

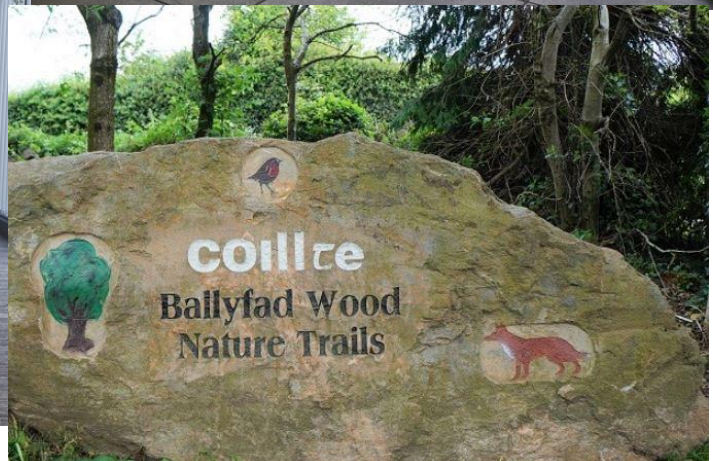
ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23



May
2023

KILANERIN-BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION CLG

Report on the activities of KBCDA



Annual Report 2022/23

KILANERIN-BALLYFAD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

There will be an AGM on Tuesday 30th May to report on the financial year to March 2021/22 and to highlight KBCDA associated activities in 2022. Following the challenges that this community and the wider population faced due to the Covid-19 pandemic, I am pleased to report that there has been a significant amount of activity and re-engagement in the community space.

In the months following the outbreak of the virus, the HSE approached KBCDA with a request to run a vaccination centre from the premises of Kilanerin Community Centre (KCC) due to our geographical placement and the high standards of the building. Following thorough local public consultation, KBCDA entered into a licensed agreement with the HSE and maintained an excellent relationship throughout the life cycle of the vaccination centre.

While the coffee shop space remained vacant during the Covid lockdowns, we welcomed the arrival of Caiféin into KCC and note that this new business has brought life and energy to the building as well as the wider area. We continue to host Dolly's Hairdressing and Beauty, and Roisin Byrne Physical Therapy in the KCC building and wish them and Caiféin all the best for the coming year.

A number of grant applications were made and were successfully managed and followed through to completion which helped to improve the facilities in KCC as well as facilities in Ballythomas and Ballyfad.

Funding from the Department of Rural & Community Development supported the comprehensive refurbishment of the business centre, including the new floor covering both inside and to the exterior (roof terrace), glass partitions and new furnishings, making it a more usable space for a diverse range of activities. A stand-alone structure was installed to facilitate over-flow from the business centre and act as a separate office/creative space for the wider community to use. The business centre, as well as Ballyfad Community Centre, is part of the national Connected Hubs network, facilitating easy booking and payment through a centralised portal.

Wexford Waterford Education and Training Board (WWETB) funded hardware, furnishings and audio visual items to assist in developing future training opportunities within Kilanerin Community Centre and this led to a number of digital skills training courses and a defibrillator course, which were available to all members of the wider community.

Community activities continue to flourish in Ballyfad and Ballythomas. The Gap Arts Festival, with support from KBCDA and other bodies, again provided us with much entertainment with the outdoor cinema a novel idea to conquer the Irish summer rain with. The completion of Ballyfad Hall has created opportunities for the local community to enjoy more activities closer to home and we wish them well in developing their community centre.

Tara Studios, a new film studio to be located in grounds of Borleigh Demesne, have been granted planning permission following a lengthy process through An Bord Pleanála. We congratulate them on getting through this process and look forward to a positive relationship with them into the future.

Following the opening of KCC Phase II, the gym has been a popular and well-used amenity - this is reflected in the gym membership numbers which have been steadily growing since our re-opening.

We have installed a digital entry system which is connected to the new gym management software, allowing us to avail of real time data and additionally helps us to manage budgets more easily. The door entry system is also used for our business centre and now at the front entrance.

A previous LEADER grant assisted in the acquisition of youth club items which have now been brought into use by the newly founded Kilanerin Youth Club which is a great success with many young people in the wider surrounding area enjoying the facilities each Friday evening.

