

Mulranny Geosurvey 2021 Report

A participative democracy initiative of
Mulranny Community Futures
www.mulrannycommunityfutures.com

Mulranny 

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Mulranny Community Futures undertook a targeted Geosurvey focused on 3 key sites in Mulranny, see Map 1.

The Geodesign is focussed on 3 adjoining areas in Mulranny; Saint Brendan's Village, Mulranny Amenity Centre, and adjoining Mayo County Council lands (formerly Friese's). Residents were invited to take an aerial view, to ponder and consider. Geodesign is a new way of looking at our world and sharing ideas.

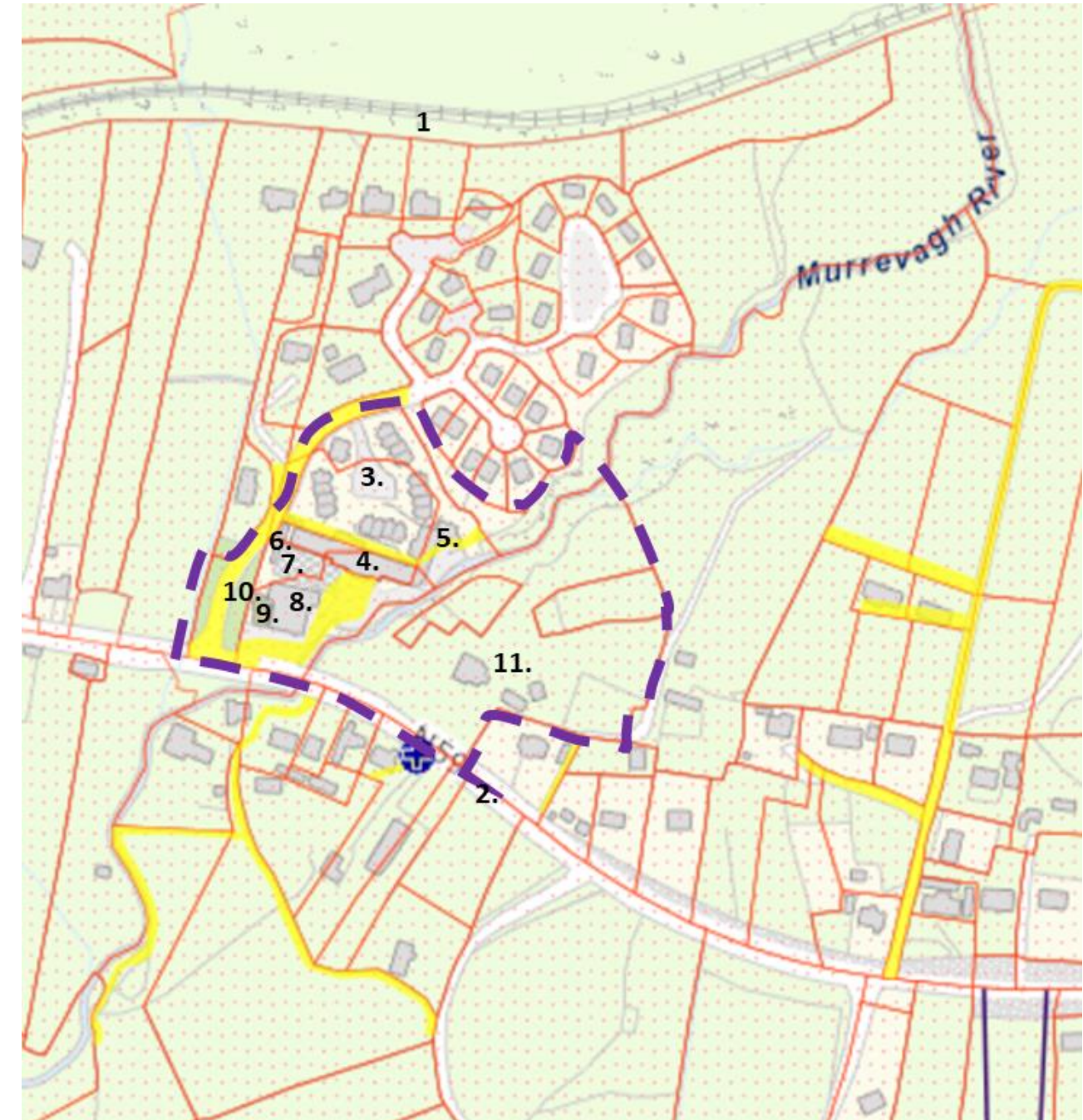
Step 1 is an online "Geosurvey" open to everyone. Suggestions were anonymous and will be included in a master plan. See link <https://survey.geodesignhub.com/j4jd/>. The online survey ran from 19th May to 06-July. In addition there was a manual option available in paper format up to the 16th of July.

Suggestions were recorded under 10 themes; 1. Public Spaces, 2. Green Infrastructure, 3. Transport Infrastructure, 4. Residential, 5. Water Infrastructure, 6. Agriculture/Food, 7. Enterprise/Social Enterprise, 8. Institutional/Organisational, 9. Biodiversity and 10. Green Energy / Climate Action. No suggestions were made under Biodiversity or Agriculture/Food categories, although related suggestions were made under other categories.

CONTEXT:

Mulranny Community Futures looked to the community for ideas to create social, economic, environmental, or organisational benefits at the target sites, to learn from the community and trial the Geodesign process to empower communities as architects of positive change. Specifically Mulranny Community Futures sought to support Saint Brendan's Village community care endeavours, Mulranny Amenity Centre provision of amenity facilities, Mayo County Council efforts to meet community housing needs. The advancement of the Mulranny Community Futures Plan 2016 to 2021 and the supply of housing in Mulranny was also sought, see link <http://bit.ly/MulrannyPlan2016-2021>.

Map 1: Saint Brendan's Village, Mulranny Amenity Centre, and adjoining Mayo County Council lands



1. Great Western Greenway,
2. N59 Wild Atlantic Way
3. Saint Brendan's Sheltered Housing
4. Saint Brendan's Unit
5. Saint Bridget's
6. Temporary Offices
7. Tennis Courts
8. Community Centre
9. Crèche
10. Playground
11. Residential Site

RESULTS:

The results, available in full in appendix 1, are summarised under the 8 themes.

RESIDENTIAL:

There was 83 responses and a clear support for the new residential units in Mulranny, with a well-developed site. Comments encourages high-quality design and amenities, access to the Great Western Greenway and a green space for kids. There was also a suggestion relating to community-based housing to support middle income households struggling to access accommodation. A note was made to consider developing the rear of the residential site for residential and retaining the front for public use. Low pillar dark sky compliant lighting was promoted; As Mulranny borders the Mayo Dark Sky Park, which showcases some of the darkest most pristine skies in the world, it is requested that all lighting installed at the new housing estate is environmentally friendly and no more than 2700k, with a preference for zero blue rich light emissions.

PUBLIC SPACES (ALZHEIMER’S UNIT):

There was a clear and resounding endorsement of Saint Brendan’s Village and the idea of a state-of-the-art Alzheimer’s unit. A 16 apartment Alzheimer’s unit in Mulranny, each with their own front door, would form a vibrant and socially inclusive centre open to the wider community with a café, restaurant and hairdresser that would reduce isolation and encourage community life. The proposed unit would be a model for Alzheimer care in Mulranny and County Mayo and would bring many new jobs to Mulranny and the wider area. On a practical note the need to create some dedicated storage space for Saint Brendan’s came through as a need.

