
Keelgrove Ballyglass Residents Association AGM 2019

Secretaries report

During the last 12 months there has been a lot going on in both estates. The committee has been working behind the scenes to bring some of these activities to completion. Below is a summary of what has been going on.

Committee

The committee has met several times during the last 12 months to progress certain activities during the year for example

- Subs collection
- Drainage
- Neighbourhood watch
- Traffic calming
- Estate maintenance
- Lighting
- Dumping / Litter

We have had varying degrees of success with the above

Subs collection

This by far remains the biggest headache for the committee. Last year we collected just short of 80% of subs from households. This barely covered our grass cutting costs for the year and as a result very little more can be done to improve the image of our estates. For example, the planting of shrubs and trees in the estates. This year's sub collection has started for information please visit the KBRA website <https://kbracommunity.info/>. This year we encourage households to contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of the estates. Every household will benefit from a clean and tidy estate. We know that some households argue that they pay property tax and the county council should be doing this work, but the council will not cut grass and will only do a basic clean up once or twice a year.

Drainage works

There have been ongoing drainage issues in the estate and the committee has engaged with Clare County Council on these issues.

Flooding at the entrance to the estates

There was a serious flooding issue as you entered the estates which caused large pools of water to accumulate there. This was a serious driving hazard and was extremely dangerous during winter when there was frost. This issue was identified, and action was taken to rectify the problem.

Drainage issue Castlebank

There is a major drainage issue on the Castlebank road causing water to flood into some of the houses on the top road in Ballyglass. The committee and residents have engaged with the council to try and find a solution to this serious issue. Recently Clare County Council committed funds to improving the drainage on the Castlebank road which is hoped will help correct the flooding issue.

Drains in the estate

Clare county council were contacted about cleaning the drains in the estates. After a few attempts most drains are now reasonably clear. The committee encourages residents to keep an eye on the drains close to them and remove any debris that accumulates around them. Also, please advise your children not to stuff plastic bottles down the drains as these will clog them up.

Neighbourhood watch / Security

We have a comprehensive what's app group that alerts residents about suspicious activity in the estates. There has been a marked reduction in the number of incidents in the estates in particular at Halloween. The committee would like to thank residents who volunteer for patrols at this time. Also, the committee are encouraging households to join the Parteen Community Alert Area (PCAA). Full details for this are available on the KBRA website <https://kbracommunity.info/>.

Traffic calming

The committee engaged with the council regarding this matter over the last 12 months. Progress has been slow, but the council have sent an engineer out to assess the suitability of traffic calming measures at the entrance to the estate and on the road into Ballyglass. We are awaiting the engineer's findings.

Estate maintenance

The committee have been engaged in regular maintenance of the estates during the last 12 months. Activities include

- Spraying weed killer in the estate
- Tidying up the flower beds
- Cleaning the side walks
- Cutting away shrubs and trees that have grown onto the road
- Maintaining the trees located throughout the estate.

Lighting

The committee encourages residents to report any broken lights in their area. As you will have noticed any broken lights are now being replaced by new led lights which give more light.

Dumping / Litter

There have been a number of incidents of littering in the estate over the last 12 months. Rubble from house renovations has been dumped in the vacant sites located on the top road of the Keelgrove estates. This area is not for dumping any waste even garden grass cuttings. There are several areas where residents can dump their garden waste located in the states. The committee will be monitoring these areas, and anyone found dumping illegal waste in the estates will be reported to Clare County Council. It is hoped that signs will be erected to re-enforce this policy soon. Also, there is a lot of general littering in the estate the main causes been fast food packaging and plastic bottles. Residents should encourage their children to put their waste in the bin.

Regards

Eamonn Fitzgerald

24 Keelgrove

Secretary KBRA