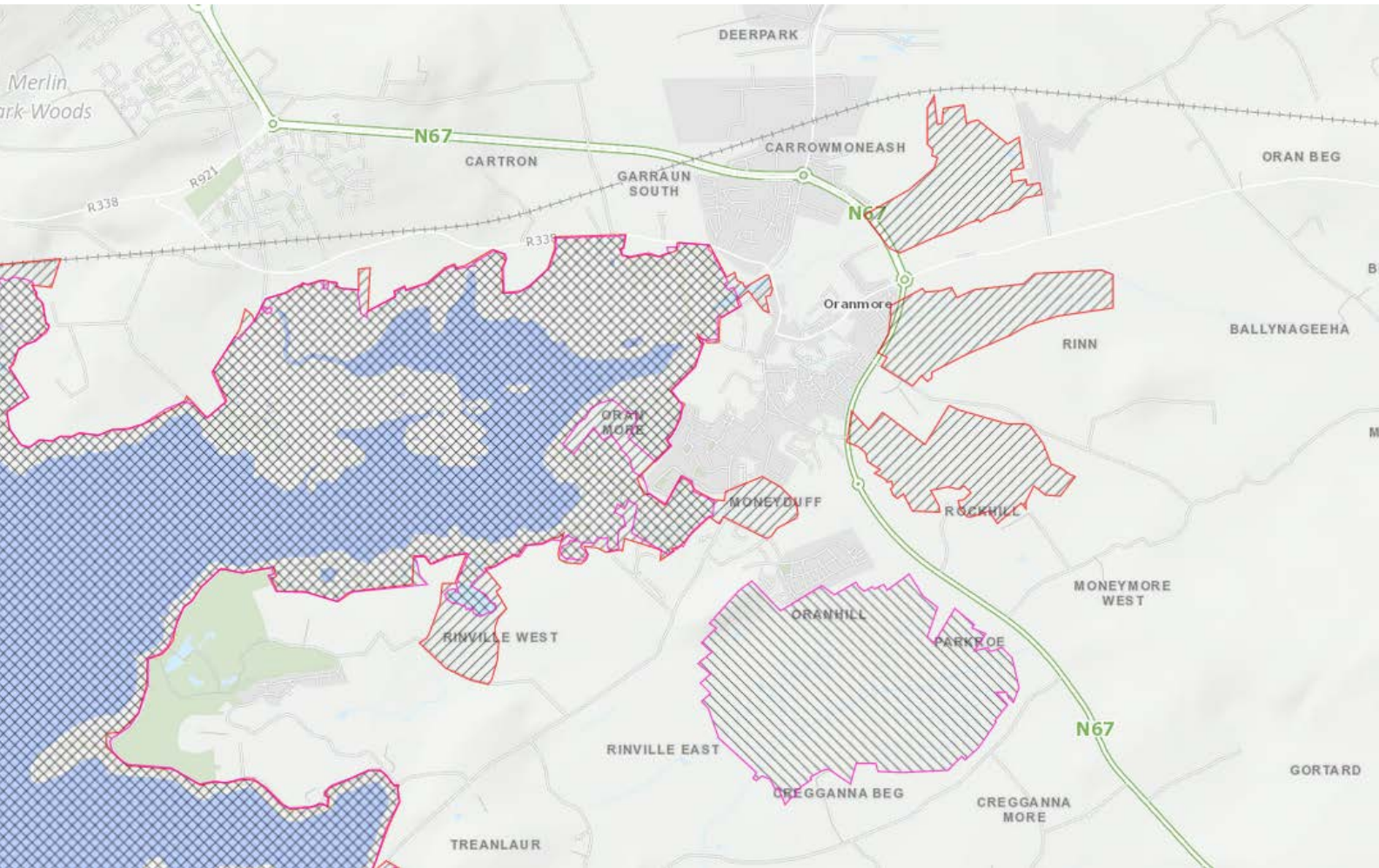
Almost all of the housing development in Oranmore is within one kilometre of the village and within the 50 kilometre speed limit zone and this is the area of focus for this plan.