PUBLIC SPACES (COMMUNITY CENTRE):

There were several suggestions made relating to redevelop the Community Centre, reconfigure it to maximise utility, and utilise for exhibits, band practice, céilí dances, meetings and heritage lectures. It was suggested to add a business hub upstairs in the community centre for hot desking and business services. A suggestion was made to upgrade St Brendan's shop to a mini-grocery shop i.e. bread, milk, ice cream, newspapers etc.

Suggestions came through to enhance the tennis court and encourages its use, extend access from the new playground for expanded children facility or use as an exercise gym (including outdoor space). A suggestion was made to develop the centre as a community resource and tourism facility based on cooperative social enterprise model. Consider reforming the Amenity Centre Committee into a Community Cooperative with annual membership, develop a business plan and phase out life-membership.

PUBLIC SPACES (GENERAL):

There was an array of positive suggestions made relating to the public spaces e.g. outdoor gym, or 5 a side football pitch, youth facilities, use tennis courts for children's play area or community garden. Communal facilities i.e. polytunnel or allotments were suggested. The idea of a public library / remote working hub was mooted, along with an adventure playground, outdoor classroom, and events space.

GREEN ENERGY / CLIMATE ACTION:

Several positive suggestions were made relating to green energy / climate action including hydro, wind and solar energy solutions and a network of solar panels on the south facing community roof spaces as well as additional recycling facilities.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:

Several inventive suggestions were made including a river walk, a weir to create habitat for fish or ducks. A suggestion was made to reuse dry stone walls in a terraced garden scheme and incorporate some accessible raised beds. Retention of the Fuchsia hedges was suggested and extended hedgerows to mitigate road noise and create shade, which could be supplemented with green living walls. A large green area for recreation at the centre of the housing scheme/public was suggested. A landscape scheme, by landscape architect with ecologist input, was proposed.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

Several suggestions were made relating to public transport, including a raised footpath from N59 footpath to the Community Centre access door and a new bus stop. Speed humps near playground were suggested.

CONCLUSION:

In looking at the 3 sites there is significant interest and support for the proposed residential development and the activities in the adjoining community owned sites Saint Brendan's Village and Mulranny Amenity Centre. There was an openness to change and achieving high amenity value for the sites and existing amenities.

In conclusion the survey provides guidance to the stakeholders and decision makers on the thoughts of residents and can form a useful briefing document for a multidisciplinary master plan to guide the 3-site development over the next decade. It is recommended that a master plan would be drawn up to further advance the viable concepts suggested.

Appendix 1: There were 83 survey responses, 218 up votes and 27 down votes:

Category	Sub-category	#	Response	Upvotes	Downvotes	Tally
Residential		1	Affordable Family Homes	1	0	1
Residential		63	Social and affordable housing but not crowded, and with gardens and parking areas for residents, with a facility for older children, (secondary school age) such as handball alley, five a side pitch or basketball court.	1	0	1
Residential		83	New Residential development	2	0	2
Residential		64	Social housing adjacent to proposed Alzheimer's unit .at present there is an acute shortage of housing for staff of St Brendan's and people in the village	3	0	3
Residential		75	Housing for locals on council land	4	1	3
Residential		38	Try to make sure that all the houses are for people living in the area or known to people in the area.	1	0	1
Residential		48	Housing Scheme, Social and affordable	1	0	1
Residential		58	Residential: Total area/only families for future community stability. School's support. Active lifestyle. Access to Greenway. Incorporate a green space for kids.	0	1	-1
Residential		68	New housing for families (not holiday homes).	6	0	6
Residential		69	Residential	4	0	4
Residential		35	Affordable houses X 4 built by the community e.g. Cluid Housing. Comments: This is a great idea. There is no opportunity for low to middle income earners to be allocated one of the new planned social houses and perhaps buy it from the council as they are just above the income limit. Mulranny has a housing company which built St. Brendan's. There is plenty of space for the new Alzheimer's Unit and MCC Housing and some affordable housing units. The MCC housing has affordable housing as well which is affordable. Use part of the site not being built on by council for affordable housing			
Residential		26	Consider developing the rear of the site for residential and retaining the front for public use,	2	0	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	51	St Brendan's new Alzheimer's Unit	0	0	0
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	42	Alzheimer Centre	1	0	1
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	43	Alzheimer	0	0	0
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	65	purpose built Alzheimer's unit. Connected to St Brendan's unit via a bridge over river	6	1	5
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	6	Alzheimer's Dementia Unit & other St. Brendan's units	2	0	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	16	New Alzheimer's Unit	3	1	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	28	Develop storage space or services area for St Brendan's Village / Residents e.g. Laundry, Hairdressers?	0	0	0
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	19	St Brendan's new Alzheimer's unit	6	1	5
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	82	New state of the art Alzheimer's unit. Comment: This would be great for the village	6	1	5
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	72	Shaded outdoor area at St Brendan's	0	0	0
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	17	St Brendan's village housing Alzheimer's unit	3	0	3
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	10	St. Brendan's Alzheimer's Unit	2	2	0
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	11	Proposed Alzheimer's Facility	6	0	6
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	21	St Brendan's New Alzheimer's Unit on Fries land. Comments: Great idea!	11	0	11
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	12	St. Brendan's Alzheimer's unit	6	0	6
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	22	New Alzheimer's Unit - joined to St Brendan's by a bridge - beautiful idea.	6	0	6
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	36	Extension to St. Brendan's. Could be Alzheimer's Unit.	3	1	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	7	St Brendan's special support unit	4	2	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	37	Any new secure Alzheimer's unit would be very beneficial to a lot of people.	2	0	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	8	St Brendan's Alzheimer's unit	4	3	1
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	18	St Brendan's new Alzheimer's unit	6	0	6

Category	Sub-category	#	Response	Upvotes	Downvotes	Tally
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	9	St Brendan's Alzheimer's special care unit.	4	2	2
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	79	Alzheimer's Unit	4	0	4
Public Spaces	St Brendan's	20	St, Brendan's New Alzheimer's Unit	4	0	4
Residential	St Brendan's	14	St Brendan's village Alzheimer's unit	4	1	3
Public Spaces	Community Centre	3	Redevelop Amenity Centre into State-of-the-Art Community Centre	2	0	2
Public Spaces	Community Centre	57	Social Enterprise: Reclaim Hall facility for community purposes. Hall: access from new playground for extended children facility, exercise gym (including outdoor space), Habitat and biodiversity exhibits. As developed: band practice, céilí dances, Meetings. Heritage lectures etc.	0	0	0
Public Spaces	Community Centre	60	Amenity Centre. Reconfigure Amenity Centre to maximise its uses and make it more user friendly. Restore the tennis court and encourages its use	1	0	1
Public Spaces	Community Centre	52	Add a Business Hub upstairs in the community centre for Hot Desking and business services.	3	0	3
Public Spaces	Community Centre	27	Develop the centre as a community resource and tourism facility based on cooperative social enterprise model.	5	1	4
Public Spaces	Community Centre	53	Upgrade St Brendan's shop to a mini-grocery shop i.e. bread, milk, ice cream, newspapers etc.	0	0	0
Public Spaces	Community Centre	15	New modern Community Centre with Meeting Rooms/Kitchen/Dining + Accommodation. Comments: If the old community centre is not being used to full potential or at all, then why build a replacement?	2	3	-1
Public Spaces	Community Centre	29	Consider reforming the Amenity Centre Committee into a Community Cooperative with annual membership to all in the community and develop a business plan. (Phase out life-membership)	5	0	5
Public Spaces	Community Centre	50	St Brendan's new Alzheimer Unit	1	0	1
Public Spaces	General	59	We really need some affordable housing, houses and a multi building which can be rented out for several residents, e.g. nurses in ST Brendan's, we have young families who cannot afford to buy in Mulranny, they must be encouraged to stay and have their children in Mulranny School. What the village lacks is any focus for teenagers. maybe a multi gym outdoors, or a football pitch. there is also a suggestion of a special unit attached to St Brendan's, for dementia patients, this would be marvellous, and help the other residents who must mix with dementia patients all the time	3	0	3
Public Spaces	General	13	Youth hangout area	3	1	2
Public Spaces	General	67	Use tennis courts for support to Children's play area for maybe an indoor facility for community resource or community garden. It needs to be used for something to facilitate the new housing development.	1	0	1
Public Spaces	General	62	E/V charging point(s). Sensory garden. Youth facilities, outdoor gym, 5 a side pitch and basketball net! Communal facilities i.e. Polytunnel and (or)allotments	1	0	1
Public Spaces	General	23	Library / Remote Working Hub	1	0	1
Public Spaces	General	4	Sensory Garden	2	0	2
Public Spaces	General	24	Sensory Garden for St. Brendan's Residence, the Playschool, and the public	10	0	10
Public Spaces	General	5	Outdoor Gym	2	0	2
Public Spaces	General	25	Develop a community library	2	0	2
Public Spaces	General	76	Large signs for dog owners to clean up after their dogs	5	0	5
Public Spaces	General	77	Litter bin near playground	0	0	0
Public Spaces	General	78	More street lighting on road by new playground	0	0	0
Public Spaces	General	73	Street lighting near playground	0	0	0
Public Spaces	General	41	Sensory Garden for St. Brendan's residents & Playschool children	3	0	3
Public Spaces	General	40	Sensory garden	3	0	3
Public Spaces	General	71	Dog poop bins installed near playground and on council land	1	0	1
Green Energy / Climate Action		61	Hydro power. Harness the adjacent water source to provide power source	1	0	1
Green Energy / Climate Action		54	Utilise wind and solar energy solutions	0	0	0
Green Energy / Climate Action		30	Develop a network of solar panels on the community roof spaces	2	0	2

