

## Appendix 1

**Liosta dóibh siúd a d'iarr Sparánacht do Theanga Réigiúnda nó Mionlaigh ó CCLU***List of RML Bursary applicants to MUDC*

<i>Ainm/Name</i>	<i>Ainm/Name</i>	<i>Ainm/Name</i>	<i>Ainm/Name</i>
Anne McGoldrick	Julie Graham	Maria Martin	Rob Deane
Brenda McCann	Sarah Maginness	Aimee Quinn	Sabrina Hamill
Martina Loughran	Tracey O'Donnell	Daniel McKenna	Michelle O'Kane
Martina Loughran	Colleen Daly	Marion Cullen	Anne Fox
Paul Quinn	Mairéad Conlon	Linda Nugent	Lesley Connery
Rionach Martin	Sarah Fee	Ava McVeigh	Celena Gallagher
Eunan Murray	Michelle Kerr	Connor Stringer	Celena Gallagher
Maureen Su	Ruairi Mulgrew	Kay McPeake	Maria Killen
Annabel McAteer	Síofradh Cahalane	Ann Salmon	Sinead Taggart
Aisling Convery	Mark Mullan	Ann Salmon	Sinead Taggart
Michelle O'Sullivan	Niamh Mullan	Claire Wylie	Jacqueline Fee
Janette Cullen	Roisin McGeary	Gemma Hutton	Éirinn McGlone
Lillian McCann	Aoife Quinn	Kristine Mckenna	Lorraine O'Neill
Claire Corrigan	Siobhán Clarke	Joanne Doran	Aisling Kelly
Sinead McKenna	Eimear O'Kane	Christine McVeigh	Lorraine O'Neill
Ciaran Farrell	Helene O'Neill	Julie Devlin	Orla Hughes
Lucia Kelly	Alicia Jordan	Julie Devlin	Colette Coney
Neil Spence	Joanne Scullion	Orlagh Campbell	Dearbhail Quinn
Emma Quinn	Joanne Scullion	Janette Cullen	Sharon McGahan
Karl Jordan	Angelina Beattie	Emma Monteith	Kathleen Anderson
Rosemary Anderson	Colm McCluskey	Tracey Doran	Kathleen Anderson
Jayne O'Neill	Grainne Beattie	Tracey Doran	Sinéad Jordan
Jayne O'Neill	Niall Devlin	Christina McErlan	Oonagh O'Hagan
Ciara Cathcart	Paula Hughes	Shauna O'Kane	Aoife Brennan
Gerard Gildernew	Kathy Donnelly	Cait Finnegan	Aoife Brennan
Narita Woods	Deirdre Grimes	Eimhear McWilliams	Lyndsey Donnelly

Eugene Murphy	Roisin Keenan	Mark Ryan	Conchúr Ó Muirí (Gaeilge)
Myra McKeever	Elaine Coyle	Josephine Harte	Mona Uí Dhochartaigh (Gaeilge)
Nuala Murray	Claire Ní Chnámhsí	Orlagh Nugent	Mona Uí Dhochartaigh (Gaeilge)
Naiomi Doyle	Katie-Rose Jomar	Carryl Morgan	Geraldine Higgins
Karen McCann	Frances Gribbon	Áine Regan	Pauline McMullan
Julie Graham	Elizabeth O'Hanlon	Rob Deane	

\*N.B. double entries under the same name are parents applying for more than one child.

**Total grant aid: £30,000**

Applicants will be disqualified if in receipt of full Líofa Gaeltacht Bursary Grant or if their address is not within Mid Ulster District.

Duplicity checks will be carried out in due course to check for receipt of other Gaeltacht Grants from organisations such as Tyrone GAA, Tyrone LGFA, GAA clubs and political parties.

**Christine Mc Gowan**  
**Development Officer**  
**Mid Ulster District Council**  
**Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre**  
**Burn Road**  
**Cookstown**  
**BT80 8DN**

18 April 2024

Dear Christine

**The John Hewitt Society** is pleased to inform you that the **John Hewitt International Summer School of Literature & the Arts Festival (JHISS)** will take place this year from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July at our festival base in The Market Place Theatre and Arts Centre, Armagh. In 2023 we were delighted to receive support for a bursary award for a Mid Ulster Borough Council resident and invite the Council to participate in the JHISS 2024 Community bursary scheme again.

Unfortunately, we also have not been immune from the cost of living crisis with bursary student project costs having increased significantly over the past two years, especially accommodation. This means that a residential bursary fee at the current rate of £500 per person is no longer viable or sustainable. After carefully review, the Board have made the tough decision to increase the fee by 10% to help cover these costs. We understand this comes at a time when we're all feeling the pinch and making tough financial decisions, but we have tried to keep this increase as fair, equitable and low as possible.