The existing activities and groups which make use of the centre's facilities include: indoor bowling, basketball and badminton in the sports hall; private fitness and yoga classes, as well as youth club activities in the viewing gallery; baby music sessions and various meetings and trainings in the meeting room. Parties in the sports hall on weekends are very popular with the local and wider community and we now have a team who look after these events.

KCC, the building, has become a vibrant and busy part of the village and hinterland, and we hope that the spirit in which it was developed, "a community centre for all in the community" continues into the future, giving positive recreation opportunities and other services to all of those who helped to make it happen as well as those who come after.

To improve on a democratic, transparent and fair representation of all in our community we have made amendments to our Constitution. Representatives from all the local community groups will have a vote at any AGM or EGM. KBCDA, governed by a Board of Directors, will have advocates from each of the existing sub-committees. The Board will be made up of representatives from Ballythomas, Ballyfad and Kilanerin in keeping with our Constitution.

A big thank you to the staff who help to keep the activities and structures of KBCDA going, including the CE and RSS workers.

Having been involved in the growth of KBCDA from its early days, it is with great pleasure that I present this report, outlining the many achievements which have been brought about by the hard work and dedication of a very special group of people, the committee of KBCDA. My thanks go to all who have been involved in helping to bring us and our community to this point, through the good times, and the more challenging times.

Le dea-mhéin

Julie Sammiller
Chairperson

CURRENT KBCDA COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Julie Sammiller
Vice Chairperson	-
Secretary	Deirdre Sheriff (resigning)
Treasurers	Karen Curtis
PRO	Jane Hughes
Members	Padraic Caulfield Aileen Cooper (resigned 2022) Anthony Donohue Nicky D'Arcy Gráinne Hartnett John Hegarty Elaine Hughes Seamus Hughes Jason Last Enda Kavanagh Dolores Murphy Pat O'Connor Peter O'Connor (resigned 2022) Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin Julie Sammiller Deirdre Sheriff Jane Hughes Michael McGonigle
CE Community Secretary	Tracy Kenny
CE workers	Pat Howard, Kevin Walker
RSS worker	Pat Sheehan
KCC Employees	Tina Gregory (Centre Manager), Irene Molloy, Kate Fortune, Olive Curtis
Bankers	AIB Gorey, Bank of Ireland, Carnew
Accountant	Donal Noonan, Michael Doyle & Co
Solicitors	Donal O'Sullivan & Co.
Architects	Enda O' Leary

Working groups / sub-committees:

- Events
- Gym / Sports
- Facilities / Building
- Woodland Walks
- Accounts
- Business Centre
- Finance
- Governance
- Renewable Energy Programme

Associated groups:

- KSHA (Kilanerin Sheltered Housing Association) CLG
- Kilanerin Tidy Towns
- Sustainable Energy Community

KBCDA INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 31.03.2022

The full audited accounts will be available for inspection at the AGM.

Income :	€	€
Voluntary Contributions	6,293	
Sports Hall rental & Gym membership	20,759	
Birthday parties. Business centre & salon	5,548	
Coffee shop sales	1,788	
Sundry Income	1,188	
HSE rental	241,666	
Non capital grants	7,100	284,342
Other Income		
Capital grants	65,419	
Revenue - Covid wage rebate	5,703	
		71,122
Expenditure :	€	€
Development Works - ESB Connections	8,133	
Development works, business centre, lift etc - centre,	107,153	
Donations	750	
Local infrastructure & Woodland walks	7,095	
Insurance & service charges	6,685	
Wages	20,798	
Cafe resale Purchases	2,035	
Centre consumables	512	
Gym, repairs & party expenses	881	
Cleaning & repairs	12,405	
Bank Interest and Charges	5,266	
Office Expenses	3,428	
Telephone	2,514	
Accounts & Professional Fees	7,961	
ESB & Heating	14,287	
Sundry Expenses	1,092	200,995
Excess of income over expenditure including capital items		154,469
Increase in creditors/ grant prepaid	-30,101	
Increase in debtors	36,444	6,343
Decrease after creditors/debtors movement		148,126
Bank Movement	€	€
Opening Bank Balances Current a/c 01.04.2021	5,823	
Opening Loan Balance	-98,094	
Opening Members loans	-87,838	-180,109
Closing a/c Balances Current a/c 31.03.2022	82,800	
Closing Loan Balance	-38,945	
Closing members loans	-75,838	-31,983
increase in Bank Balances year ended 31.03.2022		148,126

