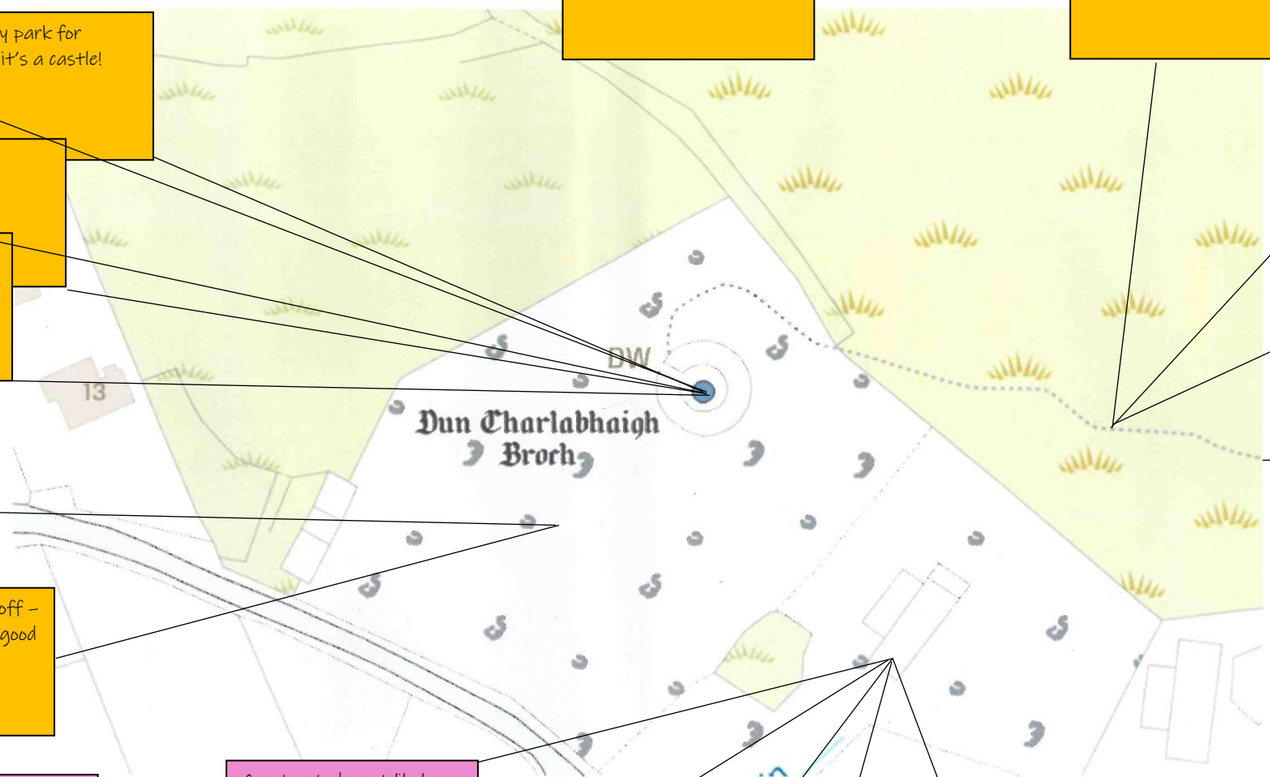

Landscape interpretation

Solitude

I do go up to the top of the hill

Best place to take a photo of the broch is up here [on rise behind it]

Go to take photographs

Rewilding – people don't come for the sunshine, interested in the nature

Not much up there

People have their own views on what it is about – not too much interpretation, can use their imagination

Exhilarating – don't need anything else

The views

After walking up, like to explore the area around it

Tend to take the same walk up, sit in the same place

Like walking up and looking down on to the ruined blackhouse

Huge statement in the landscape

Nothing to distract from it

It's a play park for children – it's a castle!

When I was a kid I climbed on it

Children playing with wooden swords – can climb inside

Ability to imagine

Other paths around the broch would give different perspectives

Provide information about local wildlife and plants on paths going down

Walk up there with the dog

Says no dogs on the gate but think that's unfair when you can take dogs in at Callanish – it's OK if on a lead

Like that it is sitting on a working croft, which has grown up around it

Sheep can put people off – lambs on there, not a good idea with visitors

Lots of people don't go, or have never been, especially folks from elsewhere on Lewis but even those locally

Place you go with visitors

Religious concerns. Feeling we shouldn't be going into our more distant past.

Connection to other brochs and crannogs locally

Constructed most likely with stone from the broch!

Part of the wider story – picture of the broch in the brochure from 1800s shows the blackhouse

Blackhouses valuable themselves, can see all the structure – are they protected?

Blackhouse is part of the experience

Also has potential as a development site

Some kids like the exhibition and go round and round, others get scared

Locals go when it's quieter - in the winter, in the evenings to see the sunsets, and at the weekend

Locals are not coming into the Centre - would if it sold milk and newspapers

After dinner when the kids want a run about

Most people go straight up

Take grandchildren there

People miss out the broch if don't have time, even when advised to go – quite annoyed about that

Archaeology here (on Lewis) is under funded and under noticed

Colour code: Blue: Why and when people visit; Orange: Behaviours; Green: Landscape/Setting; Yellow: Feelings/Emotions; Pink: Connections to other narratives