

# ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15



Dec  
2015

KILANERIN-BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION

A Report on the activities of the Community Development Association

# Annual Report 2014/15

KILANERIN-BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

## CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

It has been a privileged and invigorating experience to chair the Kilanerin-Ballyfad Community Development Association in 2014/15. I would like to formally commend the outgoing Chairperson, Mr Peter O'Connor for his incredible leadership over the years that he has led the Association. Although the achievements during that time come from the efforts of many, Peter's direction, energy and drive have been major contributors to success. I should reassure you that Peter has remained extremely active within the association and has continued to guide many of the initiatives contained within this report.

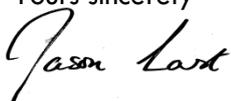
On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank all those who have contributed to local community development in 2014/15. Without your combined efforts, it would not have been possible to continue with the community development plan. In addition to the financial benefit of the events that have been organised and so well attended, there has also been a clear social benefit with more opportunities for everyone to get involved.

In the previous annual report, we noted the plan to open the New Community Centre in November 2013. I can confirm that phase I was officially opened on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 by Michael Ring TD, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. Since then, throughout 2014, the sports hall has been regularly booked and used, already demonstrating the local need for such a facility and validating the plan.

I am delighted to let you know that thanks to all of the fundraising efforts, phase II of the community centre has commenced construction. The aim is to complete the shell of phase II, concentrating on ensuring the availability of changing facilities for those using the sports centre but also providing some meeting spaces for those who would like to use the facility for other types of activities. Half of the cost of building phase II is met by grants, the remainder will come partly from the funds raised in 2014/15, in part from sponsorship and in part from the sale of assets that the KBCDA has developed over the years. The KBCDA has also supported other initiatives throughout the community, many of which are contained within this report, and continues to be committed to future developments in Ballythomas and Ballyfad. The Sheltered housing project in Kilanerin has also been completed since the last AGM, the funding for which was secured by Senator Michael D'Arcy, with implementation and continued management of the project through the Sheltered Housing Committee chaired by Mr John Bardon.

Finally, over the last twelve months, we have seen the coming together of different organisations within the community for combined initiatives, from Strictly Come Dancing to the National Pride of Place nominations for Kilanerin. It is this integrated approach to initiative support combined with your individual efforts and our community spirit that will drive a successful future for all.

Yours sincerely



Jason Last, KBCDA Chairperson

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2013 -2015

## Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31/03/2015

	2015		2014	
INCOME:	€	€	€	€
Voluntary Contributions	34878		32312	
Capital Grants re Phase 1 & 2	195000		50671	
Fundraising - Strictly Come Dancing & Dining	17286		12500	
Cattle Raising Scheme	1000		0	
Sports Hall Rental & Ballybeg Rental	9560		6627	
Grants Received*	6826		1004	
Contributions re Local Infrastructure	9850		0	
Sundry	544		0	
ESBi			10000	
	-----		-----	
		274944		113114
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Personal Loans Received	4500		7700	
Kilanerin Sheltered Housing - Prof. Fees	0		9225	
	-----		-----	
		4500		16925
		-----		-----
		279444		130039
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	€	€	€	€
Development Works	232610		81003	
Donations - Other Parish Events	2000			
Local Infrastructure	5854			
Insurance	1717		3035	
Bank Interest and Charges	9491		11742	
Office Expenses	705		400	
Accounts and Professional Services	2850		2100	
Cleaning and Rental expenses	3796			
ESB and Heating	3503		2372	
Collector General - VAT and RCT	0		148	
Shrubs, Flowers, Tidy Towns Improvements	844		2658	
Sundry Expenses	710		105	
	-----		-----	
		264080		103563
<b>SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		-----		-----
		15364		26476
	€	€	€	€
Opening Bank Balances 01/04				
Current Accounts	11475		4001	
Loan Accounts	-211255		-230257	
	-----		-----	
		-199780		-226256
Closing Bank Balances 31/03				
Current Accounts	828		11475	
Loan Accounts	-185244		-211255	
	-----		-----	
		-184416		-199780
		-----		-----
Increase in Bank Balances - yr end 31/03		15364		26476

\*This amount includes Local Agenda 21 Grant (€1,400), Public Enhancement Grant (€4,250) & Arts & Amenity Grant. These accounts do not include any funds received after 31/03/2015.