Notes

Income & Expenditure does not include depreciation or amortisation of grants

Development works and capital grants will be classified as assets/grants in financial statements

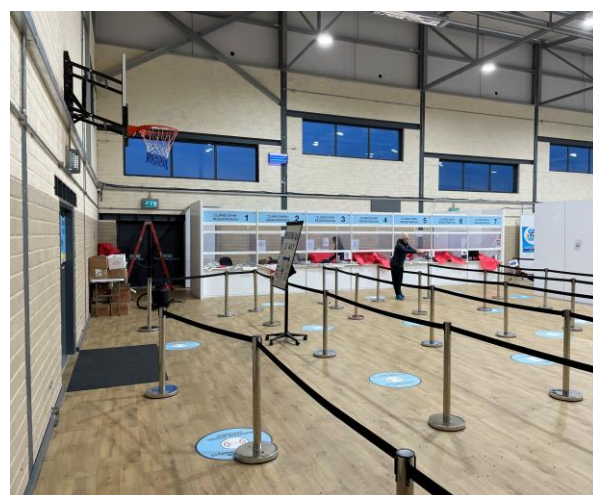
ACTIVITIES REPORT

Community Centre - KCC

The sports hall and accompanying ancillary rooms were a great fit for the HSE's requirements when looking for a facility which could accommodate a vaccination centre in north Wexford. KBCDA were delighted to work with the HSE in providing this important service.

Before and during the operation of the vaccination centre we engaged with local residents and other community groups to ensure there would be as little disruption as possible. Members of staff from the HSE forwarded their appreciation to us and complimented us on the building and the attitude of the committee and people of Kilanerin and surrounding areas.

We appreciate that some activities had to be compromised while the vaccination centre was in situ, and thank all those that were patient until we could resume our normal activities.



The community centre in Kilanerin is now a busy and vibrant part of the village and its hinterland.

Apart from the permanent services on offer such as gym, coffee shop, hair dresser, beautician, physical therapist, Men's Shed, youth club and business centre, many activities are carried out in the various spaces which are available for rent by external operators. These include baby music classes, yoga, spinning, pilates, digital skills training, one-off meetings and training sessions.

Additionally, there are one-off events for which the centre is available, for example a youth orchestra from Dublin and Wexford met in the sports hall for a collaboration event and were hugely impressed with the facility.

The Gorey 3-Day Cycle event used the meeting room and car park for Day Two of their programme and were thrilled with what we could offer and want to come back again next year.



KCC Workspace / Business Centre

We are delighted to report that KCC Workspace, our community remote hub, has undergone a significant transformation during 2022 with the support of the Department of Rural & Community Development, Connected Hubs grant.

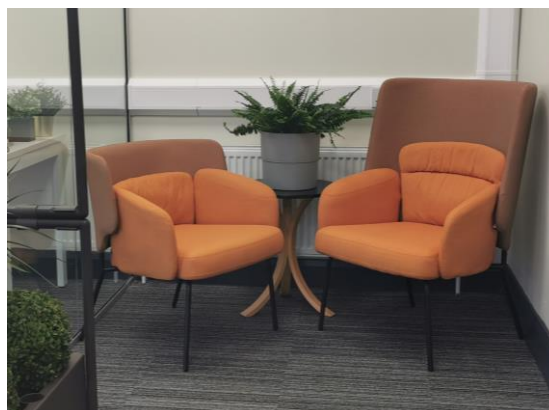
Our newly refurbished workspace now boasts five private offices, seven hot desks and two dedicated desks, all of which are fully equipped with state-of-the-art furniture, including sit-stand desks, ergonomic chairs, lockable desk lockers, monitor stands, and desk lamps. In addition, we have a wonderful Outdoor Pod, which is a versatile and functional space located on the rooftop terrace. This multi-purpose structure is designed to serve various needs, including as a large multi-desk office, meeting room, media room, or general purpose space for group meetings.

Our rooftop area, with comfortable garden furniture, offers a quiet retreat, with stunning views of the beautiful countryside. It's the perfect place to foster creativity and productivity, whether working alone or collaboratively.

We are proud to be part of the ConnectedHubs network, a government initiative that provides people with access to remote hubs nationwide.

