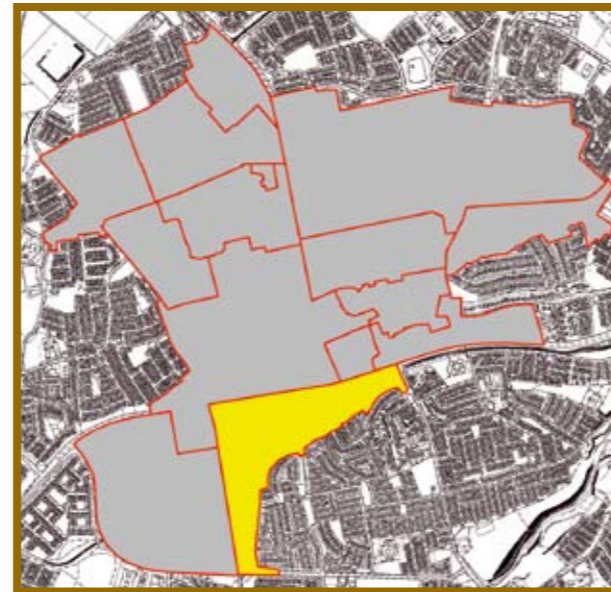


4.13 SEAN WALSH PARK

4.13.1 OVERVIEW

The Sean Walsh Park Precinct is located on the southern edge of the Town Centre area. The Precinct consists of a large parkland area known as Sean Walsh Park, which also includes the Old Bawn Community School and Shamrock Rovers Football Stadium. The area is a major leisure resource for the Tallaght area. A number of improvement programmes have resulted in the upgrading of facilities within the park and further works are ongoing. Under the provisions of the County Development Plan 2004-2010 the area is zoned Objective F 'To preserve and provide for Open Space and Recreational Amenities'.



Location Map



Fountain and lake near the corner of the N81 and Old Bawn Road



Lakes to the north-east of the park.



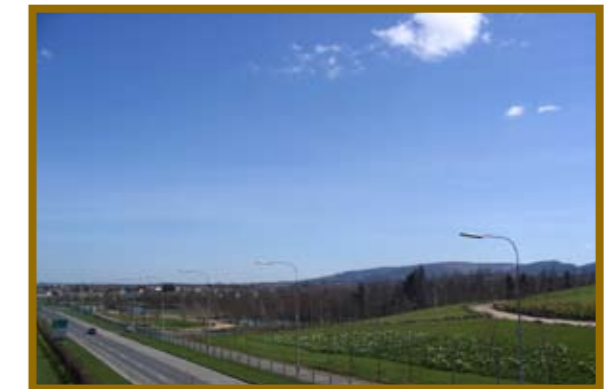
Southern section of the park looking toward Firhouse Road West.



Bridge, lakes and stream to the north-east of the park.



Pedestrian bridge over the N81 connecting the park to the Square.



The N81 running along the northern boundary of the park.



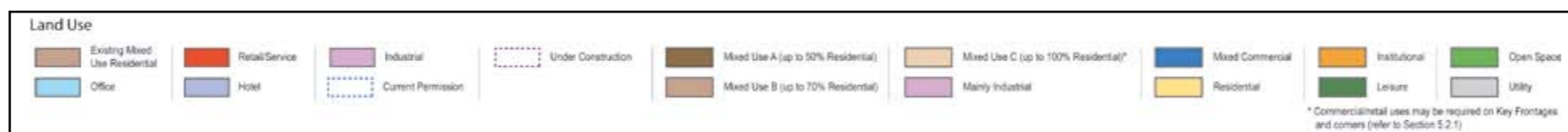
Aerial view of the Precinct.

4.13.2 EXISTING LAND USE

- The area largely consists of open space which is used for recreational purposes.
- Old Bawn Community School is located in the centre of the park, to the south of the Square.
- The partially completed Shamrock Rovers Football Stadium is located near the corner of the N81 and Whitestown Way.

