

Sale of Lisdean Farm

An extraordinary opportunity for visionary land guardians

Lisdean Farm offers a rare chance to step into stewardship of a truly special place — a living, breathing landscape rich with history, ecology, and potential. This 23-acre property combines a modern dwelling, a traditional Ulster farm, and an extraordinary range of outbuildings, already blessed with planning permission for an eco-tourism or eco-health retreat. The foundations are laid for something beautiful to emerge — all that is needed is a new imagination to guide the next chapter.

The Land

Lisdean's 23 acres are arranged in eleven fields, set within ancient boundaries unchanged since the 1800s. The farm rests upon a classic drumlin — a small glacial hill — and hosts a mosaic of ecological microhabitats: marshes, flag iris beds, ancient and new woodland, meadows, water meadows, and riverbanks.

The southern boundary is formed by the enchanting Colebrooke River, teeming with life: brown trout, white-clawed crayfish, herons, kingfishers, dippers. Its banks are wild with ancient hazels, bluebells, wood anemones, toothwort, and wild garlic.

Untouched by farming practices since 2014, Lisdean has been allowed to rewild naturally. 4,000 native Irish trees have been planted. Mature hedgerows, left to grow wild for decades, shelter a thriving community of wildlife: birds, deer, badgers, Irish hares, and even the rare Irish lizard. This is a true sanctuary for nature.

At the heart of the farm lies an ancient archaeological site — the remains of a Neolithic dolmen, part of what was once a fortified sacred settlement. The very name "Lisdean" means *Holy Fort* or *Sacred Enclosure*. Marked on old Ordnance Survey maps as "Druid Stones," the site is known for its powerful energy — situated at the crossing of ley lines, forming a vortex of healing and reflection. Visitors are naturally drawn to its atmosphere of deep peace.

Additionally, a 'community field' has been developed beside the farmyard, featuring two polytunnels, raised vegetable beds, a willow grove, an apple orchard and soft fruit bushes. There is also long-established blackcurrant plantation.

The Buildings

Lisdean's array of outbuildings speak to a long and storied rural life. In 2015, a cluster of structures — including a 19th-century rural shop, byres (cowsheds), garage, and ancillary buildings — were granted full planning permission for an ecotherapy retreat, educational centre, and healing space. This permission is retained in perpetuity.

The vision: the gentle transformation of these historic spaces into a place of renewal, learning, and connection. Future possibilities could also lean toward eco-tourism, regenerative projects, or community ventures — the canvas is wide open.

Additional buildings include a classic cut-sandstone Ulster Barn (18th-century vernacular architecture), an old hen house, a large silage shed, and an open-sided hay house — each offering their own potential for sensitive restoration and new life.

The Farmhouse

A modern, one-and-a-half-storey farmhouse, built in 2003, anchors the property. It currently offers three bedrooms, with ample space in the loft to create an additional 3–4 rooms — ideal for a family, community, or residential retreat team.

Common Ground

The farm has been the home of Common Ground N.I. and its founder/director since 2016. This community-based organisation has been running a variety of activities and events under the banner of ecotherapy and community development. This includes ecotherapy groups, nature celebration events around the cycle of the year, retreats and hosting events for other groups. Common Ground has been intimately involved in make the place one of healing for humans and nature including the rewilding of the land.

In Summary

Lisdean Farm is not merely for sale — it is seeking new custodians. Those with a vision to nurture nature, honour sacred heritage, and cultivate a space for healing and regeneration will find here the rarest of opportunities: a living sanctuary, ready to evolve.