On October 5th, we celebrated our official opening, and since then, we have been supporting many local businesses and individual workers.

We are pleased to report that we have secured two long-term leases for our private offices and welcomed over 60 new members. In addition, we have upgraded our WIFI and security access, ensuring our members have reliable connectivity in a secure environment. Our meeting room has also been upgraded to conference standard, featuring full video and AV facilities. At KCC Workspace, we remain committed to providing our members with a top-of-the-line workspace experience and supporting the growth of our community of remote workers and entrepreneurs.



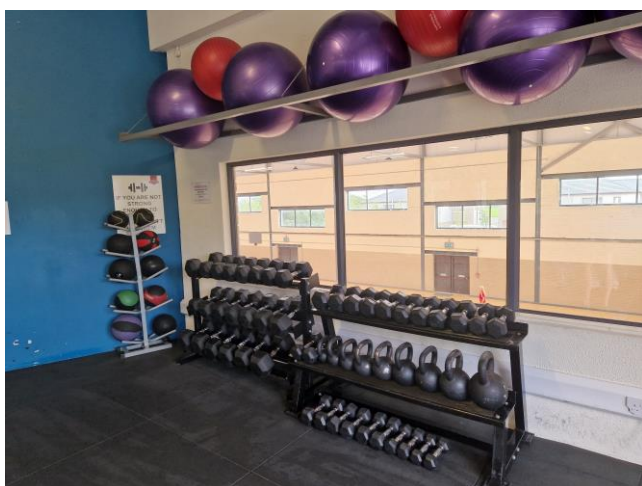
KCC Community Gym and Sports



We are delighted to announce the continued success and growth of KCC Gym, with close to 400 members now enjoying our facilities. As part of our commitment to improving the experience for our members, we have moved to a fully automated gym membership system using Glofox, which has greatly streamlined the registration and booking process.

We are proud to continue investing in new equipment to ensure that our members have access to state-of-the-art facilities.

For new members, gym inductions are run twice weekly to provide an introduction to our gym and its equipment. In addition, we have invested in a new door access system using KISI technology, providing a secure access system to the building and gym. Despite these upgrades, we remain committed to providing great value for money to our members. It is clear that our gym is hugely popular not only within the community but also across the wider Gorey area, and we are proud to continue to serve our members with a top-quality fitness experience.



Membership rates/prices:

Single adult - €20/month

Couple adults - €35/month

Student - €15/month

Annual upfront payment rates

Single adult - €199

Couple adult - €360

Student - €160

Student/Active Retired - €50 / 3 months

Opening times 5.30am – 10.30pm daily

Follow the link below to join:

<https://kcc.kilanerin.com/gym/>



The Association are delighted to see the Community Centre being used so actively by members of the community and wider.