4.13.3 FUTURE LAND USE

- Land uses should generally reflect established patterns and the focus should be on providing recreation and community facilities.
- It is an objective of the County Development Plan 2004-2010 to facilitate active and passive recreational uses within the Park, however this does not include major commercial leisure facilities (refer to Part 3, Specific Local Objective 91).



4.13.4 EXISTING ACCESS AND MOVEMENT

- A number of paths provide access to and circulation through the park. A key pedestrian link between Old Bawn and the Town Centre Core Area runs through the centre of the park and over the N81 via an overhead bridge.
- Busy roads bound the north and west of the site. The N81 is particularly busy and can make the park feel cut off from the rest of the Town Centre.
- Access to the southern end of the park is very limited. Direct access from the Whitestown Industrial Estate/ South City Business Park and adjacent residential area of Old Bawn is restricted by a number of dead ends.

4.13.5 FUTURE ACCESS AND MOVEMENT

- Access from the Square into Sean Walsh Park should be via an enhanced bridge structure, such as a land bridge. This should include an enhanced pedestrian link toward Whitestown Way in preference to a second bridge (refer to Part 3, Specific Local Objective 90 of the SDCC Development Plan 2004-2010)
- The existing pedestrian link between Old Bawn and the Core Area should be enhanced with greater levels of lighting to extend its usability into the evening period.
- A pedestrian link from the Whitestown Industrial Estate (and through to Killinarden) should also be well lit to extend its usability into the evening period.

