

PART 8 Planning Application



Briefing Document for

**Re routeing of a section of the Leitrim Way
walking trail to a proposed new footbridge over
the Yellow River at Tullyveacan and Urbal,
Ballinagleragh, Co. Leitrim**

12th July 2017

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1 Introduction

The Leitrim Way is a 48km (30 mile) walking trail route between Drumshanbo and Manorhamilton in County Leitrim. It joins the Cavan Way at Dowra in County Leitrim where it continues as the Beara-Breifne Way, a walking and cycling route between the Beara Peninsula, County Cork and Blacklion, County Cavan, following the line of Donal Cam O'Sullivan Beare's march of 1602.

The route of the Leitrim Way between Drumshanbo and Dowra can be seen in Fig 1 & Fig 2 below.

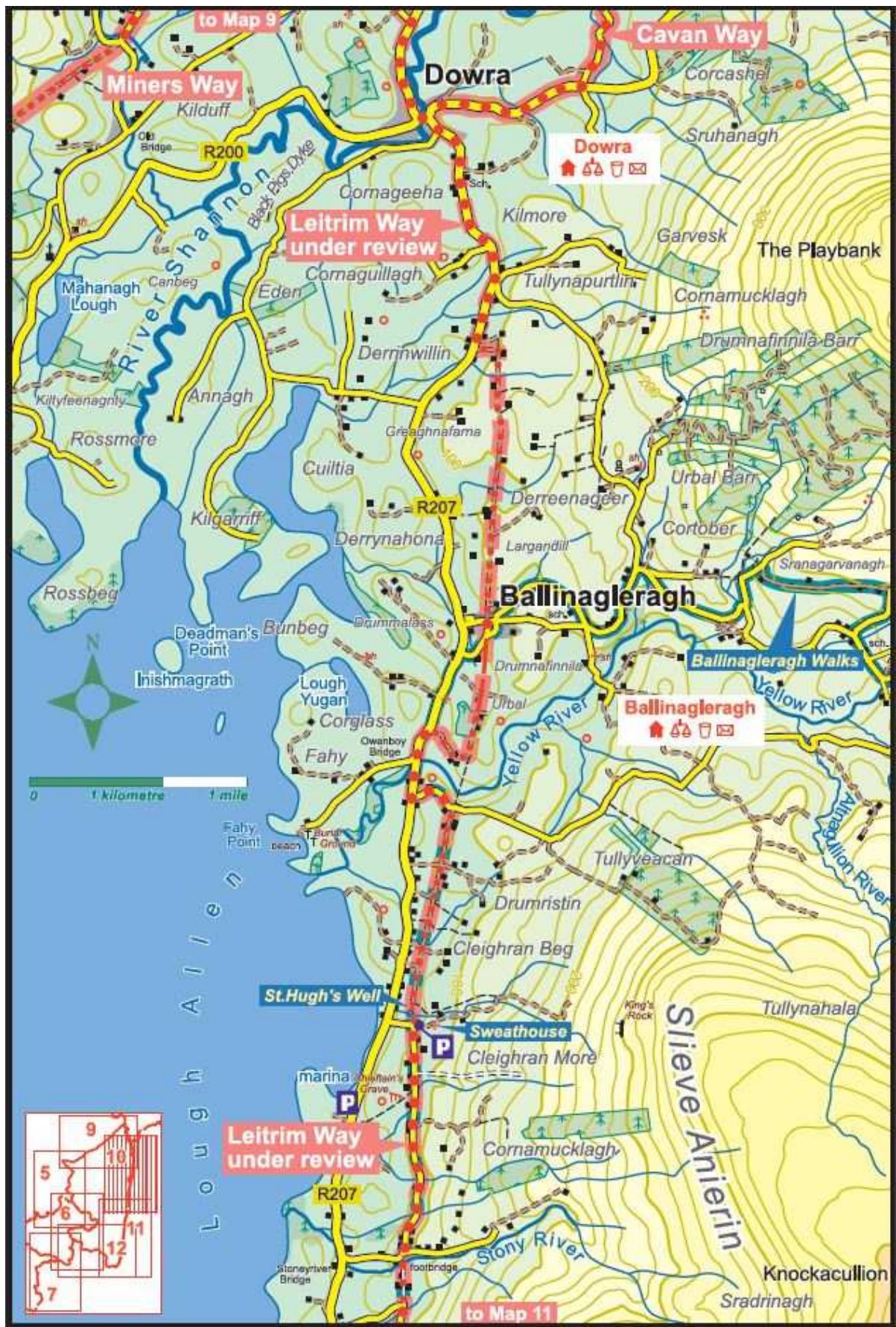


Fig 1: Map No 10 – Leitrim Way



Fig 2: Map No 11 – Leitrim Way

This application outlines proposals for the re routing of a section of the Leitrim Way to accommodate a proposed new Footbridge over the Yellow River at Tullyveacan and Urral, Ballinaglera, Co. Leitrim. In more recent times, and in order to facilitate crossing of the Yellow River, the route of the Leitrim Way was diverted to the R207 where the Yellow River was crossed on the Owenboy Bridge. The main objective of this proposal is to align the route with the traditional route and provide a pedestrian footbridge across the Yellow River at a suitable crossing point.