A Full Sponsored Residential bursary award per person provides the following;

- B&B for five nights in a single ensuite room, within walking distance of the venue.
- Free tickets to all programmed events, unless specified.
- Creative writing workshop course of choice, with 6 hours free tuition over 3 days.
- Invitation to all receptions.
- Morning break refreshments.

While the cost of a bursary fee this year is **£550 per person**, the actual value is much higher at **£713.50** as outlined below:

- Accommodation - **£350**
- Tickets - **£268.50**
- Creative writing workshop course of choice, with 6 hours free tuition over 3 days - **£70**
- Morning break refreshments - **£25**

I hope that the Council will recognise the massive benefit of supporting a residential bursary place at the JHISS in Armagh, 22 – 27 July 2024, during these challenging times and the unique opportunity to encourage local writers whose personal circumstances put them at a disadvantage.

The JHISS 2024 theme (attached) is,

**To Live Among Strangers: Diversity & a Shared Future**

*It is a hard responsibility to be a stranger...*

*"The Search": John Hewitt, 1966.*

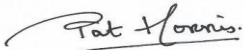
This year our opening address will be delivered by Audrey Osler, Professor Emerita of Citizenship and Human Rights Education at the University of Leeds, entitled, '*Where Are You From? No, Where are You Really From?*' and the title of her recent book of the same name. A story of migration, identity and belonging, drawing on the stories of people from Audrey Osler's mixed-heritage family, over three centuries.

Online applications for the JHISS 2024 **Community Bursary Award Schem open Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April** and **close on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. It will be marketed on our socials until the closing date. Attached is a word doc of the 2024 flyer which you can copy and paste from as required for advertising.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



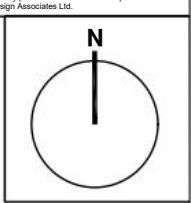
**Ms Patricia Morris**  
**Director**  
**The John Hewitt Society**

09/05/2024

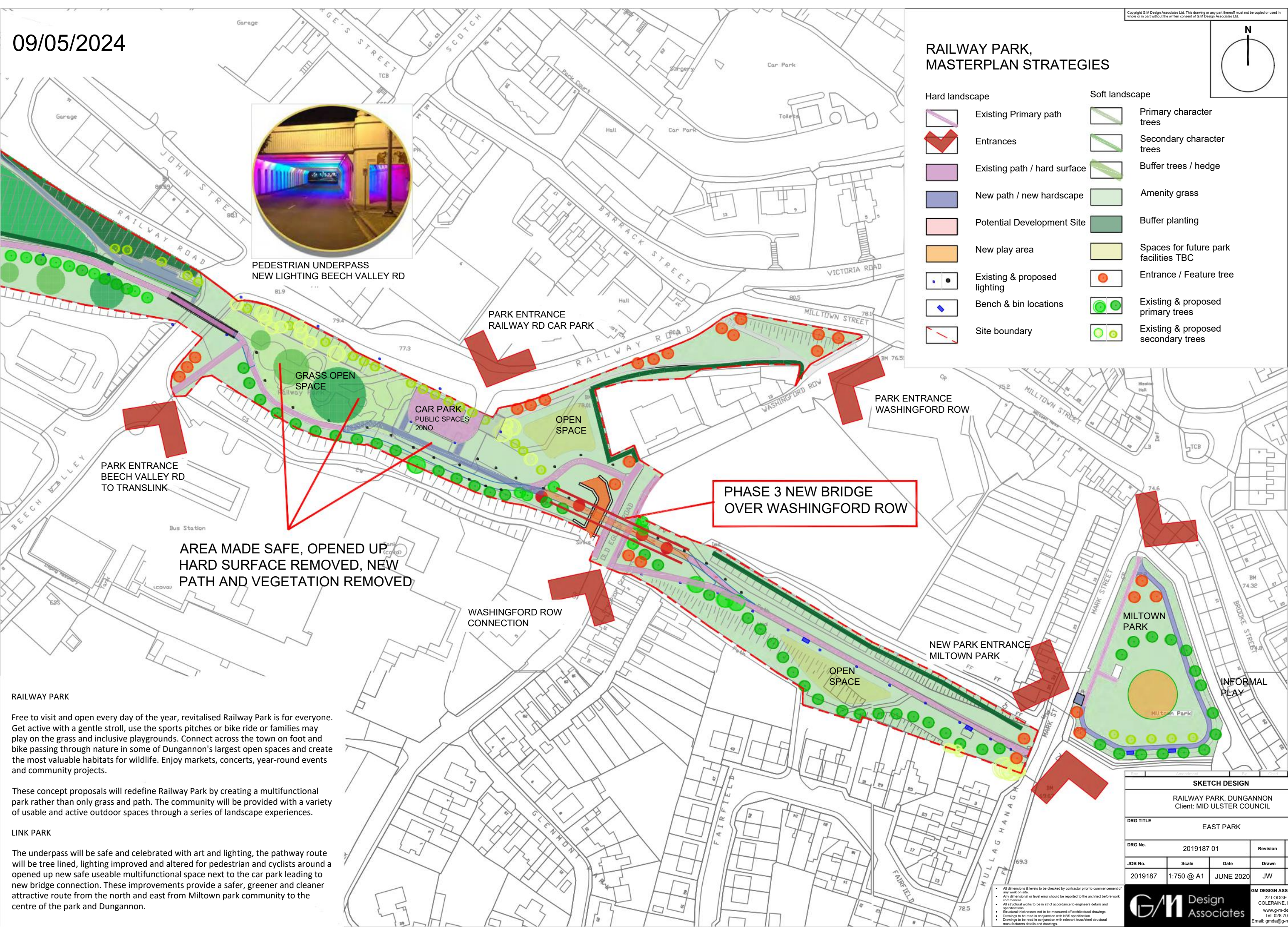
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LINK PARK EAST - RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON

