

# Second Clifden Regeneration Survey

## Connemara Chamber of Commerce



### Summary Findings

I am happy with the proposed plans for the Clifden Town Centre  
(18% disagree, 82% agree)

The proper balance between car, pedestrian and bike usage has been struck  
(39% disagree, 61% agree)

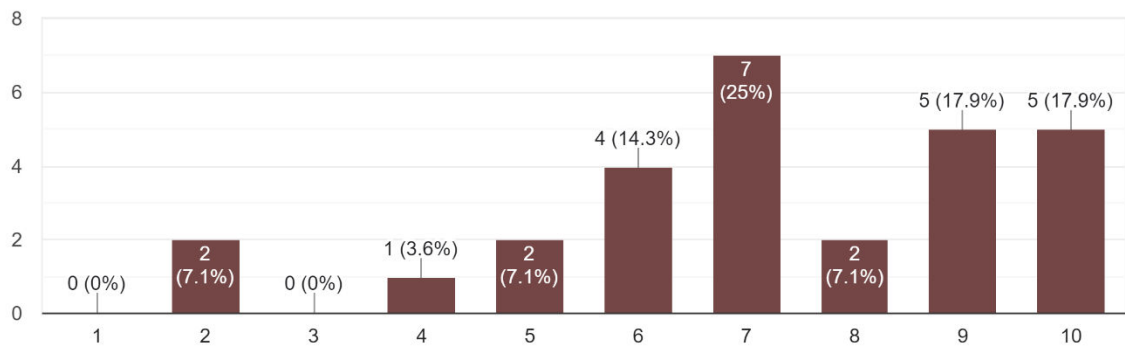
I am concerned with the proposed changes for car parking in Clifden  
(36% disagree, 64% agree)

I am happy with the proposed plans for the Beach Road Quay area  
(14% disagree, 86% agree)

I am happy with the proposed plans for the Harbour Park area  
(7% disagree, 93% agree)

