



TADHG CASEY
architects

MRIAI B.Arch, B.Arch Tech.

The Phoenix
11 The Mall
Tralee
Co. Kerry
V92 AP99

tc@tcarchitects.ie

DESIGN STATEMENT

Redevelopment of Neo-Data Site – Phase 1 Trail Head
Facilities at Bridge Road, Listowel, County Kerry

CLIENT: Kerry County Council



Introduction

Kerry County Council (KCC) are seeking to develop a Trail Head facility at the Neo-Data site to serve the North Kerry Greenway and have appointed a Design Team led by Tadhg Casey Architects to do so.

Brief

The Brief to the Design Team led by Tadhg Casey Architects was;

Proposed Facility

Kerry County Council propose to construct a Trail Head facility to serve the North Kerry Greenway at the Neo-Data site on Bridge Street, Listowel.

The facility shall be designed to ensure high architectural and landscape quality, sympathetically incorporated within its surroundings.

Further to this Tadhg Casey Architects codified the project objectives; and the concept development based on these clear objectives.

1. Sustainable design
2. Accessible design – access for everyone
3. Quality architecture
4. Toilet provision, 'Changing Places' provision
5. Secure building
6. Materials
7. Maintenance and plant requirements
8. External public realm works that work now and in the future

The Site

Master Planning for future buildings was considered. However, this building was designed and sited on its own merits, the reasons being;

- materials and ageing: any new buildings would never attach in a manner that would look good, owing to ageing of materials, weathering, construction techniques, etc.
- the site is large, and while this is the correct location for public toilets, it may not be the correct location for water-based facilities, etc. The current project should not attempt to facilitate these to the detriment of both.
- the site can comfortably accommodate more buildings in many different formats. These should be decided on future briefs and not at this time.

Proposed Design

The building form takes its inspiration from pavilion-type architecture situated in many public parks throughout the world, including Ireland.

The pitched roof references local vernacular buildings and shelters a covered overhang as well as the toilet facilities required by the brief in a regular form underneath.

The pitched roof at one end has an irregular shaped hip, which delineates a public seating area designed for greenway and park users to sit and enjoy the surroundings and use the facilities.

The building uses simple materials and simple construction techniques to achieve a quality piece of architecture that seeks to sit comfortably into and enhance its parkland and riverbank surroundings. It aims to be of a quality that

visitors and locals alike can be proud of, while of course fulfilling its basic functions in a full and proper manner.

Materials

The materials proposed here are chosen for their durability and identity.

The proposed materials are;

- Corrugated roof & wall cladding
- Concrete brick
- Hardwood timber doors
- Galvanised steel columns, beams & rainwater goods
- Native species planting

3D Imaging

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