# RAILWAY PARK, MASTERPLAN STRATEGIES



- | Hard landscape |                              | Soft landscape |                                       |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
|                | Existing Primary path        |                | Primary character trees               |
|                | Entrances                    |                | Secondary character trees             |
|                | Existing path / hard surface |                | Buffer trees / hedge                  |
|                | New path / new hardscape     |                | Amenity grass                         |
|                | Potential Development Site   |                | Buffer planting                       |
|                | New play area                |                | Spaces for future park facilities TBC |
|                | Existing & proposed lighting |                | Entrance / Feature tree               |
|                | Bench & bin locations        |                | Existing & proposed primary trees     |
|                | Site boundary                |                | Existing & proposed secondary trees   |



PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS  
NEW LIGHTING BEECH VALLEY RD

AREA MADE SAFE, OPENED UP  
HARD SURFACE REMOVED, NEW  
PATH AND VEGETATION REMOVED

PHASE 3 NEW BRIDGE  
OVER WASHINGFORD ROW

**RAILWAY PARK**  
Free to visit and open every day of the year, revitalised Railway Park is for everyone. Get active with a gentle stroll, use the sports pitches or bike ride or families may play on the grass and inclusive playgrounds. Connect across the town on foot and bike passing through nature in some of Dungannon's largest open spaces and create the most valuable habitats for wildlife. Enjoy markets, concerts, year-round events and community projects.

These concept proposals will redefine Railway Park by creating a multifunctional park rather than only grass and path. The community will be provided with a variety of usable and active outdoor spaces through a series of landscape experiences.

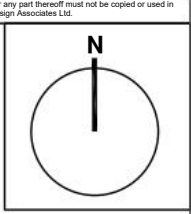
**LINK PARK**  
The underpass will be safe and celebrated with art and lighting, the pathway route will be tree lined, lighting improved and altered for pedestrian and cyclists around a opened up new safe useable multifunctional space next to the car park leading to new bridge connection. These improvements provide a safer, greener and cleaner attractive route from the north and east from Miltown park community to the centre of the park and Dungannon.

SKETCH DESIGN				
RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON Client: MID ULSTER COUNCIL				
DRG TITLE EAST PARK				
DRG No.	2019187 01	Revision		
JOB No.	Scale	Date	Drawn	Checked
2019187	1:750 @ A1	JUNE 2020	JW	JW
<p><small>All dimensions &amp; levels to be checked by contractor prior to commencement of any work on site.</small></p> <p><small>Any dimensional or level error should be reported to the architect before work commences.</small></p> <p><small>All structural works to be in strict accordance to engineers details and specifications.</small></p> <p><small>Structural thicknesses not to be measured off architectural drawings.</small></p> <p><small>Drawings to be read in conjunction with NBS specification.</small></p> <p><small>Drawings to be read in conjunction with relevant associated structural manufacturers details and drawings.</small></p>				
			<p>G.M DESIGN ASSOCIATES LTD. 22 LODGE ROAD, COLERAINE, BT52 1NB www.g-m-design.com Tel: 028 703 56138 Email: gmda@g-m-design.co.uk</p>	

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CENTRAL PARK - RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON



# RAILWAY PARK, MASTERPLAN STRATEGIES

## Hard landscape

- Existing Primary path
- Entrances
- Existing path / hard surface
- New path / new hardscape
- Potential Development Site
- New play area
- Existing & proposed lighting
- Bench & bin locations
- Site boundary

