



Kinsale Community School, Parents Association (PA) AGM - Chairperson's Report

This report was presented by Tom Brennan - Chairperson, to the AGM of Kinsale Community School Parents Association on Monday 11th November 2019.

The 2018 PA AGM was held on 9th October 2018, as per the minutes.

Following on from the last AGM, the Committee met and the following were elected as officers:

Chairperson - Tom Brennan

Secretary - Helen Hynes

Treasurer - Rachel Casey

Fundraising Sub Committee Chairperson - Eddie Kelleher

The other PA Committee Members this year were: Owen Wills, Breda Harrington, Hillary McCarthy, Donna O'Conner, Tracey Murphy, Samantha Bowen, Coleen Walsh, Debbie McCarthy, Sonia Fernandez.

It's been another busy year for the Parent's Association ("PA"); the following is a summary of key activities and developments:

1. Key Activities of Parent's Association

a) Support at School Events

The PA coordinated catering and serving of teas and coffees for the School's very successful Award Night in October, then again for the TY Graduation Ceremony and for the Leaving Cert. Mass.

b) School Book Rental Scheme

The PA continues to be involved in helping to run the School Book Rental scheme. The PA would like to thank Natacha Farley who oversaw the School Book Rental scheme this year and also to Liz Timmons for organising the scheme for the previous few years and was also very involved again this year. Thanks also to the many helpers who came along to help when the books were being sorted, given out and collected.

Natacha is no longer able to coordinate the scheme, so we will need to get a volunteer or a few volunteers to take it on. The Book Rental Scheme is run by the parents, and if it is to continue, we will need someone to take over from Natacha.

c) PE Uniform

The PA was consulted about the new school tracksuit. We were shown a number of samples and informed that the Student's Council and the school had identified their preferred option.

d) EGM to elect new parent Representatives to the School's Board of Management

An EGM was held on May 27th to elect new parent representatives. Under the terms of reference of the Board of Management, we have 2 Parent nominees on the Board. For the past 3 years this function has been fulfilled by Liz Timmons and Chris Cronin. Liz's and Chris's children have now completed their secondary education, and on behalf of the PA we would like to thank them for their work on our behalf over the past number of years.

At the EGM, Liz Timmons gave an overview of the commitments required from the representatives to the Board of Management. Nominations were taken for new representatives.

- Rob Bergin was nominated by Liz Timmons and seconded by Geraldine Sheehy.
- Helen Hynes was nominated by Eddie Kelleher and seconded by Colette Connolly and Samantha Bowen.

There were no other nominations and both nominees were willing to accept the role, therefore they were deemed elected.

e) Fundraising Events for Sports Facilities

The fundraising events held over the past year include:

- **Truck & Tractor Run - €1,100**

The Truck & Tractor Run was organised on St Stephen's Day by past pupil Michael Madden and his family. The PA assisted with stewarding. The profits from this event were split between Kinsale Community School and KYSS with €1,100 donated to the school. We would like to thank Michael, the sponsors, and his family and all volunteers who helped out on the day.

- **10 Mile Run - €3,770**

A 10-mile road race was held in Kinsale on Feb 24th. This event was very successful with 800 runners registered for the event. The race started on the road outside the school and finished with a lap of the track. Profits were split between Riverstick AC, the Kinsale Triclub and Kinsale Community School and the school received €3,770. We thank Joan Allen, Elaine O'Donoghue, Sinead O'Regan, the organizers in Riverstick AC and Kinsale Triclub, staff at the school as well as an army of volunteers who came out to help on the day.

- **Zumbathon - €660**

On Nov 9th a Zumbathon was held in the new school gym. This was organised by local Zumba Instructor Jamie Bamie, who together with a team of 10 other Zumba instructors lead a 90-minute session of dance and exercise and was followed by a raffle. All proceeds were donated to the Parents Association for the sports facilities and €660 was raised. We would like to thank Jamie and her team and also all who donated raffle prizes for the event.

2. Sports Facilities - Cost and Funding Update

The Sports Facilities include: Football Pitch, 5 Lane Running Track, High Jump, Semi-D areas (east and west ends), Hockey Training Facility and Floodlighting of all facilities.

The outstanding element works include: line-marking of the track, the hockey training pitch surface and the artificial grass surface on the semi-D area (east side). It is planned to complete these elements in the Spring of 2020, subject to the availability of the required funds.

In 2018, the scope of the sports facilities project was expanded to include the following additions:

- Installation of a retaining wall along the east and north side of the track including a footpath with fencing.
- Surfacing the semi-D areas at each end of the pitch (grass on east end and tarmac on west end).
- Hockey training pitch.
- Flood lighting of the entire facility (football pitch, running track and hockey training pitch).

In 2019, the scope was further amended to include the running track surface on the semi-D area (west end).

The following is a summary update of the project costs:

Cost Element	Oct. 2018 Cost incl. VAT	Oct. 2019 Cost incl. VAT	Notes
Football Pitch	€323,475	€323,475	
5 Lane Running Track & Long Jump	€170,250	€170,250	
Floodlighting of All Facilities	€179,471	€179,471	
Hockey Training Pitch	€28,869	€28,869	
Semi-D Areas Surfacing & Retaining Walls	€156,129	€182,000	
Unforeseen additional costs not agreed*	-	€48,428	
	€858,194	€932,493	

To complete the entire facility, we currently have a funding shortfall of €140,000.

3. Clann Credo Loan

In June 2018, Clann Credo (Community Bank) approved a 5-year, non-recourse term loan of €240,000 to the Kinsale Community School Fundraising Committee, towards the cost of the sports facilities. The loan repayments are currently being funded by rental income from the pitch.

An additional loan application has recently been submitted to Clann Credo for €140,000 to cover the costs of completing the overall facility. It is expected that rental income from the track and hockey training pitch can fund the repayments of this additional loan.

A decision will be made at Clann Credo's credit meeting later this month.

4. Sports Capital Grant

In October 2018, we submitted an application to the 2018 Sports Capital Programme for the maximum amount of €150,000, towards the cost of a clubhouse facility and athletics equipment, including high-jump.

In August 2019, we were notified that an error has been noted in the documentation submitted and we were offered an opportunity to submit new, corrected documents to make our application eligible.

We are awaiting a decision regarding our application.

5. Financial Transaction Accounts

While the Parents Association has a bank account (Credit Union), there has been no financial activity during the past 12 months; there is currently €460.20 in the account. All funds raised from fundraising activities are paid directly to the school and held in a dedicated fundraising bank account, managed by the school.

6. Coming Year 2018/2019

For 2019/2020, the Parent's Association will again focus on supporting the following key activities:

- School Events.
- Book Rental Scheme.
- Additional Fundraising Activities to complete Sports Facilities.

7. Retiring Committee Members

The following committee members are stepping down from the committee and I thank them sincerely for their work: Rachel Casey, Owen Wills, Donna O'Connor, Breda Harrington and Helen Hynes.

We are always encouraging active participation and engagement by parents of children throughout the school with the Parents Association, and I would urge any interested parents to get involved - you don't necessarily have to be on the committee to help, as is demonstrated by many of our activity coordinators.

In closing I would again like to thank the all the members of the committee for their efforts on behalf of the parents and children of Kinsale Community School.

Tom Brennan

Chairperson
Kinsale Community School, Parents Association
11th November 2019