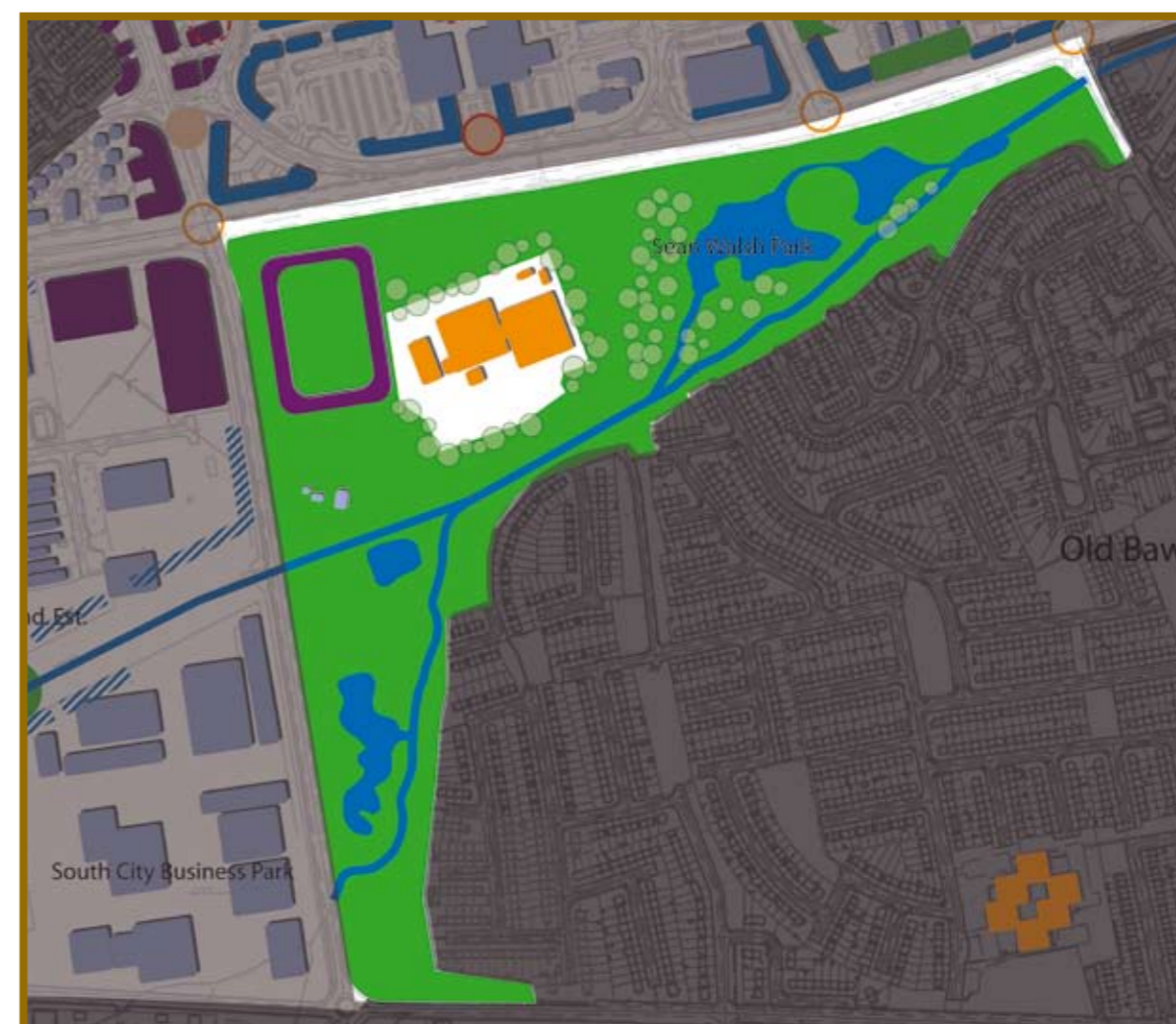


4.13.6 EXISTING BUILT FORM AND LANDSCAPE

- Sean Walsh Park consists of open grassed areas, rolling hills, lakes and waterways, paths and pockets of forested areas.
- A tributary of the Dodder River flows through the park. Parts of this watercourse have been diverted to form a number of small lakes.
- The school is a low lying building surrounded by perimeter fencing.
- The partially completed stadium is a free standing low rise structure.

4.13.7 FUTURE BUILT FORM AND LANDSCAPE

- It is an objective of the County Development Plan 2004-2010 to upgrade the park and provide a link to Whitestown and Killinarden (refer to Part 3, Specific Local Objective 91).
- Any structures built within the parkland should be limited to ancillary development related to recreational activity or the upkeep of the park.
- Additional screen planting should be placed around the school to minimise its visual impact from the park.
- The planting of street trees along the N81 Road should be encouraged to further enhance the areas parkland setting.



Buildings and Public Spaces										
Existing/ Permitted Structure (Contributory)	Renewal Opportunity	Key Frontages (indicative)	Utility Structure	Protected Structure	Public Square/Significant Civic Space	Existing Landmark	Gateway	Water Course	Public Park	Open Institutional Lands
Existing Structure (Neutral)	Future Renewal Opportunity	Future Key Frontages (indicative)	School	Woodland	Landmark					

4.13.8 MASTERPLAN OUTCOME

The character of the area will be enhanced, particularly along the N81, to further establish its parkland setting. The area will remain a destination for recreational activities within Tallaght. Pedestrian links from surrounding areas will be enhanced to encourage greater usage of the Park and provide an extended walking route from Killinarden to the Town Centre Core Area.



Children's play areas



Major recreational area



Landbridge





Masterplan Outcome							
Distributor and Access Roads	LUAS Extension	Key Pedestrian Crossing Point	Existing Structure (Neutral)	Other Building (indicative)	Public Square/ Significant Civic Space	Landmark	Bridge/Overpass
Possible Future Strategic Link	Possible Metro Route (separate to LUAS line)	Transport Interchange	Key Frontages (indicative)	Utility Structure	Private Open Space	Gateway	Tunnel/Underpass
Pedestrian/Shared Route	QBC (with Bus plug)	Possible Transport Interchange	Future Key Frontages (indicative)	School	Institutional Lands	Woodland/Trees	
LUAS line and Station	Possible QBC	Existing Structure (Contributory)	Protected Structure	Public Park	Existing Landmark	Water Course	