## CURRENT COMMITTEE

Chairman	Jason Last
Vice Chairman	John Bardon
Secretary	Siobhán O’Sullivan
Treasurers	Peter Bushe, Dave Naughton
Members	Peter O’Connor Michael D’Arcy Cathal O’Sullivan Gráinne Hartnett Pat O’Connor Orla Fealey Julie Sammiller Mary Fleming John Hegarty Donal Hayden Anthony Donohue Jimmy McCarthy Fiontán Ó Súilleabháin Seamus Hughes Dolores Murphy Padraic Caulfield Brendan Bolger
CE Community Secretary	Althea Styles
CE workers	David Conyard, Greg Penny,
TÚS worker	JJ Kinsella (Ballythomas)
RSS worker	Pat Sheehan
Bankers	Ulster Bank Gorey, Bank of Ireland, Carnew
Accountant	Doyle Associates
Solicitors	Donal O’Sullivan & Co.
Architects	Enda O’ Leary, HKR

## ACTIVITIES REPORT

### Community Centre

Phase I of the community centre (sports/mixed use) is complete and was opened on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> November by Michael Ring TD, Minister of State for Sports and Tourism. The 600 sq.m. indoor hall with sports floor is now available with two changing rooms and toilet facilities. It can be booked by all groups and individuals in Kilanerin-Ballyfad-Ballythomas-Annagh-Hollyfort and is also being used extensively by clubs and schools from the area. Line markings for badminton, basketball and volleyball have recently been completed and will add to the range of activities that can take place. The income from the rental is a welcome addition to the funding of the Association. Work on Phase II, which will consist of the changing room block, together with gym and multi-purpose rooms, is already under way.

This work has been funded by a €100,000 grant from Wexford County Council and a €51,000 grant from Wexford Local Development towards the final works, as well as by our own funds and by interest free loans and deferred payments from individuals and groups within our community. A second Council grant of €100,000 is going towards the cost of the Phase II work as well as a €100,000 Sports Capital grant.

### Development Sites Kilanerin

KBCDA owns 8 fully serviced sites for semi-detached houses in Kilanerin. Houses have 4 bedrooms and a garage. Sites have been recently remarketed and offers are under consideration.

Planning permission for the sites and all other proposed buildings on the community site extends to 2017. An offer has been accepted for the 8 sites as one lot and contracts have been exchanged. The proceeds from the sale will go towards the construction of Phase II and clearing some of our existing debts.



### Ballybeg Cottage



The cottage at Ballybeg (Failte Ireland 3\* rated) has been let both as a holiday home over the summers and has also been successfully let for longer terms over the winter period. This has provided a constant source of income to the Association. The site was purchased by the Association 9 years ago as an investment property and refurbished as a hill walking base in 2011, with assistance from WLD.

### Sheltered Housing Kilanerin

In April 2014 construction of the 6 houses started and was completed by Byrne & Byrne of Bunclody in April 2015. The project funding was secured from the Department of the Environment at €688,000. This includes the purchase of the site and the completion of the houses. Wexford County Council is managing the funding of the project in association with



Kilnerin Sheltered Housing Association. The development was formally launched by Minister Howlin and Senator Michael D'Arcy on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015. The houses are occupied by elderly people from the local community and surrounding area who can live independently and who are already on the council housing list. In October 2015, sadly, one of the first residents, Ms Betty O'Connor passed away and the housing Committee offer sympathy to the O'Connor Family. The committee will offer the house to a local person in the near future.

This project has been ongoing for the last 6 years and it is great to see it finally completed. A special thanks to Mr John Bardon and the Housing Association for their hard work and commitment, also to our local public representatives, especially Senator Michael D'Arcy, who lobbied the then Minister for the Environment Phil Hogan to make the funding available.

A grant €4,200 was obtained by KBCDA in 2014 from the Public Areas Enhancement Scheme and used to landscape the fountain and park area in front of the sheltered housing, in association with the Tidy Towns group. The landscaping was completed in early 2015 through the expertise and hard work of CE and RSS workers Mr Dave Conyard, Mr Colm Kavanagh and Mr Pat Sheehan.

## Community Secretary

The Community Secretary position is provided under a FAS CE scheme and as well as dealing with the affairs of the Development Association, is available to assist all organisations, clubs and parish bodies in the Kilnerin, Ballyfad, Ballythomas, and Annagh areas. The contact number is 089-4456184 or via email at [admin@kilnerin.com](mailto:admin@kilnerin.com). Ms Althea Styles is based in the Community Office in the Shamrock Hall. The Development Association wishes to thank the Hall Committee for providing the office space while the Community building is under construction.