### I am happy with the proposed plans for the Clifden Town Centre

28 responses

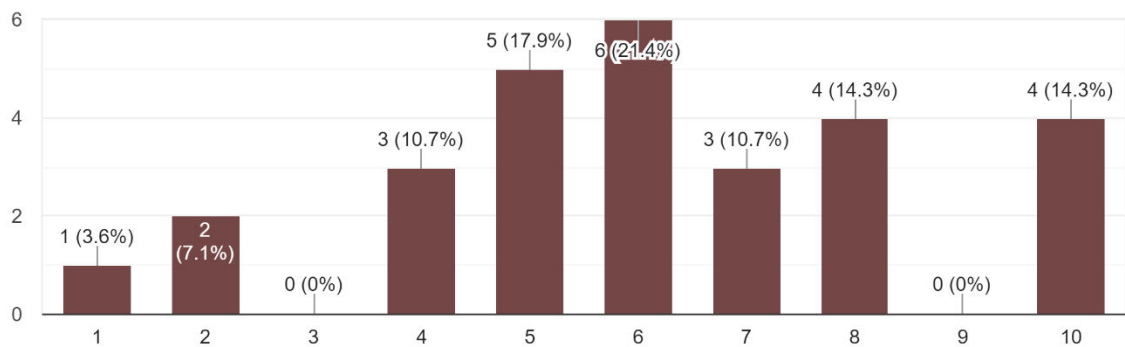


Scale of questions 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

18% disagree 82% agree

### The proper balance between car, pedestrian and bike usage has been struck

28 responses

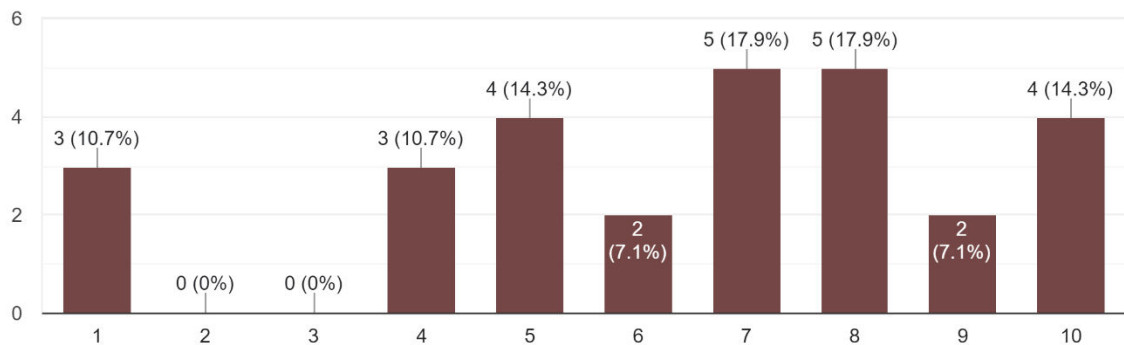


Scale of questions 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

39% disagree 61% agree

## I am concerned with the proposed changes for car parking in Clifden

28 responses



Scale of questions 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

36% disagree 64% agree

### Comments on Clifden Town Centre Plans

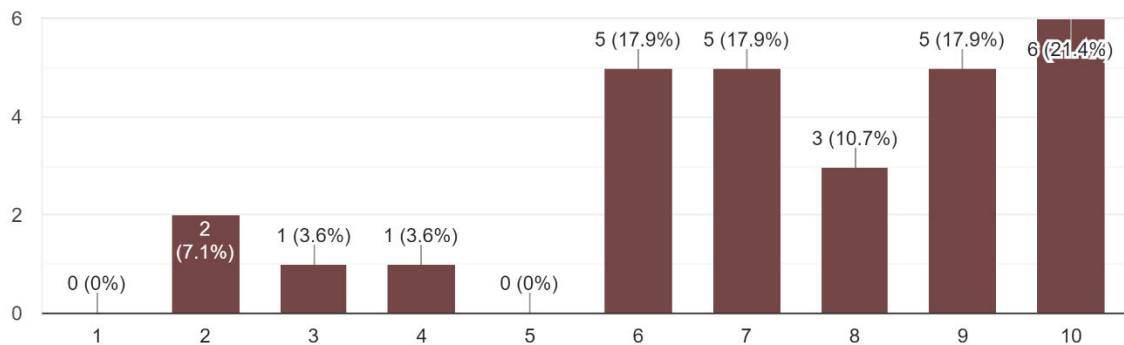
- Seen to be overly concerned about visitors wanting to stay in Clifden for longer rather than the practicality of trying to live and shop in the area
- Look amazing, very fresh look,
- Loading bays wrong and Disabled parking wrong as per comments
- To much parking on Main Street has been removed. By redistributing loading bays and disabled parking spots more equally around town. More parking places would be available on Main Street.
- Very positive. If anything I'd like to see the roads levelled as much as possible from north to south. Ie take out the high point in the centre of the road if possible
- The cycle lane/greenway needs to be linked. The greenway finishes at a busy junction, the market st bike lane starts and finishes at busy junctions and isn't separated from traffic or pedestrians.
- The plans are heavily based on tourism business but as a local resident I feel my needs and thoughts are overlooked. A comment was made my Kevin Gavin that staff should not park on streets leave them available but if everyone who works in a business parks in SuperValu then that is a full floor gone. 'Reverse parking is easy to get used to' is a comment that has come from consultants, this is true but it will block up the flow of traffic if multiple cars are trying it at same time
- 3 disabled parking spaces outside Foyles Hotel is too much, they should be more spread out.
- As I highlighted at the meeting 04/04/23 in Clifden Town Hall. In order for any design consultant to calculate an effective traffic plan detailed traffic flow surveys need to be done, preferably at peak Summer traffic. The output of these surveys and flow models will dictate the correct traffic system for vehicles around the town. This includes whether reverse parking would be suitable. Reverse flow only functions when traffic is below a certain level. If too many cars enter the town in a given period, reverse park and exit, there will be traffic queueing out past Aldi and no one will bother to enter the town in the first place. It is very

important that this is done correctly. I support the general proposal, however in my opinion it will take several revisions to fine tune. Another concern I agree with is that the reliance on private parking facilities needs close attention. Many times, in the Summer I have seen the Church car park and super Value at capacity. So, these should not be considered as available sites if they are already full before you factor in that you could have 40-50 less spaces around the town. The absolute need to prevent cars going past AIB around the one way would need to be a priority, for everyone. Also to note, I am not so sure the owners / management of Super Value would be too pleased that all of their spaces have been filled by people who are going for lunch while their customers decide to go to Lidl instead when they cannot park on their site. All this needs to be worked out and all invested parties in agreement before any plans are finalised. Also of concern would be the arrangements for pedestrian and cycle spaces separation and protection, you cannot have all three existing on an unregulated area. All this information will inform the correct traffic proposal for the town regeneration, I am sure there are many other examples which I am not thinking about.

- Please add market stall markings on the Square.
- Please ensure planting does not impede bus movements at the bus stop.
- Please ensure HGV access to Bridewell Lane from Market Street is included."
- The single lane car parking next to the bike lane will allow cars to open their doors directly onto the lane to potential unsuspected cyclist! Too many loading bays on main street, only need for one each end, too many disabled parking in a group (3 at Foyle) and it's on an incline, not good! Loading bay outside a hotel will. Produce negative noise complaints in the early hours. Green spaces at junctions NO grass a bad site for public dog fouling and maintenance issues. No provision for bike racks. No provision for bike shops rental holding of bikes in front of their premises.
- Please ensure Friday Market spots are included. Please review planting at bus stop to ensure buses can arrive & leave unimpeded. HGV access is required into Bridewell Lane
- Noise from refrigeration units' early morning
- more pedestrian more bike friendly
- on the whole very happy except for parking
- Spread loading bays over main / market street additional car parking at tourist office.
- Can the public car park at the tourist office be extended to a multi-story
- Generally very positive plan with a final tweak needed for main street parking as it is the street the pharmacy / butchers is on etc
- more parking at the harbour park, incorporate skate park.
- all positive
- needs improvement.