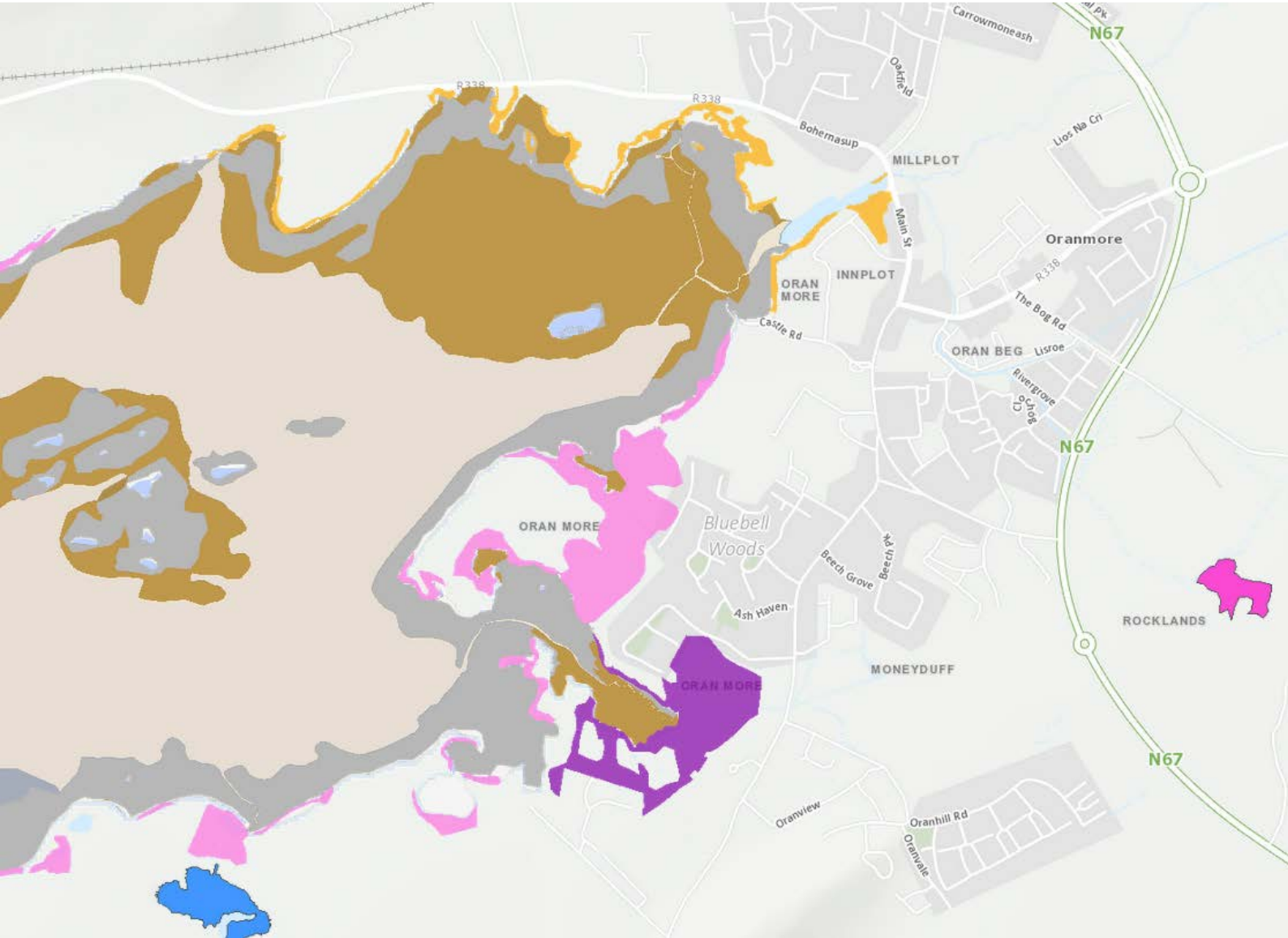
Aerial Map of Oranmore 2021

1985

2. Biodiversity in Oranmore



Galway Bay Complex SAC & Creganna Marsh SPA



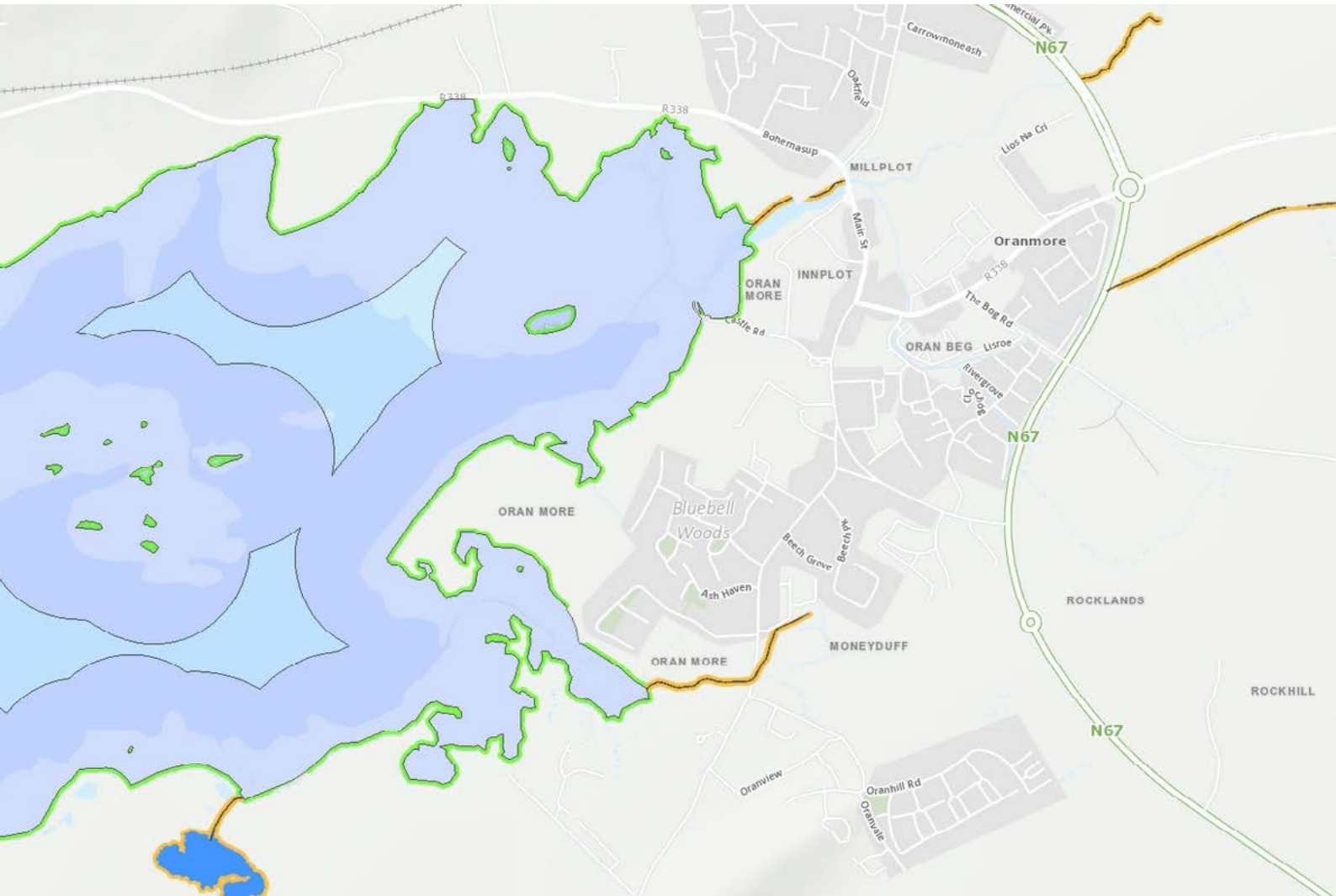
SAC Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats

2.1. Areas of Special Significance for Biodiversity Under Legal Protection

Oranmore is an extremely important ecological site. It is bordered by Galway Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) to the west, The inner Galway Bay Complex SAC to the East and Creganna Marsh Special Protection Area (SPA) to the south.

Within the Galway Bay Complex SAC Oranmore has numerous qualifying interests within Oranmore Village, the surrounding townlands and Oranmore Bay.

- Tidal Mudflats
- Atlantic Salt Meadow
- Potential Atlantic Salt Meadow
- Juniper Scrub
- Potential Atlantic \ Mediterranean Salt Meadow
- Lake Habitats



SAC Habitats Directive Annex II Species

- Otter - Freshwater Terrestrial
- Otter - Marine Terrestrial
- Harbour Seal Habitat

2.2 Other areas and sites with significant or potentially significant biodiversity



Oranmore Well (Tobar na Cailligh Bhearrtha)



2.2.1 The Well Area

In 2013 a major restoration project was carried out by Tidy Towns in conjunction with the Heritage Department of Galway County Council. The restoration blended with the surrounding landscape and included stone paving, stone walls and wildflower planting and information signage. The design has enhanced the whole site and it is now identified as an important historical site and local amenity.



Native foliage beside the well



Looking eastwards from Oranmore bridge

2.2.2 Carrowmoneash Marsh

The marsh and grassland areas at Carrowmoneash extend from the bridge to the town bypass.



Bluebell Wood with native bluebells

2.2.3 Bluebell Woods

A small woodland has been preserved within the Bluebell Woods housing estate on the Maree Road. In addition to English bluebells, native plants found growing there include cow parsley, herb robert, wild garlic, lords and ladies, creeping buttercup and willowherb.

Nearby there is a copse situated between Oranmore Boys' School and the Church grounds. A field adjoining the Church car park has been planted with daffodils in recent years and is known locally as 'daffodil dell'.



Daffodil Dell



Ferns, moss and Cranesbill growing on the many dry-stone walls in Oranmore

2.2.4 Greens and Parks in Housing Estates

Each of the 26 housing estates in the village has a park or common green area. Some of these are maintained by local residents and others by management companies. They offer significant opportunities for enhancing local biodiversity.

2.2.5 Grass Verges

There are grass areas and verges throughout the village that can be enhanced for biodiversity.

2.2.6 Residential Gardens

The large network of residential gardens in the town are a significant resource for the support of garden wildlife.

2.2.7 Stone Walls

Dry and mortared stone boundary walls are a significant feature of the built environment in Oranmore with at least 3 kilometres of such walls within the village area. They include single and double dry-stone walls and older mortared walls with large numbers of holes and crevices which can provide habitats for mosses, lichens and plants and shelter and food sources for small insects, birds and plants.



Ferns, moss and Cranesbill growing on the many dry-stone walls in Oranmore

3. Biodiversity Plan

3.1 Overall Aim

The overall aim of this plan is to enhance biodiversity in the locality. This can be achieved by building community awareness and engagement in relation to the environment, creating a sense of ownership for biodiversity in our back gardens, our green areas, car parks and other public spaces and in the land and sea surrounding us.

3.2 Actions and Projects to Enhance Biodiversity in Oranmore

	Project	Activity/Event	Organisations involved	Time Frame
1	Increase awareness of the biodiversity potential of the communal areas/parks in the 26 housing estates in Oranmore	Provide information to the residents' associations and management companies Sponsor a schools' project that would involve children from each estate in gathering information on existing wildlife/biodiversity	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Residents and Management Companies of the estates; Local Schools	Ongoing
2	Explore ways of encouraging each estate to adopt at least one measure that would improve biodiversity	Provide a menu of five/six actions, ranging from minimal such as replacing one or two shrubs to actions such as reducing grass mowing	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Residents and Management Companies	Ongoing
4	Create examples of biodiversity in action which businesses and homeowners can replicate	Convert areas of mown grass into wildflower meadows by selectively adding wildflowers as plugs to yield a summer long display of pollen-bearing flowers. Create a "green floor" of varieties of Sedum which require low maintenance and can be replicated on paths.	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Oranmore Community Garden; Galway County Council	Ongoing
5	Identify the potential of the lane leading from the Coast Rd to Ashbrook as a valuable natural habitat	Liaise with interested parties with a view to exploring its heritage and biodiversity value	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Residents' association; Neighbouring properties; Galway Co Council	2021
6	Investigate the biodiversity potential of the old C of I graveyard	Explore the potential for a joint project with the C of I and Oranmore Heritage Association.	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Church of Ireland; Oranmore Heritage Group	2021