## Soft landscape

- Primary character trees
- Secondary character trees
- Buffer trees / hedge
- Amenity grass
- Buffer planting
- Spaces for future park facilities TBC
- Entrance / Feature tree
- Existing & proposed primary trees
- Existing & proposed secondary trees



PLATFORM STATION PLAY  
PLATFORM PART OF EVENTS SPACE



PHASE 1 CREATE CHARACTER PARKLAND  
PHASE 2 SPORTS AREA  
PHASE 3 BRIDGE

**RAILWAY PARK**  
Free to visit and open every day of the year, revitalised Railway Park is for everyone. Get active with a gentle stroll, use the sports pitches or bike ride or families may play on the grass and inclusive playgrounds. Connect across the town on foot and bike passing through nature in some of Dungannon's largest open spaces and create the most valuable habitats for wildlife. Enjoy markets, concerts, year-round events and community projects.

These concept proposals will redefine Railway Park by creating a multifunctional park rather than only grass and path. The community will be provided with a variety of usable and active outdoor spaces through a series of landscape experiences.

**CENTRAL PARK**  
Central Park embraces The Junction into the wider physical community. The focus for this Centre, and for the multifunctional local community is Health and Well-Being, Events and Business. The Event Square will be used for markets and with the old platform form a stage for performances. When not in event mode the outdoor open spaces encourage people into the Landscape for a series of peaceful activities surrounded by trees that will engage their Physical and Mental Health.



EVENT



MARKET

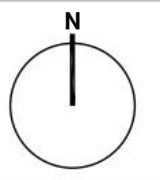
SKETCH DESIGN					
RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON Client: MID ULSTER COUNCIL					
DRG TITLE MID PARK					
DRG No.	2019187 01	Revision			
JOB No.	Scale	Date	Drawn	Checked	
2019187	1:750 @ A1	JUNE 2020	JW	JW	

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Structural thicknesses not to be measured off architectural drawings.  
Drawings to be read in conjunction with NBS specification.  
Drawings to be read in conjunction with relevant truss/steel structural manufacturers details and drawings.

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ECO ACTIVE PARK WEST - RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON



**RAILWAY PARK, MASTERPLAN STRATEGIES**

- | Hard landscape |                              | Soft landscape |                                       |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
|                | Existing Primary path        |                | Primary character trees               |
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|                | Existing & proposed lighting |                | Entrance / Feature tree               |
|                | Bench & bin locations        |                | Existing & proposed primary trees     |
|                | Site boundary                |                | Existing & proposed secondary trees   |

PHASE 1 CREATE CHARACTER PARKLAND  
 PHASE 2 SPORTS AREA  
 PHASE 3 BRIDGE



INFORMAL SQUARE



EXISTING PRIMARY PATH RETAINED



RAILWAY PARK INCLUSIVE SPACE

Free to visit and open every day of the year, revitalised Railway Park is for everyone. Get active with a gentle stroll, use the sports pitches or bike ride or families may play on the grass and inclusive playgrounds. Connect across the town on foot and bike passing through nature in some of Dungannon's largest open spaces and create the most valuable habitats for wildlife. Enjoy markets, concerts, year-round events and community projects.

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**ECO ACTIVE PARK**

Sport and the character of the ecological habitats encourage the community to be active, to use the park and treat it as an outdoor facility. A Recreation Sports Area of informal recreation and a range of sporting events surrounded by naturalistic ecologically rich park areas, with organic meandering pathways, wetlands and natural play areas. The proposals will retain areas of ecologically rich vegetation and will create new areas to stimulate flora and fauna habitat creation and diversity.

NEW PRIVATE CAR PARK 40NO SPACES  
 ALL EXISTING TREES AND SHRUBS RETAINED

NEWELL RD CONNECTION

NEW NEWELL RD ACCESS PATH

PLATFORM CLEANED  
 RETAINED AS HERITAGE

AIR QUALITY AREA  
 POTENTIAL GREEN WALL

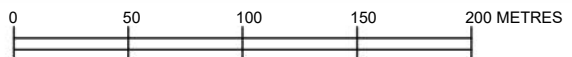
RED POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT  
 INTO PARK

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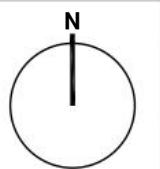
SKETCH DESIGN				
RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON				
Client: MID ULSTER COUNCIL				
DRG TITLE				
NORTH SPORTS PARK				
DRG No.	2019187 01	Revision		
JOB No.	Scale	Date	Drawn	Checked
2019187	1:750 @ A1	JUNE 2020	JW	LM

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# RAILWAY PARK, MASTERPLAN STRATEGIES

