



Clarisford Park

Clarisford Park announces the opening of new state-of-the-art 3G Synthetic Playing Pitches at Clarisford Killaloe Co Clare

Killaloe, Sept. 27, 2013 - Clarisford Park today announced the opening of a new 28,000 sq. foot 3G Synthetic Playing Fields facility to complement its existing Clarisford Park playing fields and park in Killaloe Co Clare.

The €350,000 investment was funded by CLDC LEADER, the JP McManus Foundation, the Keith Wood (W2) Foundation, Clarisford Park Ltd and St Anne's local community fundraising of 8.5%. This involved cooperation on a large and unique scale and is the penultimate phase of the greater Clarisford Park Project.

The Clarisford Park Project is the culmination of eight years planning and work based in the former demesne of Clarisford Palace. Initially the project was set up to find a home for the homeless clubs in Killaloe Ballina but with the emergence of CLDC LEADER support, a park for the community became a reality. Technopath, the JP McManus Fund, Clare County Council and The Keith Wood (W2) Foundation all came on board to bring the plans to fruition. The total investment in the project so far is €1.5 million with a local community fundraising of 12.5%. For their fundraising Ballina Killaloe RFC and Lough Derg FC have one match pitch and one training field each and 5th/22nd Killaloe Scout Group have a camping area in a woodland setting.

The last phase of the Clarisford Park Project, the building of the community pavilion will commence construction in January at a budgeted cost of €500,000. The expectation is that the community will not have to fundraise for the capital of this final phase. This brings the total cost to €2 million with a local community fundraising of 9.5%.

Clarisford Park will now be home to Ballina Killaloe RFC, Lough Derg FC and the 5th/22nd Killaloe Scout Group. It has a 1000m running/walking trail, playing and training fields. It is open to pedestrians with ample parking for casual users. Dog walkers are welcome provided all dogs are on a leash and are cleaned up after. Club members can use the internal parking subject to individual club arrangements. There are three all weather surfaces available to rent on an hourly basis, prices range from €35 to €55 per hour. Clubs will get an opportunity to use this during the pilot phase of October at no cost. The 3G is the latest model available, constructed by FieldTurf, the world's leading all weather manufacturer, and is the same high standard as the University of Limerick North Pavilion Pitches and Cardiff Arms Park, home to the Cardiff Blues Rugby Team. Cardiff will be playing their Heineken Cup games on the same surface as Clarisford. It is independently tested and suitable for GAA, Rugby and Soccer.

Initially it is Clubs only on the All Weather Pitches but from the 1st November casual slots can be booked and paid in advance. More details to follow.