## Tidy Towns

The Development Association continues to assist the Tidy Towns Groups in the area by providing funding from the County Council amenity grant and by the provision of DSP Community Employment (CE) and WLD Rural Social Scheme (RSS) workers. Funding of €1,400 was provided by KBCDA to the School Garden and Tidy Towns Group in 2014 by means of a Local Agenda 21 grant in order to develop local recycling facilities. An additional CE position has been secured to assist with the Tidy Towns maintenance.

The annual Tidy Towns mark continues to rise and Kilnerin won the 2015 best overall entry at the annual Wexford County Council Environment Awards. Both the Elms (2014) and An Bruach (2015) were successful in winning the best presented estate awards. Well done to all concerned.

**The Gap Tidy Towns & Heritage Group** firmly established itself over the past year, working on a number of projects at Pallas waterworks, Clonroe Crossroads, The Gap junction and Lennon's Cross as well as continuing with clearing of dry stone walls. Works were also carried out to improve road safety. The securing of TÚS staff was very welcome. A number of fundraisers have been held during the year. It recently applied for wind-farm funding to develop a network of walking & running trails to be established and developed over the coming years.

## Representations

Contact has been maintained with Council staff, local Councillors, TDs, Senators, WLD, Wexford Community Forum, the Tidy Towns network, Coillte, ESBI, the Raheenleagh Windfarm Fund and the Department of the Environment, among others. This has been done by way of meetings and attendances at seminars, public meetings and consultations. The Association also co-operated with Kilnerin Neighbourhood Watch in the Text Alert scheme.

## Arts

Every August since 2011 The Gap Arts Festival has brought a weekend of theatre, art, workshops and fun to Ballythomas. Professional Award-Winning shows such as Donal O'Kelly's *Catalpa*, axis:Ballymun's *Waiting For Elvis*; as well as *A Village Wooing*, *Fíbin* from Conamara, *Buí Bolg* from Wexford, and puppets from Branar Téatar do Pháistí brought the best in innovative theatre right to our doorstep. There are workshops for all ages: drama, dance, film making and storytelling. Two short films were shot here, and a scary audio tale *The Ghost Pool* based on local stories was devised. This year the Gap Cinema was launched. For more information, for suggestions, or to get involved see [www.gapartsfestival.com](http://www.gapartsfestival.com). A grant of €1000.00 was obtained by KBCDA in 2015 from Foras na Gaeilge to run Irish language events in association with the Festival.



## Website

The community website, [www.kilanerin.com](http://www.kilanerin.com), contains a wealth of information on the area as well as up to date news of events. Thanks to Damian Nash for the upkeep of the site. Damian also runs the annual primary schools poetry competition for which the results booklet is published at the time of the parish field day.



## Community Gain Fund

After representations by KBCDA a social/community gain fund has been established in 2012 as part of the ESBI/Coillte windfarm development at Raheenleagh. Funding of €42,000 yearly will be available to community organisations in the area once the windfarm is operational. Advance funding of €15,000 has been received to date by KBCDA to progress the Community Centre Project. The construction of the windfarm has now commenced and Mr Enda Kavanagh has assisted the committee to not only maintain an agreed community contribution fund but he has also successfully managed to increase the fund from the previous figure of €25,000 in line with the expected increase in energy generating capabilities of the farm.

## Woodland Walks

The woodland walks in Kilanerin, Croghan and Ballyfad continue to be popular. Maintenance work and litter control is carried out by the FAS/RSS workers. Two committee members, Ms Grainne Hartnett and Ms Mary Fleming have been in constant contact with Coillte and the National Trails Organisation (NTO). The Kilanerin-Curragh looped walk is now a signed 6km trail that is officially registered with the NTO. Special credit to Gráinne for securing funding and voluntary input to bring the trail up to the required standard. The Curragh trail was part of the successful North Wexford Walking Festival organised by the Wexford Walking Trails group in September 2015. Submissions have also been made by KBCDA to Coillte as part of their public consultation on the south-east Business Area Unit plan for 2016-2020.

## Fundraising

The voluntary contribution scheme continues with over €67,000 collected over the past two years. The number of active contributors has fallen due to the economic climate and also, we realise, due to the pace of visible activity. Work on fundraising options continues and a number of plans to raise additional funds are being considered.

The calf rearing scheme set up in 2013 in which over 20 calves are being reared for the Association by local farmers is now bearing fruit with over €10,000 raised through sales so far,

and a similar number yet to be sold. The Association is most grateful to the farmers who are taking part and to those who have bought or sponsored calves. Special thanks to Mr Pat O'Connor who has put a considerable amount of work into this project.