Category	Sub-category	#	Response	Upvotes	Downvotes	Tally
Green Infrastructure		31	Weir the river to create habitat for fish or ducks	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		33	Develop a landscape scheme by Landscape Architect with Ecologist input.	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		34	Reuse dry stone walls in a terraced garden scheme & incorporate some accessible raised beds	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		44	Low pillar Dark sky compliant lighting for Housing scheme, adventure playground, outdoor classroom, and events space	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		74	Additional recycle station on Council land	4	0	4
Green Infrastructure		45	Green living wall	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		46	Large green area for recreation at the centre of the housing scheme/public events space	2	0	2
Green Infrastructure		56	Retain native fuchsia on roadside adjacent to Fries site	4	0	4
Green Infrastructure		66	New hedge to mitigate road noise. Comments: I think this is a great idea	0	2	-2
Green Infrastructure		47	Adventure playground, with foot bridge over the river, and outdoor classroom	0	0	0
Green Infrastructure		39	Please retain as much as the Fuchsia as possible as it has been severely depleted in the village during recent works.	3	0	3
Green Infrastructure		49	Green living wall	0	0	0
Green Infrastructure		80	River Walk	5	1	4
Public Transport		81	New Bus stop. Comments: Bus will stop on request anywhere along the road, provided it is safe to do so. The present Bus service will stop anywhere along the road if it is requested if it is safe to do so.			
Public Transport		70	Speed humps near playground	3	0	3
Public Transport		55	Bus stop	0	0	0
Public Transport		2	Speed Ramps adjacent to Playground	2	0	2
Public Transport	General	32	Develop a raised footpath from N59 footpath to Centre access door.	1	0	1
Total		83		214	27	187

Appendix 2: Maps associated with the suggestions:



13.



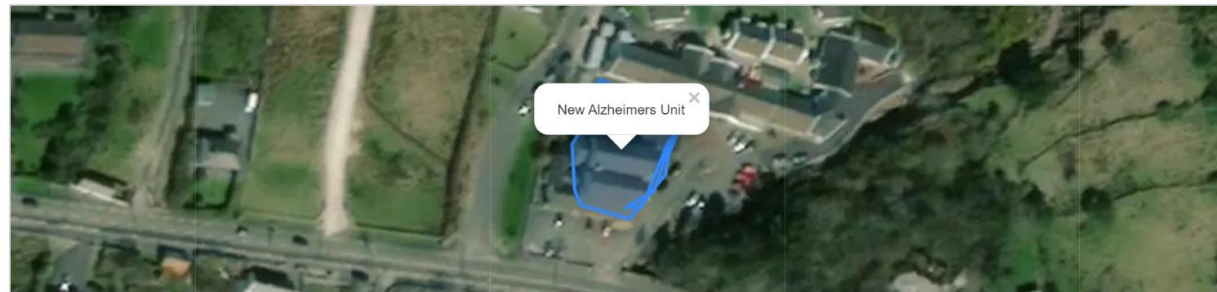
14.



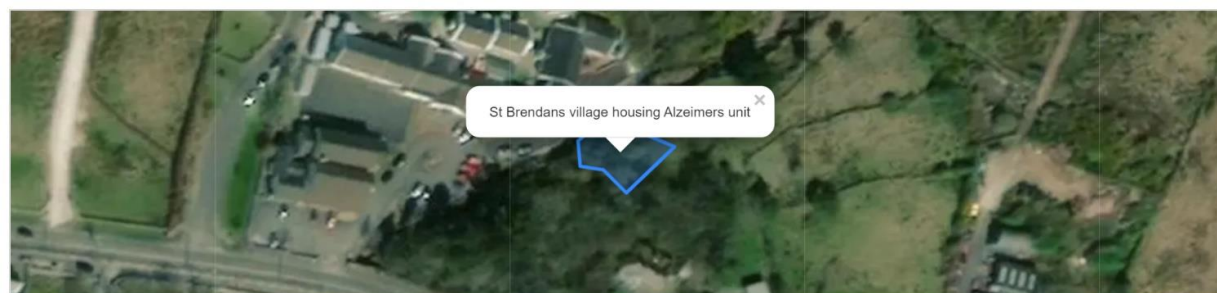
15.



16.



17.



18.



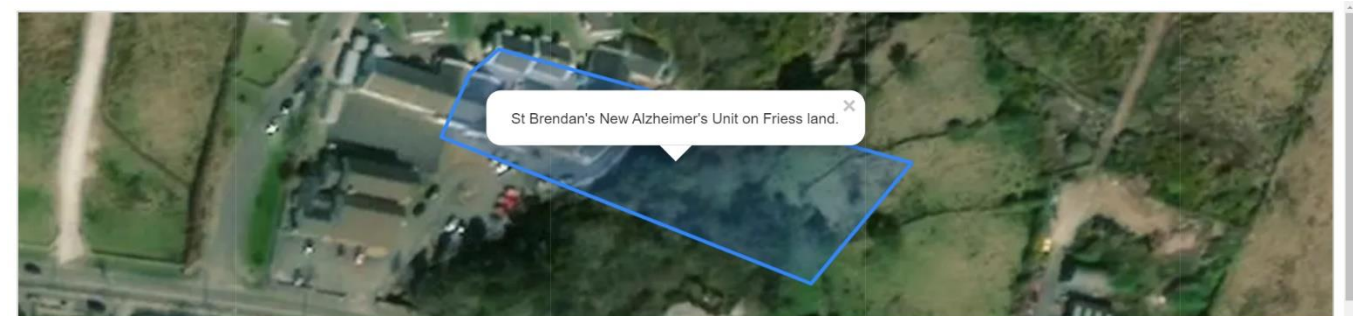
19.



