

Kilmaley-Inagh GWS

Report

Published by Kilmaley-Inagh Group Water Scheme Co-Operative Society Ltd

MARCH 2012

Message From The Chairman

As we Approach our Annual General Meeting on the 21st of March we can reflect on another successful and busy year for the scheme. Our news letter is intended to highlight some of the issues encountered by the committee over the last year.

Hand over certificates for the treatment plant upgrade was completed in May 2011 following the commissioning of the UV Filtration element of the treatment process. It is great to see that the plant is performing very satisfactorily and consistently is producing quality drinking water that meets all EU drinking water standards.

We managed to successfully complete many upgrade works during 2011 including the replacement of problematic mains, Installation of additional scour valves to aid network flushing, Upgrade of our Pump houses and Pump configurations, Installation of 26 additional telemetric bulk meters that will aid with leak detection and water flow management.

We would like to thank all those who have paid their charges and remind those who have yet to pay to forward their payment as soon as possible. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

James B. Lynch
Chairman

Upgrade works successfully completed

Following the approval of 85% grant aid from the Department of Environment Heritage & Local Government (DoEHLG) upgrade work commenced on the scheme in August 2011. Areas of the scheme containing problematic water mains were identified and replaced. These areas included Conboula, Lickaun, Fermoyle, Gortolougha, Ballyknock, Dromadrehid, Kilclougher, Maurice Mills, Curraghodea and Monanagh. 23 additional scour valves were also installed to enhance the schemes scouring program of its mains. Other minor pipe work was also included mains upgrade project,

including upgrade of the pump house buildings. The installation of 26 additional telemetric bulk meters comprised a second phase of the upgrade work. These meters were installed in strategic locations around the schemes 250 km of water mains and log the volume of water flowing through them. The collected data is automatically sent to a central reporting system that produces daily real-time statistics of water usage on the scheme. This is a useful and valuable tool to help track water throughout the scheme. The meters are programmed to immediately alert scheme

staff of incidents of high and low flow indicating a leak may have occurred on a particular main. Tenders for these two projects were advertised through public procurement guidelines and awarded to a local company Mainland Construction.

Electrical and pump upgrades in 6 pump houses was awarded to pump specialists Cantwell Engineering from Tipperary. Duty and standby pump configurations were installed as well as SMS alarm systems to alert staff when pump issues take place. Total cost was €410,000 of which the schemes contribution was €60,000.



Upgrade work being carried out in Dromadrehid by Mainland Construction.

Not Checking for water leakage may cost you €1000's.

You must get into the habit of regularly checking your own water meter readings. This is the only indication that you could have a water leak on your connection. An undetected leak can lead to a water bill of hundreds if not thousands of euro in a 12 month period. **Reading your meter costs nothing not reading may cost you a lot.**

Members with a domestic connection currently receive a free allowance of 150m³ of water per year. This will reduce going forward. It is still well above the normal use by a family of four and significantly higher than the allowance on other group schemes. **If you stay within this free allowance you pay nothing.**

Production costs for wasted and used water are the same. Every litre of water produced in the treatment plant has to be paid for. The less you waste the less you will have to pay. Currently we charge €0.90 per m³. Our charges are relatively cheap compared with schemes across the country some schemes charge over €3 per m³.

An allowance is given because a subsidy is received from the government for your water production. The advent of water charges on public schemes, the subsidy we receive will almost certainly go or be severely reduced. This will put pressure on ability of the scheme to give a free allowance and increase the charge per cubic meter.

How to check a water meter

- The red dials on the meter are litres. White dials are m³ (1000 litres)
- Ensure at time of reading there is no usage going on for example the washing machine on .
- If the furthest red dial on the right is moving water is going through your distribution system This must be investigated further to identify if you have a leak.
- Note the meter reading so you can produce a usage pattern over time.
- Use your water supply in the knowledge that every litre used or leaked has a production cost associated with it.



Text Alert System up and Running

We are still creating a mobile phone text alerting facility to allow us to alert all participating members of urgent information by mobile phone. It would be beneficial if shareholders would supply their mobile phone numbers to facilitate this process. Text your name, address and mobile number to 0872836118.

March 21st date set for Annual General Meeting.

Our AGM will take place in Inagh Community Centre on March 21st 8pm.

All our members are welcome to attend. We always welcome new committee members. We would encourage members put themselves forward get involved in the committee.

Retirement

In accordance with the rules of the society, one third of the board shall retire each year but are eligible for re-election

without nomination. This year Johnny Crawford, Michael Halpin, Pat Gallagher and Raymond Foudy will retire but all 4 are offering themselves for re-election.

Nominations for the board, other than retiring members shall be in writing to the secretary and shall contain a statement by the member nominated of his or her willingness to be elected. Nominations should be forwarded to the secretary to arrive on or be-

fore March 19th 2011. Secretary : Noel Carmody, Feighroe, Connolly, Ennis. Tel 0872836118.

Agenda

1. Minutes of 2011 AGM.
2. Chairpersons Address.
3. Managers report.
4. Financial Report plus Auditor's Report.
5. Appointment of Auditor.
6. Election of Members to Committee.
7. Any other business.