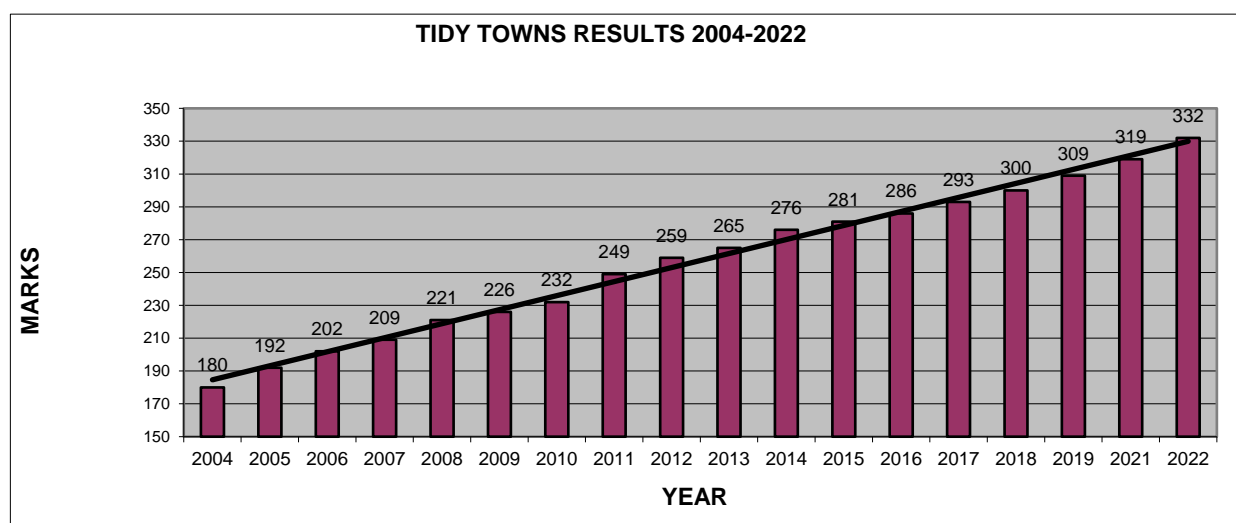
Sheltered Housing Kilanerin

Kilanerin Sheltered Housing Association CLG (KSHA) is an Approved Housing Body and since 2015 has provided accommodation for people over 55 from the community who are capable of independent living.

Rents are used to provide a fund for upkeep and renovation of the six two-bedroom units. Chairman John Bardon and his committee (Siobhán O'Sullivan, Mary D'Arcy, Annie Kent, Paddy Hughes, Brian Hughes, Donal Hayden), manage and operate the sheltered housing on a voluntary basis. All units are currently occupied but should someone have a need for a family member in the future they should contact a committee member of KSHA.

Kilanerin Tidy Towns

KBCDA continues to assist the Tidy Towns campaign by the provision of 3 Community Employment Program (CEP) workers and one Rural Social Scheme worker, who work on a range of maintenance and development projects. Kilanerin Tidy Towns resumed activity in summer 2022 after the COVID break and secured an additional 13 points in the National competition to move to 4th place in Wexford Category B with 332 points. The yearly mark continues to rise since our first entry in 2004.



KTt has undergone a revamp in 2022/23 with the appointment of a new Chairman, Damien Meany, Secretary Roz O'Shaughnessy and Treasurer David Williams and we are happy to say a good number of new volunteers who along with the old reliables have been turning up on evenings and weekends to keep the village and surrounding area looking clean and attractive.

A very successful Christmas Parade and Santa visit was held this year as fundraiser and community event. Work by other groups that contributed to the Tidy Towns effort include the placing of famine pots restored by the Men's Shed, the painting of the Shamrock Hall by the Hall Committee and the Solar Panels and Woodland Trails projects by KBCDA.

The 3-year Tidy Towns plan has been updated and includes number of projects to preserve and enhance biodiversity are currently under way and significant funding for a biodiversity survey of the village and surrounding area was obtained. Additional funding was obtained from POBAL and Wexford County Council. Thanks also to Gorey Municipal Council members and staff for their practical support and assistance, and to all local groups for their contribution.



Two of Santa's elves, Christmas 2022

Gap Arts Festival

KBCDA is happy to support the Gap Arts Festival and **The twelfth Gap Arts Festival** took place in and around Ballythomas on the weekend of July 29-31st - and in a variety of workshops in the two months prior to that.

630 audience and participants enjoyed live theatre, music, dance, movies indoors and out, talks, a VR presentation, participative workshops and a community puppet pageant.

The festival employed **35 artists and 7 technicians**.

10 new short stories written by participants in the **Creative Communities' Writing Workshops** were

published on www.gapartsfestival.com.

The **Music Mentoring programme** gave participants their first public performance opportunity at

TheGig@TheGap. And a new band, now in demand through the region, **The Soul Cowboys**, was formed.



Under the mentorship of Honor Heffernan, the Gap Choir is open to all who enjoy singing – contact gapartsfest@gmail.com

With local film maker Terence White, the festival is developing a new documentary **Croghan's Gold** on the gold rush of 1795.

The **Gap 2022 Wrap-Up** video: <https://youtu.be/Y-rGrjYtXwo>

The **Puppet Performance and Community Pageant 2022** video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17u1EfZ0CoA>



Community Gain Fund

Raheenleagh Windfarm Community Fund provides yearly funding to the communities within a radius of the windfarm on Croghan and has been a valuable source of funding since its commencement in 2016. KBCDA played a central role in establishing in the fund and is represented on the fund committee.

A total of €24,000 was awarded in 2021/22 to 6 projects in KBCDA area, including €5,000 to Ballythomas Field and €7,000 for Kilanerin Woods Car Park. Total windfarm funding obtained since the start of the fund for projects in the wider KBCDA area is approximately €275,000 for 27 projects. Funding has also been provided to community groups in the Coolgreany, Johnstown, Ballycoog, Annacurra, Coolboy area.