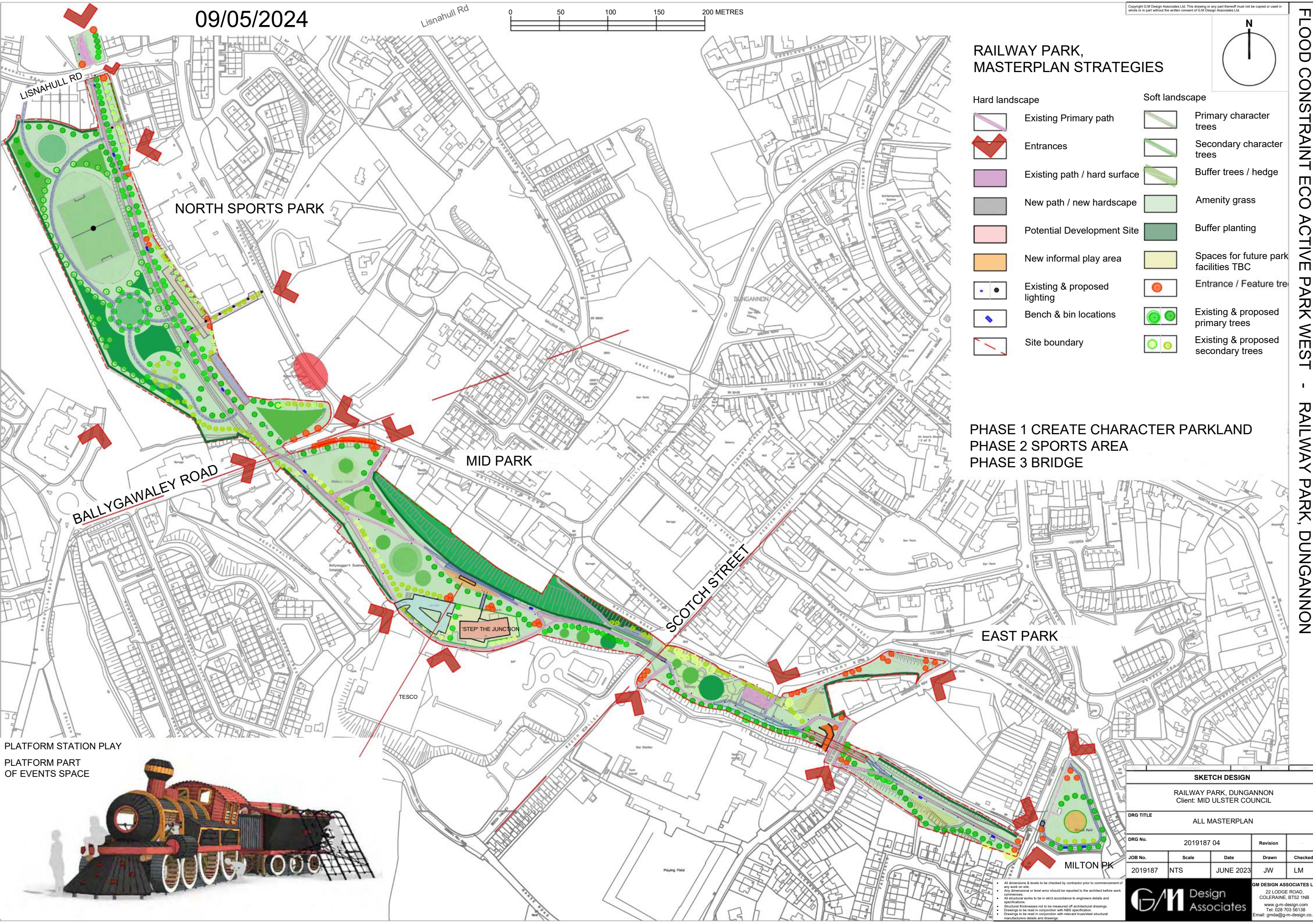
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PHASE 1 CREATE CHARACTER PARKLAND  
 PHASE 2 SPORTS AREA  
 PHASE 3 BRIDGE



PLATFORM STATION PLAY  
 PLATFORM PART OF EVENTS SPACE



SKETCH DESIGN				
RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON Client: MID ULSTER COUNCIL				
DRG TITLE ALL MASTERPLAN				
DRG No.	2019187 04	Revision		
JOB No.	Scale	Date	Drawn	Checked
2019187	NTS	JUNE 2023	JW	LM

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FLOOD CONSTRAINT ECO ACTIVE PARK WEST - RAILWAY PARK, DUNGANNON



A chara,  
(\*English below)

### **MAIDIR LE: Tionscadal PeacePlus - Téama 1.3 Caidreamh Dearfach a Thógáil**

Táimid ag scríobh chugat mar chuibhreannas tionscadail (sonraí thíos) atá ag obair ar iarratas ar mhaoiniú chuig an chlár PeacePlus. Tá d'aidhm ag ár dtionscadal caidreamh pobail a fheabhsú i dTuaisceart Éireann agus i gcontaetha na teorann in Éirinn trí chóimheas a chur chun cinn ar theanga agus oidhreacht na Gaeilge agus na hUltaise. Tionscadal ceithre bliana a bheidh ann ar siúl ó Eanáir 2025 go Nollaig 2028.