	Project	Activity/Event	Organisations involved	Time Frame
7	Create awareness of the biodiversity value of the extensive network of stone walls within the village	Highlight the value of retaining dry-stone walls. Include as an item in a menu of biodiversity-friendly actions for housing estates. Include in resource material for home/garden owners.	Active in Age; Oranmore Tidy Towns; Oranmore Heritage Group	Ongoing
8	Increase the number of trees in the area	Work with residents' associations in the housing estates to plant at least one tree in the common areas of each estate during National Tree Week. In conjunction with National Tree Week, organise an estate family fun day with participation of children in tree-related activities (art competition, bark rubbing, leaf/seed/berry identification).	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Active in Age; National Tree Council; Coillte; Residents' Groups; Galway Co. Council; Oranmore Community Development Association; Garden Centres for sponsorship	Duration of the plan and beyond
9	Explore the feasibility of creating a dispersed community orchard	Publicise the idea of a large-scale fruit tree planting project. Identify potential sites in housing estates. Research suitability of different types of fruit trees to different locations. Meet with residents' groups to discuss a plan Organise training & workshops Investigate funding and local sponsorship. Organize a fruit tree planting day`. Nominate carers of trees	Active in Age; Oranmore Tidy Towns; Residents' Associations; Estate Management Companies; Oranmore Community Development Association; Oranmore Community Garden; Galway County Council; Galway Roscommon Ed. & Training Board	Duration of the plan

	Project	Activity/Event	Organisations involved	Time Frame
10	Promote sustainable, biodiversity friendly gardening practices	<p>In conjunction with National Biodiversity Week, organise community information talks on topics such as gardening for pollinators and vegetable growing.</p> <p>Use social media to inform and direct gardeners to relevant resources, e.g., pollinators.ie/ guidelines for gardens.</p>	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Active in Age; Community Garden Group/ GIY; GRETB	Duration of the plan
11	Heritage and Culture	<p>Celebrate National Heritage Week</p> <p>Support walks and talks organized by the local Heritage Group and collaborate with them where possible</p>	Active in Age; Galway Co. Council Heritage Officer; Oranmore Heritage Group	Annual
12	Village planter boxes	Maintain pollinator-friendly plants in the 54 village planters	Oranmore Tidy Towns;	ongoing
13	Investigate the possibility of developing a loop walk involving both biodiversity and heritage	<p>Liaise with Oranmore Heritage Group</p> <p>Explore the possibility of developing a Biodiversity Story Map for Oranmore</p>	Active in Age; Galway County Council; Birdwatch Ireland; Oranmore Heritage Group	ongoing
14	SAC Wetlands	<p>Consult with the NPWS in relation to the possibility of a habitat survey of the SAC wetlands</p> <p>Promote awareness via signage</p> <p>Consult with the NPWS in relation to the possibility of adding Carrowmoneash wetlands to the SAC</p>	Oranmore Tidy Towns; NPWS; Galway Co Council; Birdwatch Ireland; NUIG	Ongoing
15	Establish a dedicated Oranmore Biodiversity Social media presence	Promote awareness in local community through high quality regular and appropriate biodiversity information messaging	Active in Age	ongoing
16	Create examples of biodiversity in action which businesses and homeowners can replicate	Convert areas of mown grass into wildflower meadows by selectively adding wildflowers as plugs to yield a summer long display of pollen-bearing flowers.	Oranmore Tidy Towns; Oranmore Community Garden; Galway County Council	2021

Appendix 1

Initiatives already taken aimed at increasing awareness and enhancing biodiversity

1. Information signs



Above: Overlooking the estuary, this prominent board is a great source of information on the birds to be seen in the Oranmore Bay area



Right: Information helps to create awareness of our special place



An example of sustainable native planting alongside more conventional gardening

1. Planting around the Well

Following the restoration work on the Well, Marsh plants were chosen specific to the area of the site where soil is of poor quality. They included Bur-reed, Greater pond sedge, Marsh marigold, yellow flag, Water mint, yellow loosestrife, and Ragged robin.

The Carpet roses and Oxeye daisy planted in more nutrient rich soil in the boat and formal garden were chosen because they benefit pollinating insects especially butterflies, bees and hoverflies.



Some of the Spring plants in the Well area: water whorl grass; seep monkeyflower; watercress; creeping buttercup; European speedwell; hairy willowherb; European meadow grass; small sweet grass; dandelion; stinging nettle.