The main local projects which receive multi-annual funding are the new Ballyfad Hall (€7,900) and the All-Weather pitch at Kilanerin Community Field (€7,500).

Woodland Walks

The Kilanerin and Curragh Wood Trails and the three Raheenleagh/Croghan trails are registered with Sport Ireland and administered and maintained by KBCDA to Sport Ireland standards. The trails continue to be widely used by the community.



Due to an unfortunate occurrence of flooding and washing away of the lower half of Curragh Woods trail on Christmas Day 2022 it was decided to raise the trail as much as possible to avoid this happening a third time and resurface. The work was done by Carrol Plant Hire and is open to walkers now. Funding was by way of an Outdoor recreational Infrastructure Scheme Grant (ORIS).

In addition to this, the trails were cut back, with new seating put in place at Kilanerin and Croghan. Also additional drainage was installed at three locations to preserve the trail path on the Pond Road of Kilanerin and over the river on the straight stretch of the Kilanerin side.





Again, due to extensive flooding an entirely new concrete bridge has been installed earlier in 2022 to replace the old wooden structure. This was a timely job which had to be done in conjunction with Coillte, The Fisheries Board and the fish spawning season. The works were carried out by Neville Plant Hire.



Parts of the Bann River and the Forde's Farmhouse Trail have been resurfaced. Two new benches are installed.

All these works were carried out through KBCDA with the support and co-operation of Coillte, Department of Rural and Community Development, Wexford Walking Trails and Wexford County Council.

'Country Connects' is a series of guided walks organised by Wexford Walking Trails and a recent visit by over 60 people was greatly enjoyed by those who took part.



Events Sub-committee

PARTIES



We are pleased to report that our Kids Birthday Parties have resumed with great success since their closure due to the Covid pandemic.

In June 2022, we reopened the parties and have since transitioned to a fully automated online booking system to streamline the process for our customers. The parties have become a prime venue for the community and wider Gorey area, with bookings offered from Thursday to Sunday. We currently run an average of 6 parties per week, with weekend spots being booked months in advance.

The feedback we have received from parents and children is a testament to the success of the parties, and we look forward to continuing to serve the community with these popular events.

Many weekend dates are booked up well in advance. Those interested in booking a party at KCC should book online at

<https://kcc.kilanerin.com/parties/>

A huge thanks to all those volunteers who have helped in the last year in erecting and taking down the bouncy castles as needed in the facility. Many thanks also to our party co-ordinators Irene Molloy, Olive Curtis, Kate Fortune.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR 2022

April 2022 saw us host a very successful “Meet your Neighbour” event at KCC. The idea of the event was for members of our community, both established members and new members to the area, to come to KCC meet new people, see what facilities are in the community and meet representatives from sporting, cultural and social organisations.

It was also an opportunity for the various groups, clubs and associations to spread the word about what they do, how to join, when and where they operate, and to gain new memberships or committee members.

The event was very successful with a great attendance and feedback from attendees was very positive about the area where we live.

Thanks to all who came along and to the organising committee.



It is only at events such as this that we can see just what a great community spirit there is and celebrate all that is going on in our local area.



CHRISTMAS FAIR 2022



This was the third Christmas Fair at KCC and it was great to be back, after a short break of two years, in December 2022.

Over 40 stalls were present on the day, both local and from afar. It was especially encouraging to see many transition year students from the area attend to showcase their TY projects – many of them proving to be very popular.

The Fair followed on from a fabulous “Santa comes to Kilanerin” event the previous evening in the village where the man in red arrived in style driven through the village and gave presents to all children who had waited patiently for his arrival.

A warm welcome was given to everyone arriving into the festive front door and a lovely evening was had by all.

An experience we hope is repeated for many years. Well done to all in Tidy Towns and KBCDA for bringing this together.



Facilities Sub-Committee

The sub-committee continued with the ongoing maintenance of the building. With the HSE on site in the centre, the centre was busier than normal. At the request of the HSE we installed a new heating system to the main hall.

We finally got to complete the installation of the passenger lift. This now gives us full disable access to all areas of the centre.

We also extended the business centre on the first-floor terrace. We installed a timber cabin on the roof and finished the roof surface with an artificial grass given us additional space and flexibility for the business centre.