Díreoidh an tionscadal ar thrí phríomhghníomhaíocht ar son caidreamh dearfach a thógáil:

- (1) Ceardlanna plé ag leibhéal an phobail a eagrú le rannpháirtithe ó gach cuid den phobal.
- (2) Acmhainn údarás áitiúil déileáil go tuisceanach le saincheistanna teanga agus cultúir a fheabhsú.
- (3) Daoine óga a mhealladh go gníomhach le hoidhreacht chomhroinnte dhúchasach Thuaisceart Éireann agus réigiún na teorann a phlé.

Ba mhaith linn cuireadh a thabhairt do do chomhairle a bheith inár dtionscadal mar Chomhpháirtí Comhlach agus ligean dúinn a bheith ag obair libh i nGníomhaíocht 2. Is é ár smaoineamh chun an obair seo a thabhairt chun cinn ná cúrsa saincheaptha san Fhorbairt Ghairmiúil Leanúnach a fhorbairt d'fhostaithe comhairle. Díreoidh an cúrsa FGL seo ar fheasacht a ardú ar bhunfhíricí a bhaineann leis an Ghaeilge agus leis an Ultais agus ar an tsaineolas a thabhairt do bhaill foirne comhairlí le plé go tuisceanach le saincheistanna teanga agus cultúir. Cuirfidh sé in iúl áit na Gaeilge agus na hUltaise i dTuaisceart Éireann i gcoinne mhórchúlra cultúrtha Phoblacht na hÉireann agus na hAlban. I gcomhar leis an chúrsa FGL, ba mhaith linn a bheith ag obair le hoifigigh dhea-chaidrimh do chomhairle chun prótacail a fhorbairt le tacú le saoránaigh ar mian leo cumarsáid a dhéanamh le foireann na comhairle trí mheán na Gaeilge nó na hUltaise. Bheadh na prótacail seo ina gcosaint d'fhoireann na comhairle ó mhasla a thabhairt i ngan fhios do bhaill den phobal, agus dá réir chosnódh siad baill den phobal óna mhothú go bhfuil siad scoite amach agus iad ag plé lena gcomhairle.

Cuirfidh an tionscadal chun cinn aidhmeanna na Straitéise T:BUC, agus shocrú an Ré Nua, Cur Chuige Nua ar bhealach fiúntach. Tá an tionscadal tráthúil chomh maith nó tá sé ag teacht le haidhmeanna reachtúla an Achta um Fhéiniúlacht agus Teanga (Tuaisceart Éireann) 2022 (*Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act*).

Bheimis buíoch dá gcuirfeá in iúl i bprionsabal más mian le do chomhairle páirt a ghlacadh sa tionscadal mholta seo. Ba bhreá linn an deis an tionscadal a phlé ar bhealach níos mionsonraithe ag am a d'fhóirfeadh duit.

Is muidne le meas,

Caoimhín Ó Dónaill  
Ollscoil Uladh  
[c.odonail@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:c.odonail@ulster.ac.uk)

Pól Deeds  
Foras na Gaeilge  
[pdeeds@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:pdeeds@forasnagaeilge.ie)

N.B. I gcuibhreannas an tionscadail tá: Ollscoil Uladh, Foras na Gaeilge, Gníomhaireacht na hUltaise, Misean Bhéal Feirste Thoir, Comhaltas Uladh, Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean agus Ollscoil na Gaillimhe.

A chara,

**RE: PeacePlus Project - Theme 1.3 Building Positive Relations**

We are writing to you as a project consortium (details below) working on a funding application to the PeacePlus programme. Our project aims to improve community relations in Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland by promoting mutual respect for Irish and Ulster Scots language and heritage. This will be a four year project running from January 2025 - December 2028.

The project will focus on three main activities for building positive relations:

- (1) Organising community level discussion workshops with participants from all sections of society.
- (2) Improving the capacity of local authorities to deal sensitively with language and culture issues.
- (3) Actively engaging young people in discussing the shared, indigenous heritage of Northern Ireland and the border region.