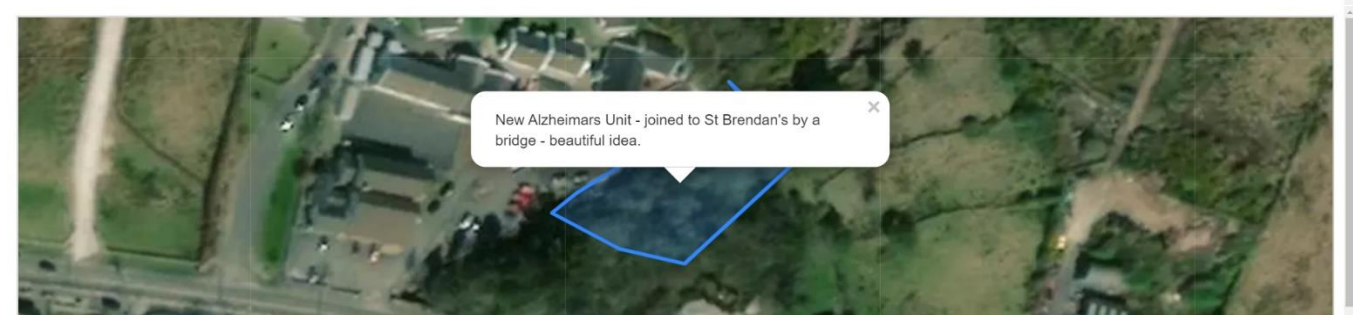
20.



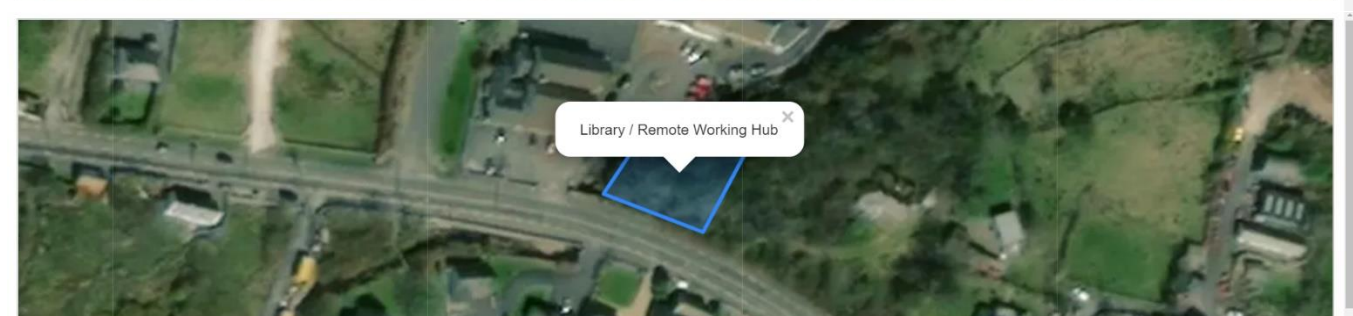
21.

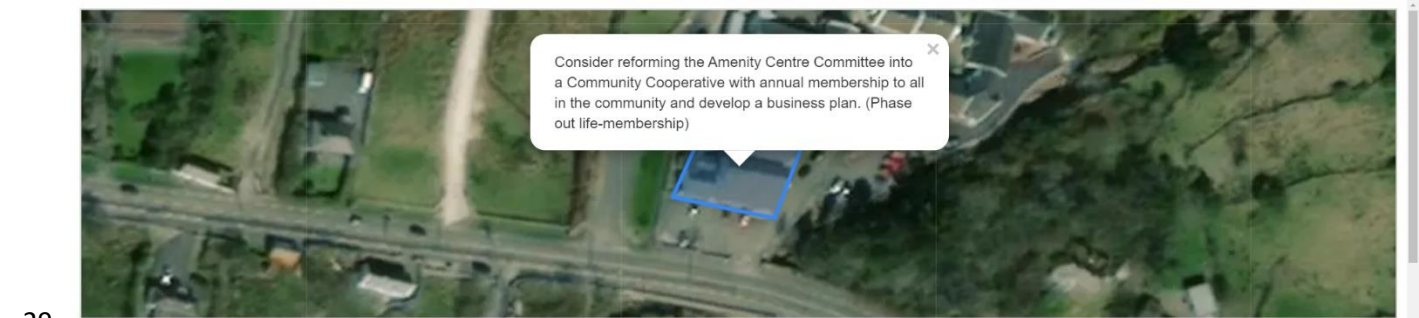
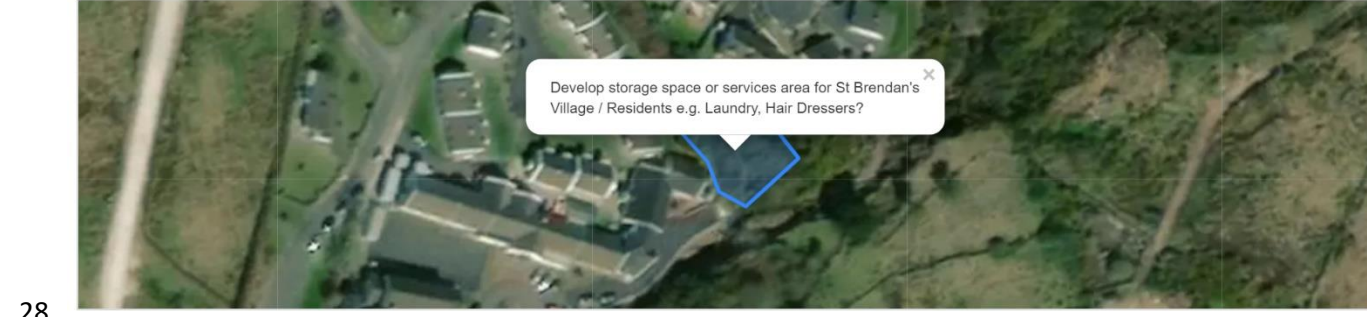


22.



23.





34.



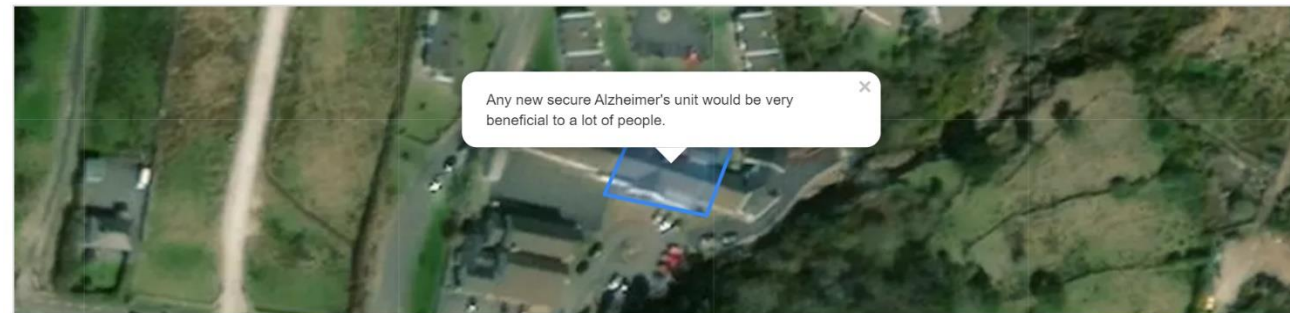
35.



36.



37.



38.



39.



40.