2. Development of a wildflower area near the Catholic Church with biodiversity signage

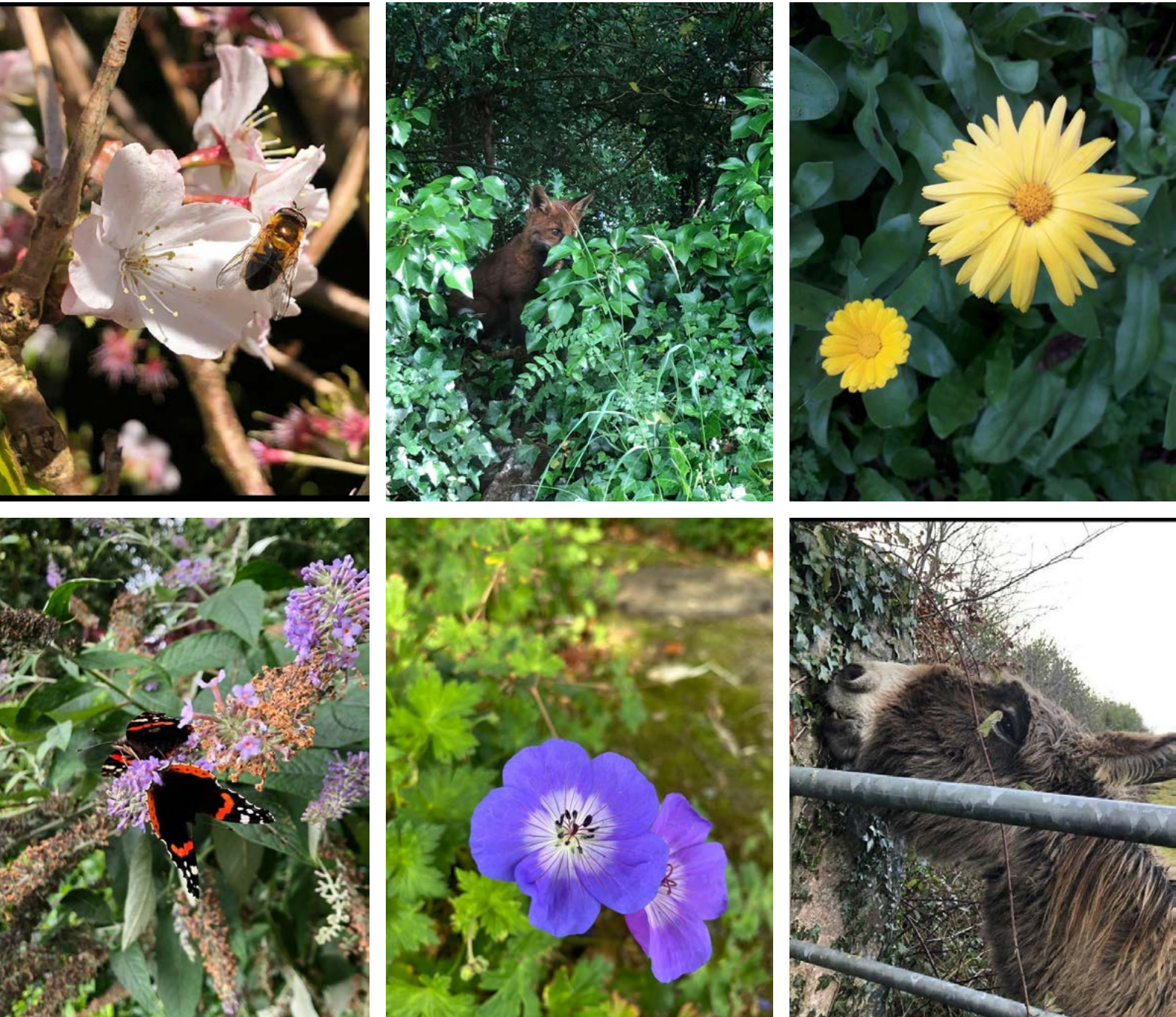
With the support of Oranmore Community Development Association this project commenced in 2020 and, like all wildflower meadows, it will take a couple of years to develop. Adjacent to the schools, church and car park, it is well-situated to provide an example of planting with pollen-bearing flowers (Action 16 in the Plan).

3. Planting for pollinators in the numerous village planter boxes

With more than 50 planter boxes throughout the village, bees and other pollinating insects will have a network of nectar cafés to choose from.



Winter and Spring heathers will be supplemented by pollen-rich summer plants



Selection of entries from students of Calasactius College Oranmore

4. Oranmore Tidy Towns Schools Photography Competition for International Biodiversity Day 22nd May 2021

The aim of this competition is to increase awareness of our native plants and wildlife in our local area and what we can do to protect them. Students are asked to take a photograph of anything to do with Biodiversity in their garden, estate or as close to their house/ apartment as possible.

The Closing date for completed entries is 7th May 2021. Prizes will be courtesy of Oranmore Tidy Towns and will consist of vouchers, books, and plants.

5. Litter picks and clean-ups

Oranmore Tidy Towns organise regular Clean-Ups with the help of a large number of volunteers.



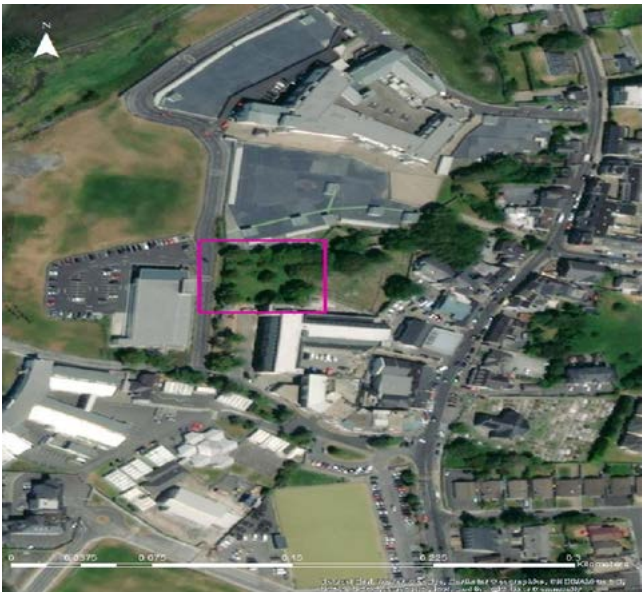
Above: Beach Clean-Up In Renville
Right: Litter Sweep-up in Oranmore Village



Appendix 2

A report of a Biodiversity Survey of the Church of Ireland Graveyard carried out by Ms. Jessica Alvarado for Oranmore Tidy Towns 25/04/21

This report aims to assess the level of plant diversity in the old Protestant graveyard in the centre of Oranmore Town (Figure 1).