We would like to invite your council to join our project as an Associate Partner and to allow us to work with you on Activity 2. Our idea for progressing this work is to develop a bespoke Continuous Professional Development course for council employees. This CPD course will focus on raising awareness of basic facts relating to Irish and Ulster Scots and on providing council staff with the know-how to deal sensitively with language and culture issues. It will articulate the place of Irish and Ulster Scots in Northern Ireland against the wider cultural backdrop of ROI and Scotland. In conjunction with the CPD course, we would like to work with your council's good relations officers to develop protocols for supporting citizens who wish to communicate with council staff through the medium of Irish or Ulster Scots. These protocols would serve to protect council staff from unwittingly causing offence to members of the public, and in turn protect members of the public from feeling alienated when dealing with their council.

The project will advance the aims of the T:BUC Strategy, and the New Decade New Approach deal in a meaningful way. The project is also timely as it accords with the legislative aims of the 2022 Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act.



We would be grateful if you could indicate in principle if your council would like to participate in this proposed project. We would relish the opportunity to discuss the project in more detail at a time convenient to you.

Yours sincerely,

Caoimhín Ó Dónaill  
Ulster University  
[c.odonail@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:c.odonail@ulster.ac.uk)

Pól Deeds  
Foras na Gaeilge  
[pdeeds@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:pdeeds@forasnagaeilge.ie)

N.B. The project consortium includes: Ulster University, Foras na Gaeilge, The Ulster Scots Agency, East Belfast Mission, Comhaltas Uladh, University of the Highlands and Islands and Galway University.

# **Mid Ulster and Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid**

## **Engaging linkages on arts, heritage, culture and tourism**

**Themes:** Arts, Heritage, Culture and Tourism, focusing on youth international engagement/ leadership/ empowerment.

**Partners:** Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid, and SEACHT' [Social Enterprise for Arts, Culture, Heritage & Tourism] – a social enterprise located in Benburb, delivering on the Charlie Donnelly Winter School, with civic support by Mid Ulster District Council.

### **Background**

Engagement between the two regions; Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid (town outside Madrid) and Mid Ulster has taken place over the last 20 years. The relationship was first established under Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council in 2005 as part of cultural development and engagement with the Charlie Donnelly winter school.

As part of this engagement reciprocal visits took place between Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid and Dungannon; focusing on the connection of the poet Charlie Donnelly to both regions with civic linkages. The annual Charlie Donnelly Winter School is held in March in Dungannon each year, and representatives from Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid attend.

### **Proposal:**

To strengthen the exchange between Mid Ulster and Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid building on the linkages of Dungannon-born poet Charlie Donnelly, and expanding these further to the Arts, Heritage, Culture and Tourism, focusing on youth international engagement/leadership/empowerment. This will be led by the community through SEACHT; support is being sought from Council sought for civic recognition and representation as required during visits.

### **Benefits**

European – linkages to share good practice, learning, exchange, particularly with young people with other regions of Europe – (Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid is a forward-looking town with major regeneration, arts and tourist projects). The outcomes listed are not exhaustive and will develop over time.

Economic – opportunities to showcase Mid Ulster to greater EU markets & regions for tourism potential.

Youth Empowerment – development of youth opportunities.

Peace – engagement in the Peace programme and further opportunities through outward looking engagement.

To hold exchanges between Mid Ulster and the region of Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid in a series of planning and discussion meetings that will explore the best means to strengthen the existing links based on the above-mentioned themes, led by the community (SEACHT), with civic representation from Mid Ulster Council, via the Chair, as required. The main partnership is via the community.

To plan and initiate exchange visits, 2025 and 2026, that will see Rivas Vaciamadrid host a visiting youth delegation of people from Mid-Ulster in 2025 and Mid Ulster hosting a youth delegation from Rivas in 2026.

The exchange will allow young people from Mid Ulster and Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid regions to share and learn about each other's areas, to establish EU links and friendships, to empower and build leadership skills. Exchange visits will combine arts, cultural and heritage, leisure, tourism.

Civic official presence will be invited to participate in the visit via the Chair/Mayor or Deputy Chair.

#### **Timetable:**

**2024** – Planning meetings between Mid-Ulster & Rivas Vaciamadrid - June, September

**Autumn 2024** – Agreement of Linkages – annual - 3 year programme of activities

**Spring 25** - Youth delegation from Mid-Ulster region visit Rivas Vaciamadrid

**March 2025** – Madrid delegates visit Dungannon - Charlie Donnelly Winter School.

**Spring 2026** – Youth delegation from Rivas Vaciamadrid to Mid-Ulster.

#### **Funding**

SEACHT as the lead in this project and engagement is seeking funding through Peace Plus Theme 1 – small grants programme to support wide range of community led Peace initiatives – up to 100,000 Euro. The funding proposal will be led by SEACHT.

### **Information: Who was Charlie Donnelly?**

Charles Donnelly was born in Killybrackey, near Dungannon, County Tyrone on July 10, 1914. Charlie enrolled in UCD in 1931, where he studied Logic, English, History and the Irish language. In university he began writing poetry and prose for student publications.

