



Newsletter Date

Volume 1, Number 1

In This Issue

- Meath Co. Co. issue contracts for ramps
- Landscaping update
- Jobs that need to be done
- Financial Pressure

Contact Us

Find us on Facebook

Contact.alderbrook@gmail.com

Out with the old and in with the new



Following a long campaign by this and previous ARA committees, Meath County Council has now issued contracts to remove and replace the current speed ramps and works commenced on Monday 10th April.

It has been a long battle but the Council has recognised that the current ramps are dangerous and are damaging vehicles in and visiting the estate. The photo of the replacement ramps above is for illustration purposes only as we have not seen the final design as yet. The committee would like to acknowledge the assistance from Cllr. Alan Tobin in helping us along the way.

Landscaping



We have engaged our contractor External Works for another year. The total cost of maintaining our green areas is a little under €8,000 for the year. This includes grass cutting, and some planting. It does not include any investment in new planting or new landscaping. Our total contributions for the year did not quite cover this cost and additional funds were taken from our dwindling reserves to cover this. There are many areas in the estate that would benefit from additional planting, tree replacement and new bedding plants.

Where to from here?

Last year we took a gamble and reduced the annual subscription to just €75 for the year. This encouraged a few more to pay but unfortunately did not generate the revenue required just to maintain the estate. Currently only 60% of residents have contributed.

Not only do we have a financial deficit, we are also faced with insufficient volunteers to help maintain the estate. So in a nutshell, we can just about manage to keep the landscaping at its current level. We have insufficient funds to replant areas that need replanting. We have insufficient funds to paint the railings at the front of the estate. We have insufficient funds to paint the lamp posts around the estate. We have insufficient funds to paint the road signs in the estate.

So what are the options?

1. Collect more money to have the jobs done
2. Start task specific volunteer groups to manage the costs

So Dear Resident,

Are those of you not currently making contributions willing to do so in the future?

Are you willing to put on your wellies or pick up a paint brush?

One or the other, or indeed a combination of both, are urgently required to keep our beautiful estate beautiful.

Security

We are very aware of the recent increase in break ins and burglaries in Ashbourne and Alderbrook has not escaped from this trend. There are obvious things you can do to protect your home and it is not our job to preach to you about home security but let's look out for each other.

We have been asked to look at CCTV for the estate. Yes, the cost is high but there would need to be involvement from the County Council, the Gardaí, the ESB and the Data Protection office. This is not something we can address at the moment. Email us if you want to be part of the Community Text Alert System. We need your name, mobile number and house number and option to receive texts 24/7 not after 8pm, 9pm, 10pm or 11pm.

Summary

We are at a cross roads folks. We need more money and/or more resident involvement. It's your choice and it's not too complicated. You can comment on our Facebook page or email us contact.alderbrook@gmail.com.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 9th May – Ashbourne House Hotel at 7.45pm sharp.
All are encouraged to attend.

Happy Easter to all of our Residents