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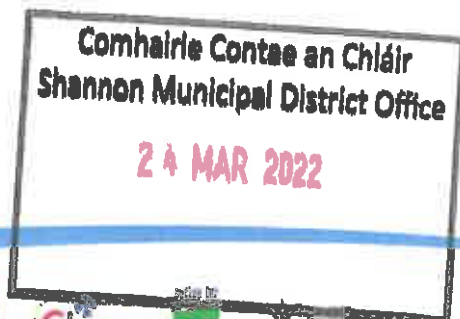
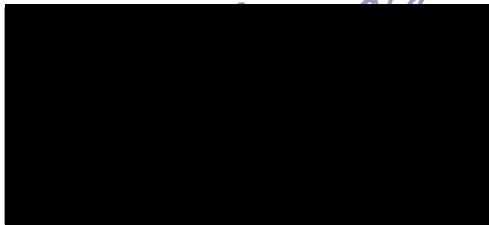
Seón Ruiz



Ref: J2-634



Ceantar Bardasach na Sionna
Municipal District of Shannon



Fostóir comhionannas deiseanna is ea Comhairle Contae an Chláir, a chuireann fáilte roimh iarratais ón bpobal i gcóirinne

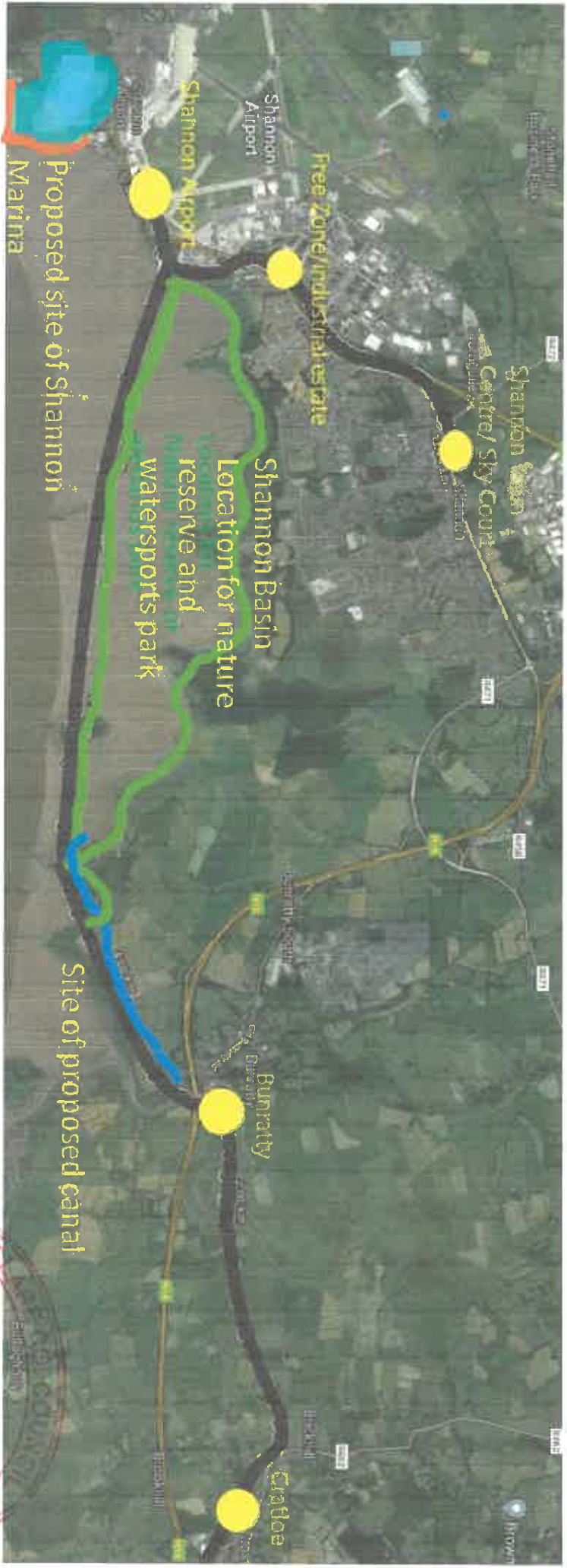


Clare County Council is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the Community

Development ideas for a railway from Cratloe to Shannon town

By Seón Ruíz

Proposal for Clare Development
plan 2023-2029



CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL
25 MAR 2022
PLANNING SECTION

Shannon Branch line

- The new rail line will start with a junction at Brickhill west in Cratloe and will run to Bunratty with a Station there for both Tourists and locals to visit the castle and to commute, the railway will then cross the N18 and Bunratty River and will pass the Shannon water treatment plant before Crossing to Saints island on an embankment that will continue to Shannon airport with a station to service the airport, the train will then reverse and turn north towards Shannon town with a Station at the Free Zone/industrial estate for both the surrounding residential areas and for people commuting to work, the railway would terminate at a station at the Shannon town Centre with the possibility of it extending to Smithtown Industrial estate if required.