The site is approximately 1500m2 and is surrounded by a perimeter wall of approximately 160m. The entrance is on the south end of the site, through the Brampton Care Home carpark. The site is adjacent to a medieval graveyard which has been subject to maintenance work in recent years (Galway County Heritage Office, 2019).

The site is heavily overgrown, with upright, raised- flat and raised tombstone grave markers throughout. The site is a combination woodland/grassland habitat.

Above: Figure 1: The graveyard site surveyed in Oranmore
Below: Figure 2: Natura 2000 sites in proximity to the graveyard site Fieldwork



Methods

Deskwork

The site was identified using GIS. As a point of interest, nearby Natura 2000 sites were identified (Figure 2). The site is 100m from Galway Bay SAC, 150m from Inner Galway Bay SPA and 100m from the Galway Bay Complex pNHA (not shown on map). Preliminary research on common woodland/grassland plants was carried out.

Line transects were set up north-south across the site, random points along the line were sampled and plants present recorded. Random points were selected using a random number generator.

Trees that did not fall along transects were also recorded. Birds and macroinvertebrates encountered whilst sampling were recorded, although no effort was made to do a faunal survey.

Results

Common name	Scientific name	Comment
Atlantic Ivy	<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Prevalent along shaded edges of site, sparser in central grassy area
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	
Wood sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	not yet in flower but distinctive leaves
Common nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i> ssp. <i>dioica</i>	
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	
Smooth Hawk's-beard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	
Narrow-leaved Hawk's-beard	<i>Crepis tectorum</i>	
Herb-robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	
Lords-and-ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	
Wood burdock*	<i>Arctium nemorosum</i>	Not yet in flower, difficult to ID, several large individuals spotted around site
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	
Blue-eyed Mary	<i>Omphalodes verna</i>	
Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	only seen near entrance, close to wall in disturbed area
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> ssp.	
Cow parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	
Lesser celandine	<i>Vicaria verna</i>	
Yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	2 mature yews
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	All stages- mature, sapling, seedling
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	
Horse chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	
Cherry plum*	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Small copse of juvenile trees in centre of site
Oak	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Many oak seedlings in SE site, unsure where parent tree is located, perhaps adjacent graveyard

* need verification

See Annex I for additional photos

In total 23 plants were recorded, with 21 successfully identified (Table 1). The plum tree may either be cherry plum or wild plum (or perhaps neither) (Figure 3-5) and the Wood burdock (Figure 6) is likely a positive ID but could perhaps be a sage (Lamiaceae) or dock (Polygonaceae). Many of the trees, specifically the mature sycamores at the east end of the site, were covered in bushy lichens, typical indicators of good air quality (Figure 7)

Table 2: Fauna casually recorded at site 14/04/21-21/04/21

Birds	Butterflies	Other Macroinvertebrates
Robin	Painted lady	Seven-spot Ladybird
Goldcrest	Red admiral	Tree bumblebee
Siskin	Holly Blue	Buff-tailed bumblebee
Goldfinch	Green-veined White	Early bumblebee
Bullfinch	Speckled Wood	Leaf cutter bee (Likely <i>Megachile willughbiella</i>)
Blackbird		Marmalade hoverfly
Magpie		
Wood pigeon		
Hooded crow		

From Table 2 it is evident that many of the animals recorded are pollinators. There are several “desire paths” or small trails through the site, which could be due to trespassers or small mammals such as hedgehogs and foxes.

Conclusion

The old graveyard site has completely rewilded itself. It is an interesting site in that its edges could be considered “woodland” and are shaded and dominated by ivy, mature and juvenile trees and lords-and-ladies, while in the centre it is a bright grassland which reaches heights of over 30cm and is a myriad of grasses and bramble.

The site was difficult to survey at parts, and it is certain that some plants were not recorded, the north side and west of the site are heavily overgrown and conceal potentially hazardous grave markers (Figure 7). Roughly 200m2 of the site was not properly survey due to inaccessibility.

Overall, it is a well-situated location for a biodiversity project in the heart of a small town. Sustainable grazing may be an option on site to tackle the overgrowth. The community existing within the site is biodiverse and healthy.

