

We moved to Dundrum in 2006, having down-sized from Rathmines, and chose Dundrum for its village feel, its size, its proximity to the Luas and the M50 and the bus service. Also the facilities within walking distance on the Main Street, the library, banks, dentists, doctors, convenience shops, but we missed green spaces and a community feel.

Dundrum Village has the potential to be a vibrant and beautiful centre for the community, with its historic buildings which are designated as an Architectural Conservation Area in the 2022 – 2028 Development Plan. Are the Planners now going to renege on that? Where is their integrity?

We need a civic square and green spaces for community events with a vibrant main street. However, under the plans we will be completely overshadowed by excessively high apartment blocks on a small site with very high density, totally out of keeping with the surrounding suburban environment.

Dundrum has seen large apartment developments (no houses!) already constructed in its vicinity – Herbert Hill, the development on the Notre Dame school site on Churchtown Road Lower, large developments under construction on Kilmacud Road, and possibly at the Mental Hospital as well as sites at Stepside and Sandyford. The prevalence of developers selling these developments ‘en mass’ for rentals, ensures that the occupants are not a mix of families, younger people and older down-sizers and have no motivation to contribute to the life in Dundrum.

The majority of the development is residential – where are the services for them? Green spaces around the buildings, shops, entertainment facilities, jobs, sufficient public transport. It is impossible to access the Luas at peak times at the moment and this will only get more difficult as other developments on the green line are completed e.g. Cherrywood. Traffic is also congested now and can only get worse. Adequate services must be provided at the time of providing housing in order to ensure quality of life.

I can only surmise that the developers have submitted this totally inappropriate ‘over the top’ plan as a ploy to have a slightly less inappropriate plan accepted at

a future date. I would implore the decision makers of An Bord Pleanala to consider the future of our neighbourhood and living environment as your decisions could affect our lives and the lives of our children and grandchildren for decades.

Ruth and Matthew Ward

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