Finance Sub-committee

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the KBCDA Committee and has dual reporting to the KBCDA Committee and to the KBCDA Board of Directors and is operating under a new terms of reference approved by the Board on April 11th 2022.

The Sub-Committee meets a minimum of four times per year and aims to ensure that KBCDA's work in relation to finance:

- reflects the perspectives of its membership;
- is strategic, complementing past initiatives and supporting the implementation of KBCDA's Community Plan and associated projects;
- is in line with best practice and adheres to codes of conduct for the charitable sector and companies act and makes decisions and recommendations within the parameters of the objects of KBCDA.

Current members include Jason Last, Julie Sammiller, Peter O'Connor (Board representative), Karen Curtis (as Treasurer) and Grainne Whyte. The group would like to thank other significant contributors to the work of the Finance Committee over the last 2 years including Peter Bushe, Seamus Hughes, Cathal O'Sullivan, Michael D'Arcy, Aileen Cooper and Deirdre Sheriff.

Governance Sub-committee

The Governance sub-committee is a sub-committee of the KBCDA Committee and has dual reporting to the KBCDA Committee and to the KBCDA Board of Directors.

With advice and assistance from Arthur Cox and our own solicitor Donal O'Sullivan, amendments to our Constitution were drafted during the term of this report. The new structure of KBCDA will be presented at the forthcoming AGM and involves the election of a more comprehensive Board of

Directors, which will be reported to by representatives of the existing sub-committees (working groups) which each have responsibility for different areas of the association. Amendments also include representation from all voluntary and community groups in the area, allowing two representatives to vote at an AGM or EGM. These amendments constitute a considerable body of work and Peter O'Connor and Elaine Hughes are to be thanked for their contributions towards it.

Renewable Energy Programme

Our Renewable Energy sub-committee has continued to work on the development of solar energy projects. Solar PV generates clean electricity in daylight and panels can be installed on rooftops or directly on the ground using mounting structures. The KBCDA projects are ground mounted and if realised, will provide an income stream to the association by selling green electricity to the national grid. Renewable energy projects of this nature take a number of years to develop and are contingent upon various external factors such as planning permission, grid connection access and financial viability.

Our sub-committee has been developing 3 projects within the Kilanerin-Ballyfad area and 4 projects in conjunction with external communities in Wexford, Waterford and Kilkenny. We have secured planning permission and received connection assessments from ESB Networks for the 3 solar farm projects within the parish. These 3 projects bid in the RESS 2 auction in April 2022 and were successful, securing the financial support on offer. Unfortunately, the rise in input costs has left the projects unviable and requiring additional support. We are currently negotiating further grant support with SEAI for the first project and if this process is successful, we hope to be able to move into tendering and financing later this year. This is a substantial undertaking and is expected to take 6-9 months before construction could commence. Construction typically takes 12 months and the project would have an operational life of 30 years.

The 4 projects outside of the local community have similar challenges and we continue to work with our partner communities in an effort to move these projects forward.

Fundraising

The voluntary contribution scheme ended officially in April 2016 and a number of members continued to pay their monthly contributions. KBCDA is extremely grateful to all those that continued to contribute by either method.

Further fundraising efforts have slowed down due to the effort involved in managing and maintaining the community centre. Additional funds have been raised through seeking grant aid as noted earlier in this report.

Community Employment Scheme / Rural Social Scheme

COOLGREANY_KILANERIN COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEME CLG

The Community Employment (CE) programme is designed to help people who are long-term unemployed (or otherwise disadvantaged) to get back to work by offering part-time and temporary placements in jobs based within the local communities of Inch, Coolgreany, Johnstown, Ballyfad, Kilanerin and Hollyfort.

It is a private company managed by directors from the community and with a full-time supervisor, Siobhán O'Hara who ensures compliance with Employment Law, Health and Safety requirements, etc. for the 24 employees. Funding is by way of grant from the Department of Social Protection.

Participants can take up other part-time work during their CE placement. The work is community-based and training is provided through CE is delivered within a Quality Assurance framework. See details of recognised courses on www.qqi.ie that can be achieved and that lead to major awards on the National Framework of Qualifications.

When a person's CE placement ends, the person is encouraged to seek a job elsewhere using the skills, experience and training gained while participating on the CE scheme. The duration of a CE placement is for 12 months with some exceptions.