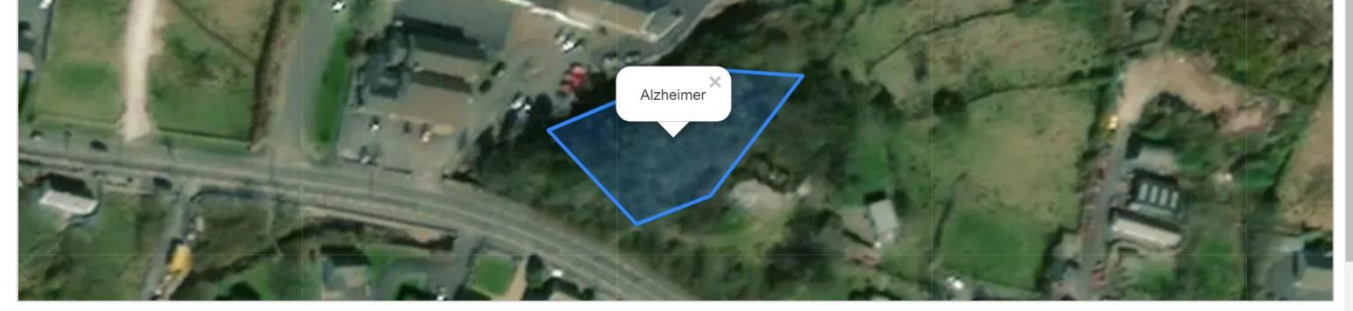
41.

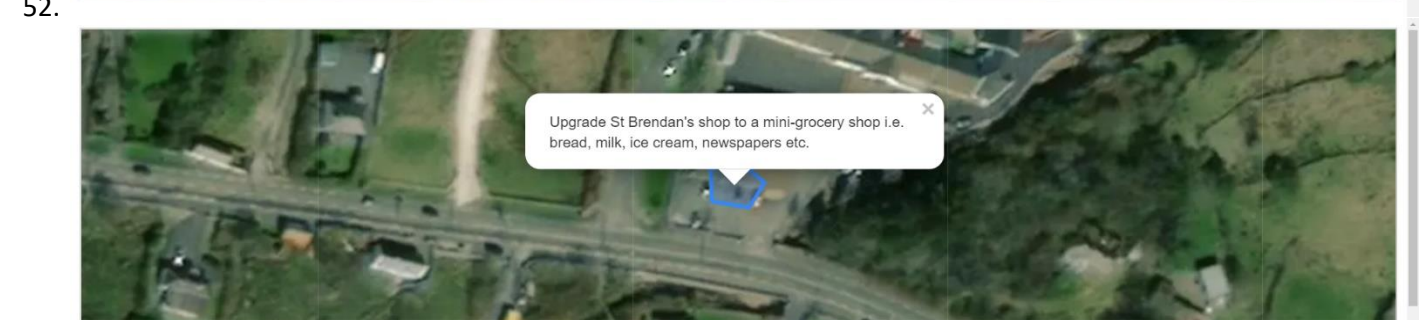
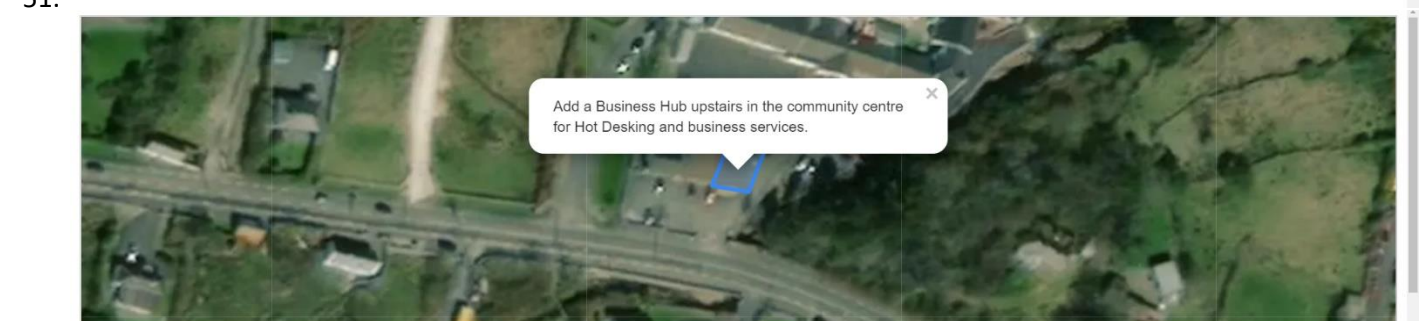
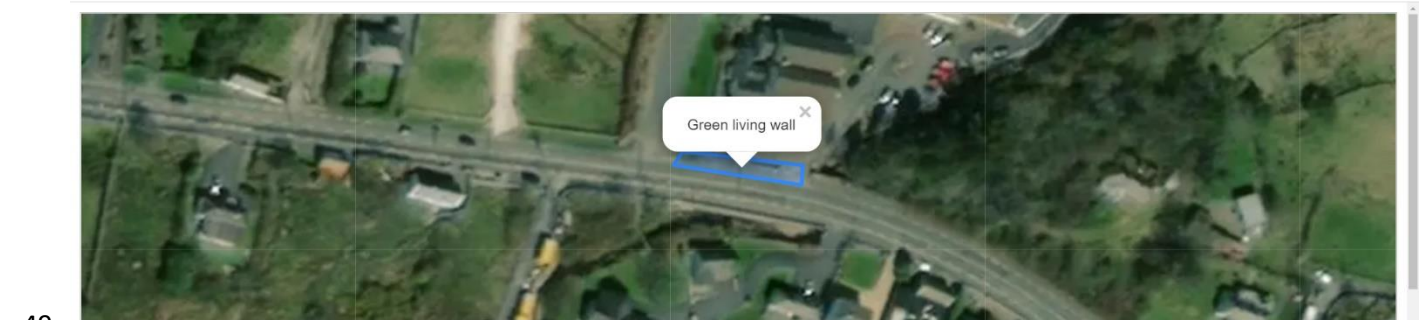
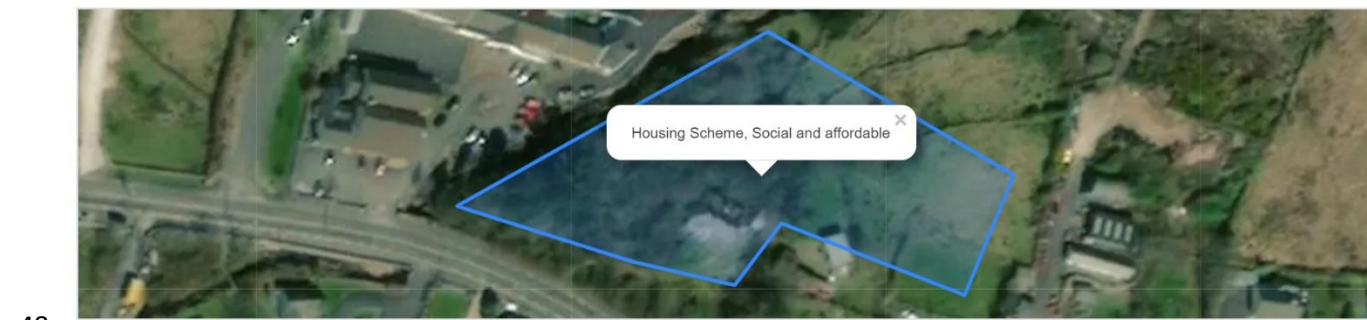
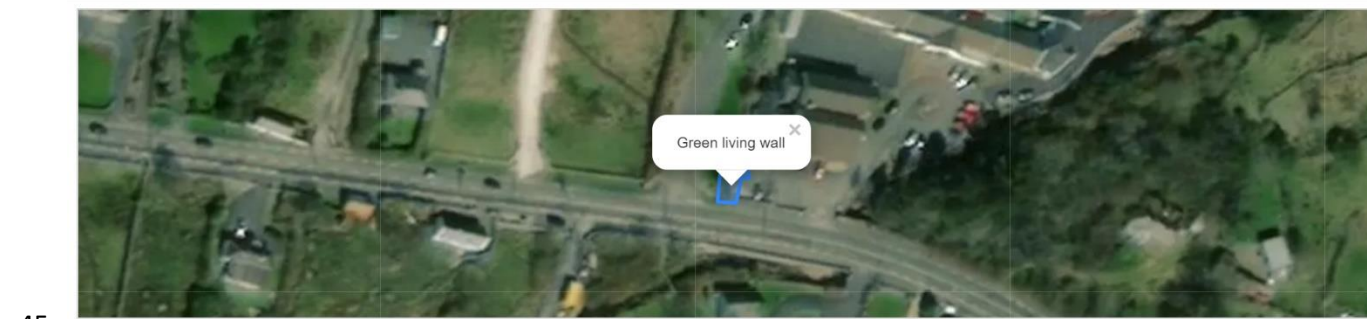