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National Biodiversity Data Centre (2016) *Simple Guide to Solitary Bees in Ireland (Part 2)* . National Biodiversity Data Centre, Waterford, Ireland

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Annex 1



Atlantic ivy



Atlantic ivy, Smooth Hawk's beard and Sycamore seedlings



Lords-and-ladies



Hogweed and Common nettle



Germander speedwell



overgrown raised tomb



well-hidden tomb



Scoil Mhuire Primary School's "Mermaid" artwork which was on display in Lidl supermarket

Appendix 3

Community Groups that can provide support for Biodiversity Projects

1. Local members of Conservation Volunteers have been involved in projects in the village. A project to provide nesting sites for swifts resulted in the erection of swift boxes at the back of the old St. Mary's Church in the village.
2. Oranmore Community Garden aims to encourage growing in schools, public spaces and private gardens. Situated at the rear entrance to the boys' school it is a valuable resource for the town.
3. Community education relating to growing vegetables is offered by Grow It Yourself and a course on Sustainable Gardening provided by the Galway Roscommon Education & Training Board is ongoing.
4. All four schools in the area are involved in Green Schools activities which, in conjunction with other aspects of the curriculum, enables the children and young people in the area to acquire knowledge and develop awareness and skills in relation to biodiversity.
5. The local secondary school, Calasanz College, previously developed a biodiversity plan for the school in collaboration with Dr. Janice Fuller and Oranmore Tidy Towns group and continues to promote biodiversity awareness and actions.
6. The construction of the planter boxes in the village is one of the ways whereby the Community Employment scheme has supported the Tidy Towns Group.
7. Oranmore Heritage Group is involved with conservation and restoration and organizes lectures and walks relating to aspects of the natural and cultural heritage.
8. Oranmore Mens' Shed recycles wood, and among other activities, make planters and window boxes from packing pallets.
9. Oranmore Community Development Association manages the sporting facilities in the village.



Appendix 4

Stone Walls in Oranmore

Dry and mortared stone boundary walls are a significant feature of the built environment in Oranmore. The village and its immediate surroundings has examples of single and double dry stone walls and mortared walls, including some old lime mortared walls.

An informal survey of stone walls within the village area indicated more than 3km of dry stone walling.

Studies show that stone walls are important habitats and food sources for small mammals, insects, birds and plants.

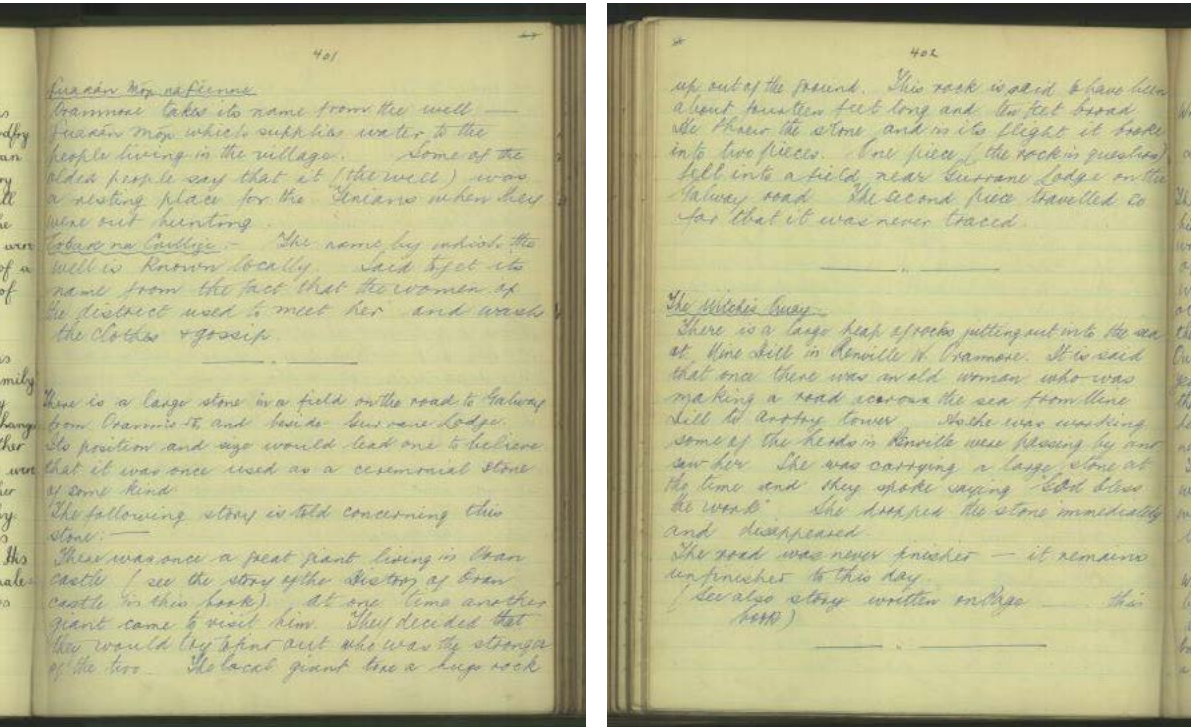
- Dry stone walls support a variety of plant species including mosses and lichens. Their vegetation can provide food for small mammals and birds. The crevices and nooks between the stones support a variety of plant species including for lichens and mosses and plants such as Hart’s-tongue-fern and Maidenhair Fern, Herb Robert, and Cranesbills. Rain quickly drains off dry stone walls creating dry, desert-like conditions on the sunny side, while the shady side and wall base retains moisture to support local flora and fauna.¹
- Dry walls are a particularly valuable habitat for various insects, including hibernating butterflies and spiders. 15 of Ireland’s 77 solitary bees are cavity nesters. The crevices in stone walls provide nesting habitat for some of these solitary bees. Sunny stone walls provide a habitat for Ireland’s only native reptile, the common lizard.
- Woodlice and millipedes live in the damp recesses, slugs and snails use the crevices for daytime cover.
- Birds such as blue tits and wagtails may use walls as nesting sites. They also provide foraging ground for birds such as wrens.
- Walls may provide places for various small mammals to hide and hibernate. In some cases they could potentially be part of a wildlife corridor.