Kilanerlin and Ballyfad currently have 6 CE workers assisting the community.

THE RURAL SOCIAL SCHEME

The Rural Social Scheme (RSS) is operated by Wexford Local Development and provides a supplementary income for farmers and fishermen or women.

People participating in the scheme provide services that benefit rural communities. Kilanerlin currently has 2 RSS workers.

Community Men's Shed

A local Men's Shed continues in Kilanerlin. Anyone interested in joining can contact Dave Coates or Jim Hughes or admin@kilanerlin.com.

KBCDA are delighted to offer the Mens Shed a space at the rear of the community centre which is regularly used by the members to meet up and store their tools.

Members collaborated with Tidy Towns and the Parish Committee to build necessary props for the Kilanerlin Flower Festival and have refurbished various free standing elements in the village including garden benches in the school garden and famine pots on display opposite KCC>



Ballyfad Hall

Ballyfad Community Centre committee wish to report that the new centre is almost completed.

The Centre is installed with high speed broadband which is linked in with the National Connected hubs. The Centre is available to all groups in the area for Social, Cultural, Recreational, Stage production and events.

The Committee acknowledge all the help and support received from KBCDA from the beginning. We would also like to express the value of this community project which greatly helps all cultures in the area.



Ballythomas Community Field

Ballythomas Community Field continues to improve in terms of usage, and drainage is improving year on year.

The children from Ballythomas school enjoy games and PE in the field almost every day. The Gap Arts Festival screened an outdoor film in August and Picnic at the Gap, both of which were very well attended.

Annual running costs include public liability insurance and grass cutting.



The boundary fence was replaced and mainly funded by a grant from Raheenleagh Windfarm. A pub quiz and financial assistance from the KBCDA have helped offset costs, many thanks to everyone.

Many thanks to Paddy O'Toole for his continued hard work around the Field, Syl Ivers, JJ Kinsella and to Des Grannell also.

Sustainable Energy Community

The first task of the SEC was to obtain grant funding for the installation of Solar PV Panels on the Community Centre. An application was submitted to Gorey Credit Union and provisional approval was granted. An application was also submitted to SSE Renewables and €5,000 was approved.

A simultaneous application to (WLD) LEADER was submitted and 75% of the cost was finally approved in June 2022. Additional unforeseen costs with the roof of the centre resulted in a counterbalance system being required and also material supply issues due to Covid/Ukraine.

The PV system was finally commissioned in March 2023 and is now producing excellent results with real time data available through an app and also displayed on a monitor in the reception area of KCC.

The second project applied for and approved by (WLD) LEADER was the feasibility study for a "Smart App". This sets out a blueprint for the successful development of a suitable, hyper-local, community-centred, mobile app with a particular focus on its technical and financial viability aimed at providing widespread benefits across the community.

Objective was also to prove beyond reasonable doubt whether the development of such a digital facility was feasible and/or wanted/required in the community of Kilanerin.



The contract was awarded to MCA Consulting, Carrickmacross and is currently being completed in draft format.

The final version is expected to present an emerging alternative or solution to be used by the wider community to encourage, promote, and foster community connectivity, development, and sustainability.

Alongside this work, our Solar project initiatives gained momentum with success in the RESS 2 auction and is mentioned earlier in this report.

Representations

Contact has been maintained with Council staff, local Councillors, TDs, Senators, WLD, Wexford Public Participation Network, the Gorey District Tidy Towns network, Coillte, ESBI, the Raheenleagh Windfarm Fund, WWETB and the Department of the Environment, among others. This has been done by way of meetings and attendances at seminars, public meeting and consultations.

Thanks to committee members Councillors Hegarty, Donohoe and Ó Súilleabháin for their work and support.

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. We currently do not have an elected PPN Community and Voluntary representative on the Wexford County Council's Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and welcome anyone interested in filling this role. Allen Holman (residing in Kilanerin) is currently a Community & Voluntary Representative to the Environment & Climate Change SPC.

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Community Centre, Kilanerin (KCC) Meeting Room

30th May 2023

AGENDA

1. Minutes of last AGM
2. Treasurers Report
3. Annual Report
4. New Constitution
5. Working groups / sub-committees
6. New Development Plan
7. Election of Board Members
8. AOB