42.



43.





54.



55.



56.



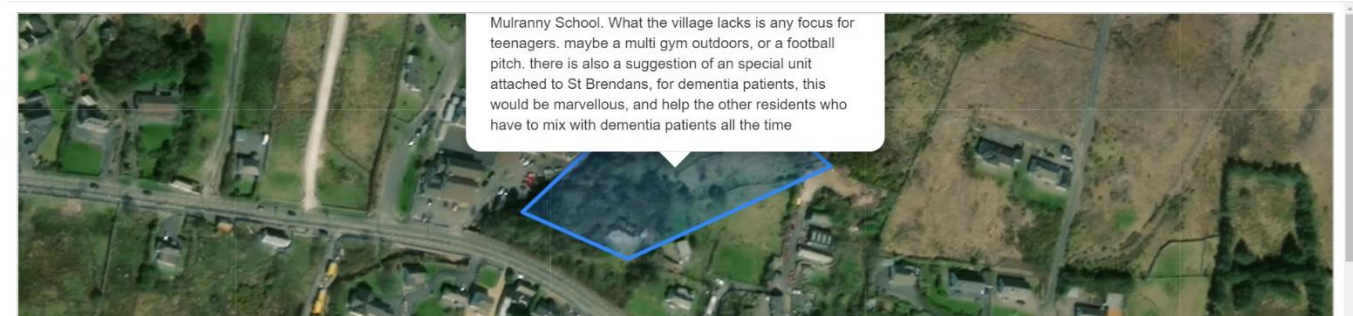
57.



58.



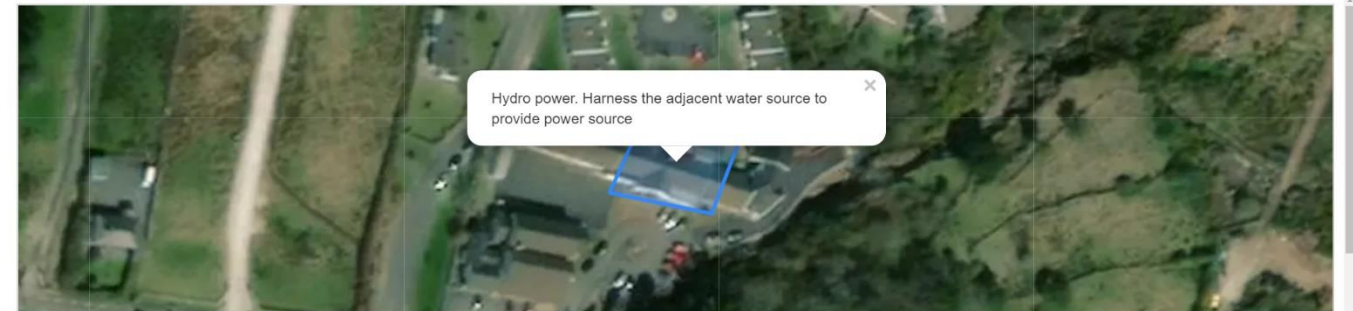
59.



60.



61.



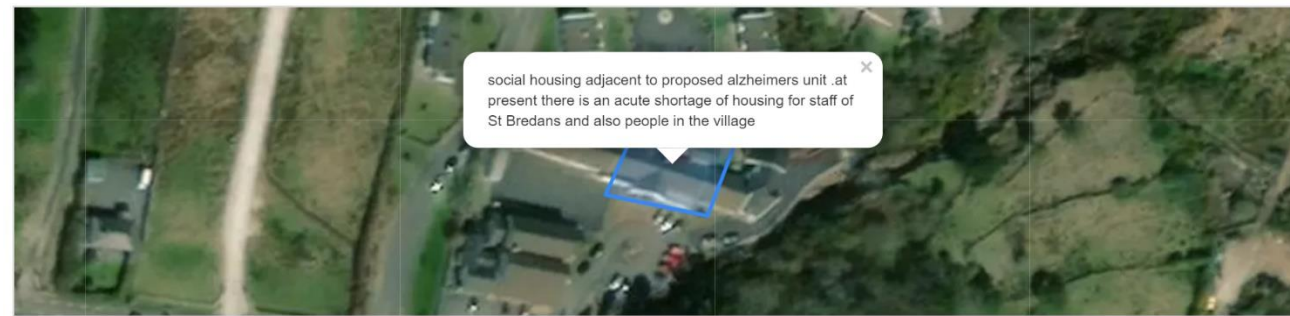
62.



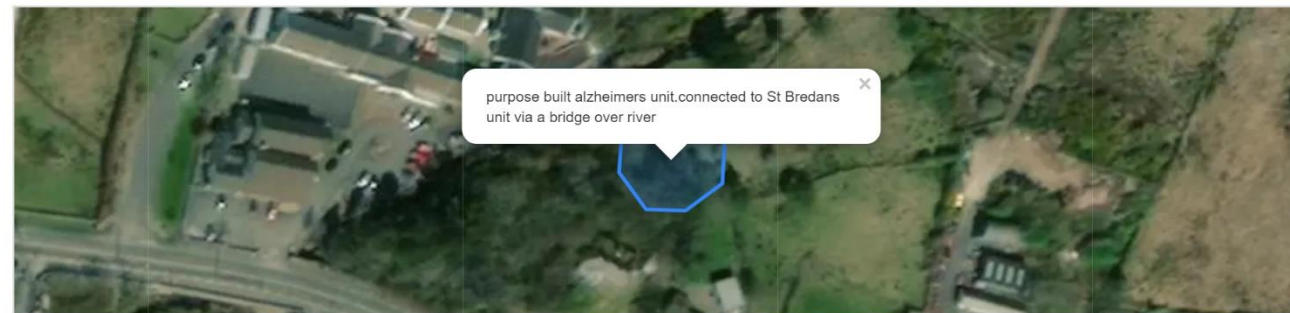
63.



64.