¹A survey of flora in old and historical walls in Kilkenny (2014?) indicated that wall flora is a significant component of the city’s biodiversity resource and their vegetation can provide food for small mammals and birds.

Appendix 5

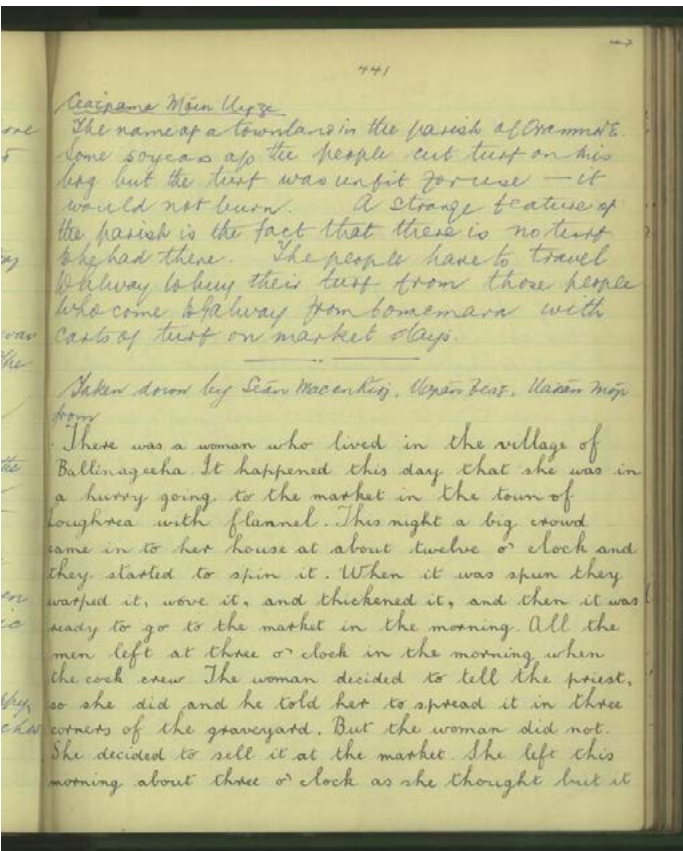
The 1930s Schools’ Collection (National Folklore Collection)

Stories and information submitted by children from the local schools in the 1930s can reveal the origins of some of our place names and folklore



Above: Folklore relating to the Neolithic stone and the Well

Right: Not much wet turf to be cut nowadays in Carrowmoneash! Many of our place names are based on topography



Appendix 6

Resources

www.biodiversityireland.ie

All Ireland Pollinator plan (remember what is good for pollinators is good for nature) <https://pollinators.ie/>

Community actions to help pollinators https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Local-Communities_actions-to-help-pollinators-2018-WEB.pdf

Conservation areas, site synopsis, protected habitat data (like above) <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites>

Ireland's Citizen Science Portal and lots more <https://www.biodiversityireland.ie/>

Invasive species list <https://www.biodiversityireland.ie/projects/invasive-species/>

Some websites with information and advice on biodiversity and wildlife

Vincent Wildlife Trust <https://www.vincentwildlife.ie/>

Irish Peatland Conservation Council <http://www.ipcc.ie/>

Irish Wildlife trust <https://iwt.ie/>

Birdwatch Ireland <https://birdwatchireland.ie/>

Bat Conservation Ireland <https://www.batconservationireland.org/>

Collecting Wildflower Seeds <https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/How-to-guide-Seeds-2018-WEB.pdf>

Some sites to buy wildflower seeds www.wildflowers.ie or

<https://www.bloomingnative.ie/collections/nativewildflowerseed/products/traditional-irish-native-wildflower-mix>

or <https://www.thegardenshop.ie/seeds/flowers/wild-flowers/>

Archaeological monuments and protected structures <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

What is protected in my area? <https://www.heritagemaps.ie/>

Old maps and aerial photos <http://map.geohive.ie/>

Place names <https://www.logainm.ie/en/>

Stories – The schools collection, 1930s <https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes>

Old music of your local place <https://www.itma.ie/digital-library>

Old photos of your place <http://images.galwaylibrary.ie/greenstone/cgi-bin/>

library.cgi?c=t3&a=p&p=about

Census archives <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>

A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland, by Samuel Lewis, 1837. You can search for information on your local place at <https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/placeindex.php>

The Digital Repository of Ireland is a national digital repository for Ireland's humanities, social sciences, and cultural heritage data. You can search for records from your local place at <https://www.dri.ie/>



burrenbeo trust
connecting people and place

This biodiversity plan is one of six that came about as a result of the 2021 Community Biodiversity Training and Awareness Programme delivered by the Burrenbeo Trust and funded by Galway Rural Development. Up to eight participants from each community attended a place-based Biodiversity Training course, which included 10 hours of initial activity-based learning covering all aspects of heritage but focusing on Biodiversity. This culminated in each community creating a Biodiversity plan. Workshops on various topics were provided to the communities in order to give them the skills necessary to put their plans into action. Creating their own plan gives each community a strong sense of ownership and agency. Each of the six plans is unique and reflects the interests, skills and needs of the local community.



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Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



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