The Development Association is actively supporting the 2014 'Strictly Come Dancing' event and other fundraisers organised by the Kilanerin-Ballyfad GAA Club. The Development Association received almost €30,000 as its share of the proceeds from the events. Thanks to the GAA for their co-operation on this project.

## Ballyfad Hall

The Ballyfad Hall Committee have decided to demolish the existing hall and build a new one on the same site. The Association will be giving financial support to this project as well as assisting with and supporting grant applications. Work is expected to commence in mid-2016.

## Pride of Place

Wexford County Council nominated Kilanerin to represent county Wexford in the 32 county Pride of Place competition in 2014 and 2015. The judges visited the village on both occasions and were given a presentation and tour on their activities by over 16 groups and organisations from within the area. While the judges were very impressed with the amount of work completed and the overall planning approach, this was not sufficient to be successful in winning our category. Well done to all concerned nonetheless.

## Balkan Delegation

There was a first for the Development Association in October 2015 when it hosted a visit by a fact-finding delegation on rural community development from the former Yugoslav counties of Bosnia, Serbia, Macedonia and Kosovo. The delegation also visited local farms and businesses in the area.

## Ballythomas Community Field

Ballythomas Community Field continues to improve year on year, with the ground taking progressively less time to dry out after heavy rain. It is maintained regularly. The cost for last season was €1,000 paid for by Ballythomas School. An application has been made for Windfarm funding for an all-weather walking/running track around the perimeter of the field. A decision is due on this by end December 2015.

## Public Participation Network (PPN)

The Wexford Community Forum has been replaced by the new format PPN. The Development Association is a registered member and urges other community bodies to do the same.

***The Committee of the Development Association extends its sympathy to the families of those supporters and contributors who have passed away during the past year, and to all in our community who have suffered loss.***

## GRANTS RECEIVED IN 2014/15

<b>Department of Sports &amp; Tourism</b>	A grant of €100,000 towards Phase II of Community Centre (changing rooms).
<b>WLD:</b>	A grant €51,000 for finalisation Phase I of Community Centre. Payment for Community worker under the Rural Social Scheme. TÚS worker for Ballythomas.
<b>Dept of Env.</b>	Grant of €427,000 towards construction of Sheltered Housing Scheme
<b>Wexford Co Co:</b>	Grant of €1400 under LA21 towards School Garden and Composting facilities. Grant of €4,250 from the Public Areas Enhancement Scheme. A grant of €100,000 towards Phase II of Community Centre (changing rooms). €1,000 amenity grant towards Tidy villages work in Ballyfad, Annagh and Kilanerin. Provisions of trees, clean up kits, and waste disposal facilities for Tidy Towns Group.
<b>Dept. Of Social Protection:</b>	Funding of 3 Community Employment Scheme Workers to carry out community work in Ballythomas, Ballyfad and Kilanerin.
<b>Coillte/ESBI:</b>	Funding of €10,000 from the Community Gain Fund.
<b>Foras na Gaeilge:</b>	Funding of €1,000 towards Irish Language Events on the weekend of the Gap Arts Festival

## WORK PROGRAMME 2015

- Complete Phase II of the Community Centre.
- Support Ballyfad Hall group in building a new hall.
- Sale and construction of sites or semi-detached houses.
- Registration of additional woodland walks.
- Fund raising to allow completion of Phase II of the Community Centre.
- Support the activities of Tidy Villages, Arts Groups and other activities.
- Continue to apply for grants and public funding from local and national bodies.

**KILANERIN BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION LTD,  
COMHARCHUMANN FORBARTHA COILL AN IARAINN BAILE FADA**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**KILANERIN HALL**

**Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**8.30pm**

**AGENDA**

1. Minutes of last AGM
2. Treasurers Report
3. Annual Report
4. Election of Committee Members
5. AOB

**KILANERIN BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
COMHARCHUMANN FORBARTHA COILL AN IARAINN BAILE FADA**

NOMINATION FORM

BALLYTHOMAS / ANNAGH AREA

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposer:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded:** \_\_\_\_\_

BALLYFAD AREA VACANCY

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by** \_\_\_\_\_

KILANERIN AREA VACANCIES

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed by** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed by** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATION FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO MS SIOBHAN O’SULLIVAN, SECRETARY KBCDA,  
C/O COMMUNITY OFFICE, KILANERIN  
BY MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