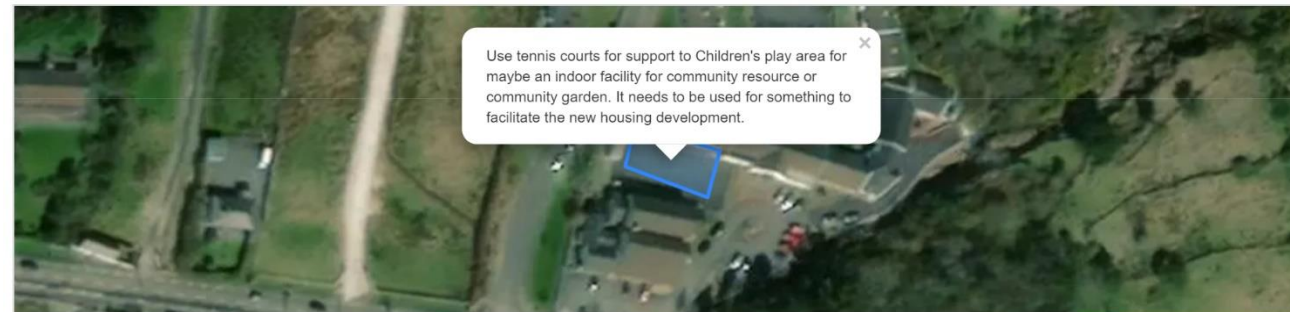
65.



66.



67.



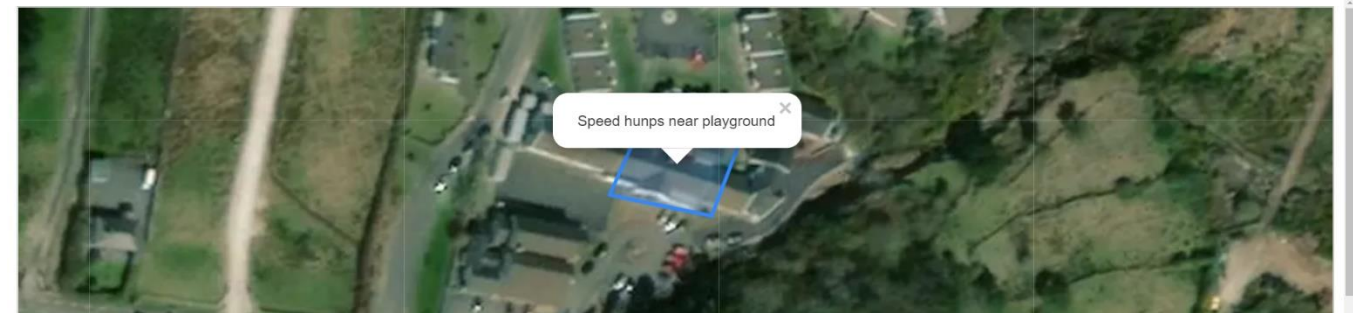
68.



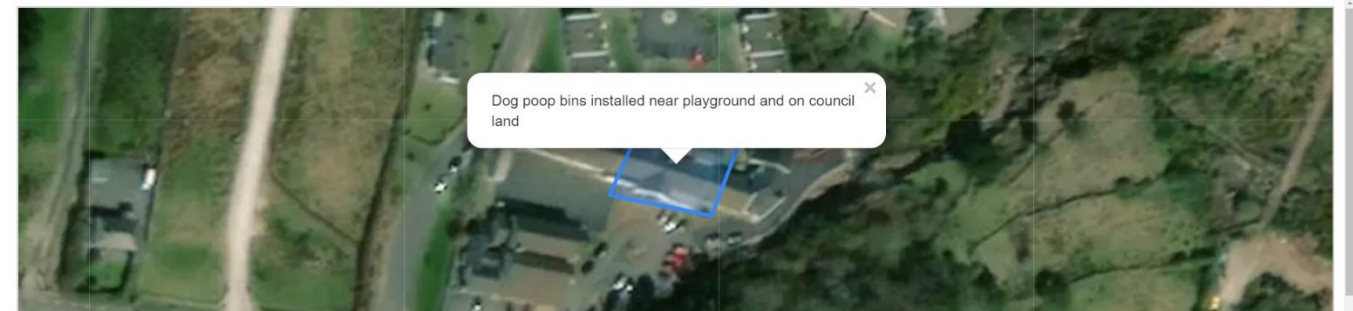
69.



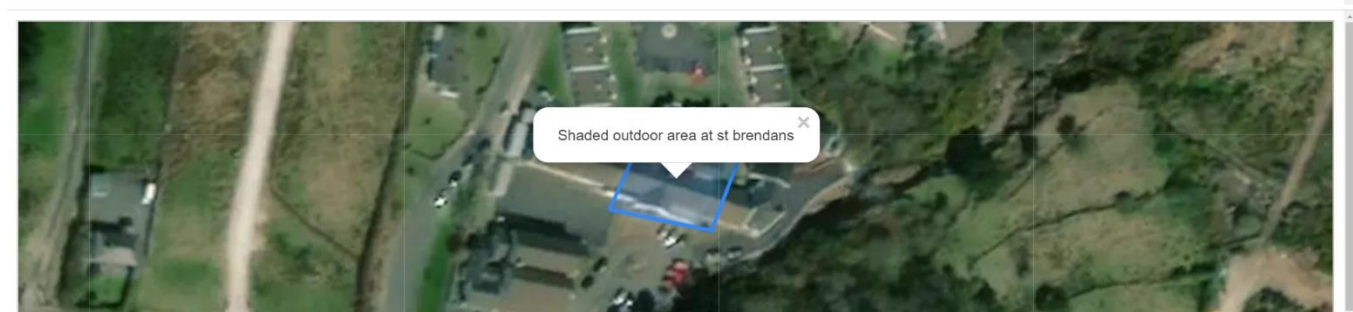
70.



71.