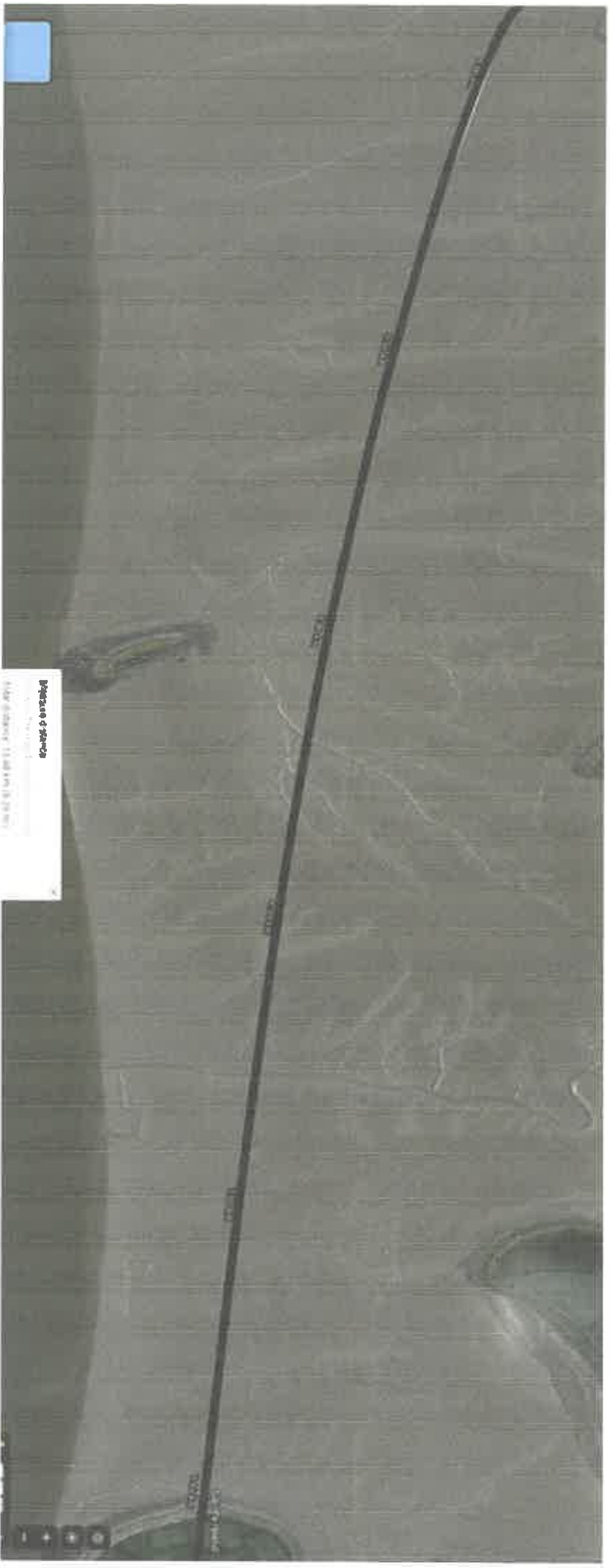
Bunratty and Cratloe Junction



Bunratty Station and possible car park

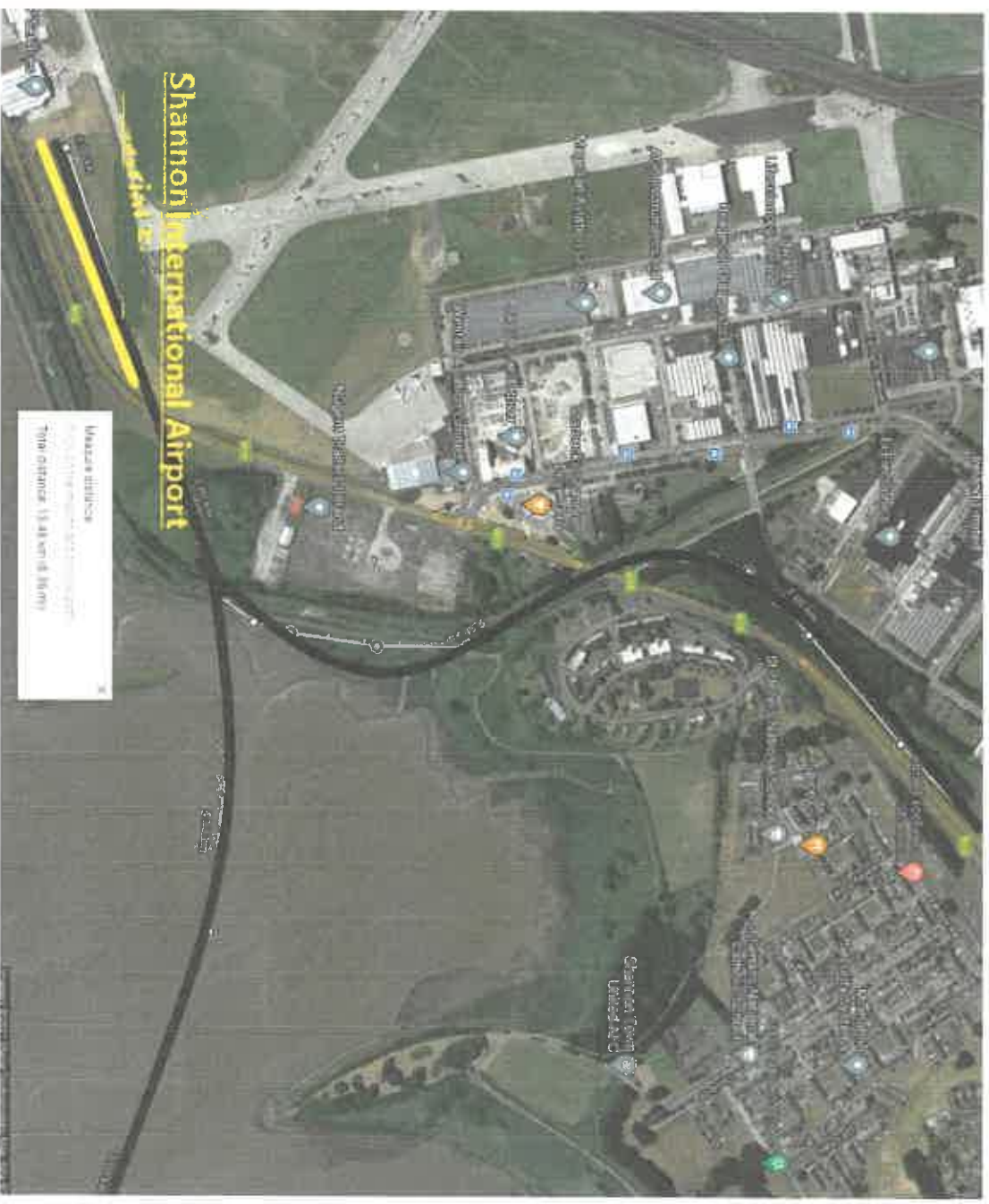


East Section of the Embankment and Saints Island



Mid-section of Embankment and Saint's Island

Shannon Airport and part of the Estuary Embankment





Possible location for
Shannon Town Station

Shannon Town Centre/Industrial Estate





-flooding

- Constructing the Railway to Shannon along this route will require the construction of an embankment from the Shannon water treatment plant to Shannon Airport. This embankment will also double as advanced flood defenses for the areas of Shannon, Bunnratty and Calluragh. This is a simulation showing a 2m rise in sea levels which is predicted to occur by 2100 but it would also remove all threats of Shannon town and Free Zone Flooding from the Shannon river. The mud flats between the old embankments and the new embankment could be set up as a nature reserve or park and part of the embankment could be extended to make a marina in the flying boat Harbour.



Further development for flood defense

- A flood defense gate could be installed in the embankment where it crosses the river downstream of Bunratty castle and a canal or piping installed too the nature reserve in Shannon. This would allow during times of heavy rain and/or high tides to stop flooding in Bunratty as the flood gates could be closed and the river water can be diverted to the nature reserve from which it could be pumped into the estuary.
- Another idea would be for the installation of a weir in Bunratty and the building of a canal to the Shannon basin with controls to how much water flowed down the canal. This would make a freshwater lake for Shannon and could interduce new tourism business such as water sports, this accompanied with the marina next to it and the trains services would bring in a lot of holiday makers and tourists and make Shannon a go to destination encouraging future development.