As can be seen in Fig 3, the original route of the Leitrim Way used stepping stones to cross the Yellow River



Fig 3: 6 inch raster map showing stepping stones across the yellow river

There are a number of different elements to this design as follows:

The proposed route and the footbridge are deemed to require PART 8 consultation. The required documentary requirements for PART 8 consultation will be prepared for Planning Department approval, prior to going on public display.

2 Walking Trail

The currently abandoned walking trail (denoted as section A to B and D to E on Drawing No. 203/1590-2) extending from the local road L-8299 across the Yellow River and onto local road L-83002 will be made good. This section will be cleared of trees, vegetation and all hedges will be cut back. Fences, gates, crossings and drainage will be restored. At the original crossing point the clear span of the river is 30 to 40 m. It is deemed non feasible to construct a footbridge at this point. A new proposed crossing point to the East of the existing crossing was selected, the span is considerable less at this location. A new walking trail (denoted as sections B to C and C to D on Drawing No. 203/1590-2) will be provided. This will have to be agreed with landowners. The walking trails will be open, natural ground paths with stiles crossing at fences.



Fig 4: Photo of indicative proposed Stile type



Fig 5: Photo of indicative proposed Waymaker Post type

3 Footbridge



Fig 6: Photo of original crossing point on Yellow River (30 to 40m span)

A proposed indicative footbridge is shown in Drawing No. 203/1590-3. An OPW Section 50 application will also be required and this will be done in tandem with the PART 8 application. The Section 50 application will determine the soffit height of the bridge.

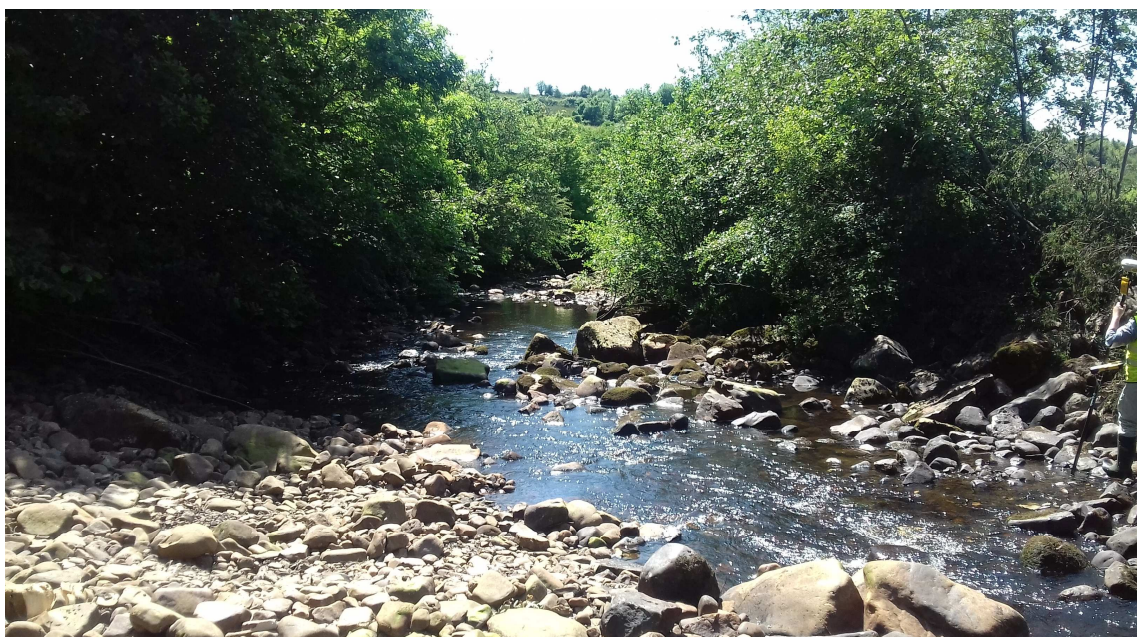


Fig 7: Photo of location of proposed footbridge over Yellow River

4 Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021

The provision of the proposed redevelopment of a section of the Leitrim Way including a new Footbridge over the Yellow River is in compliance with the following policy of the County Development Plan:

4.6.3 Walking and Cycling

Policy 46

It is the policy of the Council to encourage safe walking and cycling by providing linear parks, footpaths, cycle paths and public lighting in towns and villages.

Objective 29(a)

It is an objective of the Council to seek opportunities for the development of suitable walking routes, cycle tracks and bridle paths along redundant railway lines and other suitable locations such as; along waterways and historical access routes.

5 Appendix 1: PART 8 Drawings

- Drawing No. 203/1590-1
- Drawing No. 203/1590-2
- Drawing No. 203/1590-3

6 Appendix 2: Photo Gallery



Photo 1: Ortho Photo of Yellow River crossing point



Photo 2: Southern Approach to Yellow River crossing point abutting L8299



Photo 3: Southern Approach to Yellow River crossing point



Photo 4: Southern Approach to Yellow River crossing point



Photo 5: ***Southern Approach to Yellow River crossing point***



Photo 6: ***Southern Approach to Yellow River original crossing point***



Photo 7: Northern Approach to Yellow River crossing point abutting L83002



Photo 8: Northern Approach to Yellow River crossing point



Photo 9: Northern Approach to Yellow River crossing point