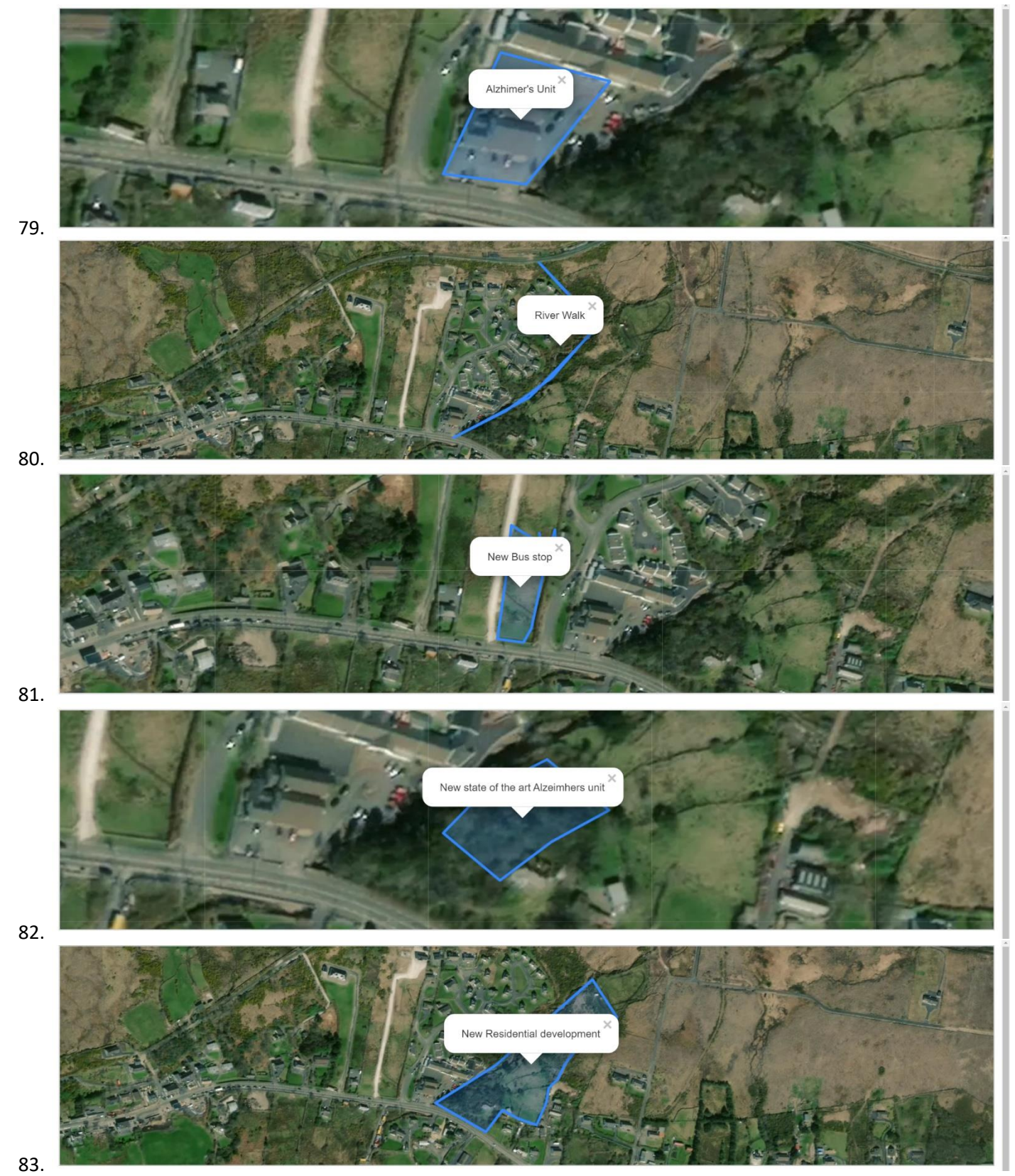


72.

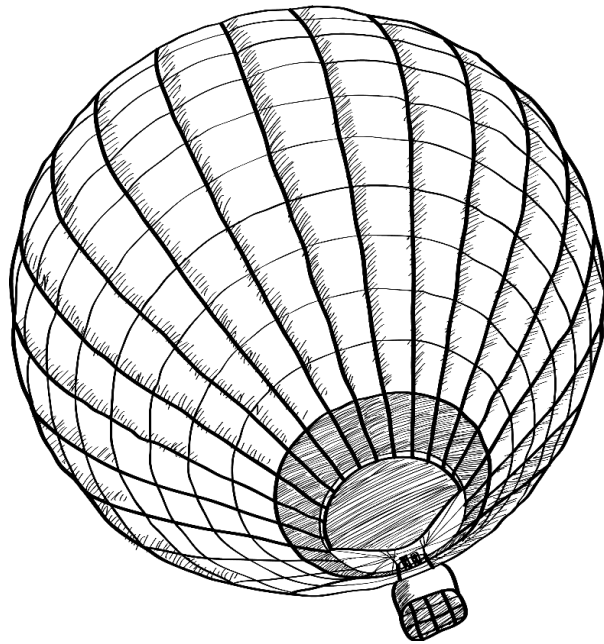


73.





Appendix 3: Survey and links:

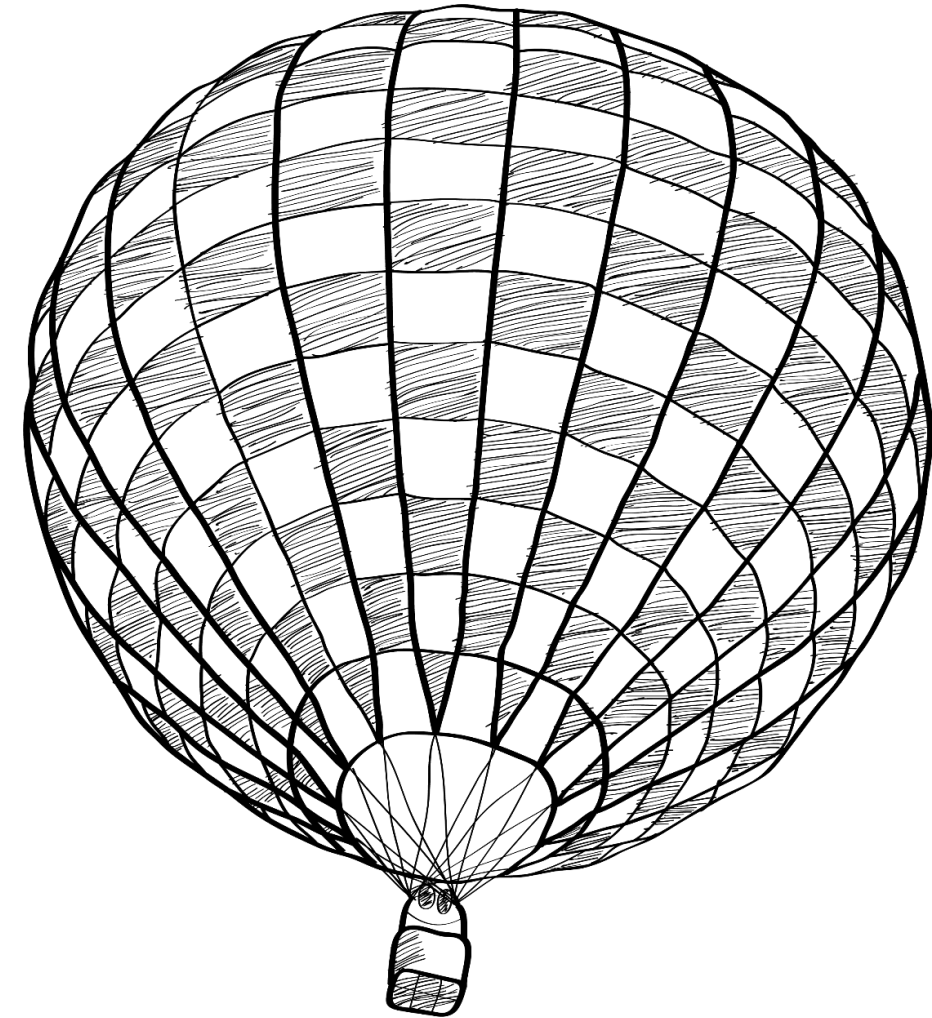


Mulranny Community Futures
invites you to take an aerial view, to ponder and consider...
Geodesign is a new way of looking at our world and sharing ideas.
Step 1 is an online "Geosurvey" open to everyone.
Suggestions are anonymous and will be included in a master plan.
This Geodesign is focussed on 3 adjoining areas in Mulranny;
Saint Brendan's Village, Mulranny Amenity Centre and
adjoining Mayo County Council lands (formerly Friese's).

Follow the link to <https://survey.geodesignhub.com/j4jd/>

Record your suggestions under 10 themes;

1. Public Spaces
2. Green Infrastructure
3. Transport Infrastructure
4. Residential
5. Water Infrastructure
6. Agriculture/Food
7. Enterprise/Social Enterprise
8. Institutional/Organisational
9. Biodiversity
10. Green Energy / Climate Action



Mulranny Geosurvey 2021 Context:

- Mulranny Community Futures is looking to the community for ideas to create social, economic, environmental, or organisational benefits, e.g., a bus stop, community allotments or a duck pond.
- We are seeking to learn from the community and trial the Geodesign process to empower communities as architects of positive change.
- We want to support:
 - Saint Brendan's Village community care endeavours
 - Mulranny Amenity Centre provision of amenity facilities &
 - Mayo County Council efforts to meet community housing needs.
- We aim to advance the Mulranny Community Futures Plan 2016 to 2021 and the supply of housing in Mulranny <http://bit.ly/MulrannyPlan2016-2021>