## I am happy with the proposed plans for the Beach Road Quay area

28 responses



Scale of questions 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

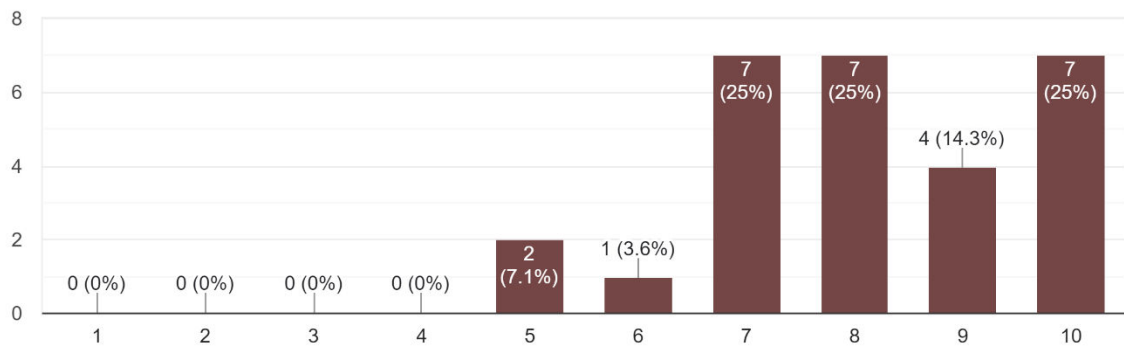
14% disagree 86% agree

### Comments on Beach Road Quay area plans

- Car parking
- There is no car parking for businesses, residents, RNLI or fishermen. There is little provision for through traffic.
- No parking, street surface
- Was there are proposals for key edge fall prevention. handrail or such? Another option could be to construct a board walk similar as with the river Liffey in Dublin
- No provision for hotel and rnli parking
- Footpath necessary
- Community swimming pool needed
- need clarification on road parking as the owner of a business. It is imperative to us that it is kept
- Can the footpath / walkway be extended to the end of the road - down to the boat club please
- more parking
- Consult with residents & fisherman on the pier size of park to maintain after construction
- very good

I am happy with the proposed plans for the Harbour Park area

28 responses



Scale of questions 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

7% disagree 93% agree

#### Comments on Harbour park area plans

- Look fantastic
- Bigger auditorium,
- Amphitheatre could be bigger to allow for larger events during the Clifden Arts Festival and also new events to be created around it
- Designers will need to factor in the retaining walls necessary along the road down as there is a considerable height difference. I would not support the idea of retaining the existing facilities as they have seen better days.
- No provision for toilets. Needs a bigger auditorium seating
- needs to be extended to Sky Road link, pedestrian safety
- Concern on maintenance which was a valid point made
- looks amazing
- more parking
- not paving on road, asphalt if possible
- skate park should be included in harbour park
- it cannot happen soon enough
- fantastic effort

### **Any final comments on any aspect of these plans for Clifden?**

- We have the space to back on either side of the road at the moment because of the camber of the road, if the road is to levelled out to the level of the footpaths the road gets completely shortened
- Really good change and a much needed one
- Lighting, needs dark sky consideration
- Overall very positive. We do need Really good, possibly live parking signs directing tourist cars to various parking options. And possibly a second level put on the tourist office car park.
- Lighting needs to be considered. We are lucky enough to live in an area with relatively dark skies and that needs to be preserved. Any new lighting should be designed to enhance skies.
- Please think of people who come to work in the area, people from the area that come in for their normal everyday business
- Live parking lot availability signage system to be put in place on all entry roads to send all visitors in the right direction, this plan will then work by avoiding frustration and town congestion during the high season.
- A multi story carpark at the tourist office makes more sense to me instead of creating a new carpark. It is closer to town with a shortcut to Main Street.
- Loading bay to be moved from outside of Alcock and Brown Hotel to across from Gannon Sports.
- I think I have outlined my initial feedback above. Regards, Dara O'Donoghue. Clifden Glen.
- Positive transformation of the town.
- No grass more flower areas. Kerbing for reverse herring bone could be wheel stoppers, similar to Galway hospital ambulance parking, this will stop vehicles reversing onto pathway. Cycle path needs to link to greenway and school cycle lane
- Keep up the good work
- more wild flowers/ trees/ native plants. Don't forget our own people, adults and children
- Cycle path is a little disjointed between market street and main street
- keep consulting and listening to the local people
- more parking