In 1936, with the outbreak of the fascist coup in Spain, and the start of 'right' activity across Europe that was to lead to World War II; he joined the International Brigades. The cause was to inspire many writers who, like English poet WH Auden, felt that "poetry makes nothing happen" and signed up to the International Brigade against Franco.

Charlie reached Spain on January 7<sup>th</sup> 1937, and fought on the side of the democratically-elected government to seek to stop fascism that was rising across Spain, and also other parts of Europe. Charlie Donnelly was attached to the American Abraham Lincoln Battalion.

On February 15, after receiving only rudimentary military training, the Abraham Lincoln Battalion was thrown into the battle of Jarama, near Madrid. Donnelly reached the front on February 1937, where he was promoted to the rank of field commander. His unit was sent on a frontal assault on a hill named Pingarron. Donnelly and his unit were pinned down by machine gun fire all day, where he died and is buried nearby in an unmarked grave on the Jarama Battlefield.

The Spanish Civil War was to last for another 2 years, with growing influence of Hitler and Mussolini. The war finally ended in 1939 with the fascist regime that remained in control of Spain until the death of the dictator Generalissimo Franco in 1975. This was alongside WW2 where many countries came together to seek to stop fascism taking control in other parts of Europe,.

Due to his bravery and great poetry documenting the activity taking place of 'the time', There are memorials to Donnelly in Dungannon (Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Wall of significant people of the Dungannon District) Dundalk, Jarama, Omeath, Rivas Vaciamadrid and in his alma mater UCD Dublin.

## **Information – Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid**

Rivas has a population of almost 92,000 inhabitants. This is the largest demographic increase in a European city in recent decades. It has a large youth and working age population due to its recent growth and proximity to the larger city of Madrid.

The city is located less than 15 kilometres from Madrid and that allows it to have close commuter access.

Rivas is an open city, with surrounding green spaces, and numerous parks. The municipality is surrounded by a natural park, the Southeast Regional Park: it is a protected area of 31,552 hectares located along the middle-low course of the Jarama and Manzanares rivers, in the southeast of the Community of Madrid. There are also archaeological and paleontological sites in the area.

Rivas has a strong sporting, cultural and community sectors. It has a range of sporting facilities in the City that can provide for up to 40 different sports. There is a large number of clubs in the area that support sports development both professional and at a community level.

Rivas has a strong cultural agenda, with numerous quality facilities for the performing arts, including the Pilar Bardem Auditorium (with more than 1000 seats) and its high level programming of activity, and the Miguel Rios Auditorium (40,000 seats outdoors) which hosts national and international groups and events each year.

Rivas has a very strong community led approach to delivery and development across the City. It has a strong community sector and is a strong advocate of participatory budgeting. There are many projects in the area where investments are made and chosen directly by its citizens.



### **Information – SEACHT**

Formed in 2015, the role of SEACHT in the local community is– Social Enterprise for Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism. All profits generated from SEACHT’s business activities are locally reinvested in community projects. Since its establishment, the community-facing business has been supporting event and conference coordination, consultancy/advisory, training and mentoring.

SEACHT has engaged with council officials of Rivas Vaciamadrid and Mid-Ulster due to their longstanding involvement in the Charlie Donnelly Winter School and the annual Jarama events in Madrid.

### **Information - Charlie Donnelly Winter School**

The Charlie Donnelly Winter school was initially established by the legacy Dungannon District Council in the early 2000s. The School attracted many high-profile speakers during its early days, including David Ervine and Martin McGuinness. The School traditionally attracts speakers from both main community traditions as it honours International Brigade volunteers who came from both unionist and republican backgrounds. This year was no exception as the School gave prominence to both Ben Murray (Aughnacloy) and Charlie Donnelly (Dungannon).

The Charlie Donnelly Winter School ceased for a few years and reestablished in 2017. Representation at annual events can include people from across Ireland, UK, and New York, Madrid, Edinburgh, London. The Chair of Louth County Council joined elected representatives and officials from Ayuntamiento Rivas Vaciamadrid (Spain), Mid-Ulster Council, Dublin City Council, Sligo County Council, Donegal County Council, Derry & Strabane Council at a two-day event to celebrate the life of the former International Brigader in the Co Tyrone town of his birth.

The President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, who is a huge fan of the poet, sent a formal message of support to the winter school along with an apology describing how, despite wishing to be there, other commitments would regrettably not allow him to attend on the day. The President’s address was read to a packed audience in The Square Box Theatre, Dungannon, by Harry Owens, founding member of the Friends of Charlie Donnelly and co-author of the book ‘Brigadista’ with legendary anti-fascist and International Brigader Bob Doyle.

