

SUBMISSION NO. 2.

**Noeleen Keavey**

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**Subject:** FW: New submission entered for Reg no: W0298-01. (Reference Number: W0298-01-180828114316)  
**Attachments:** BARA Submission letter GCHL Ltd WO298-01.pdf  
**Importance:** High

**From:** Patrick Maguire [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 August 2018 23:43  
**To:** Licensing Staff <licensing@epa.ie>  
**Subject:** New submission entered for Reg no: W0298-01. (Reference Number: W0298-01-180828114316)  
**Importance:** High

**Title:** Mr  
**First Name:** Patrick  
**SurName:** Maguire  
**Organisation Name:** Broadford Area Residents Association  
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**Address Line 2:** Clonuff  
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**B.A.R.A**  
**Wooddale**  
**Clonuff, Broadford**  
**Co.Kildare**  
**Date: 28th August 2018**

**Re: GCHL LTD W0298-01**

To Whom it May Concern

Broadford Area Residents Association (B.A.R.A) as a local community organisation wish to strongly oppose permission to grant licence application concerning GCHL Ltd W0298-01.

Our concerns are listed under the below points for reference:

- Water Contamination
- Inadequate Road facilities
- Noise and Air Pollution
- Unsecured Open Pit
- Former Burial Site

B.A.R.A has been highlighting a number of concerns to Kildare County Council, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minister for the Environment regarding this site since Jan 2015. Three years later, we are now in a predicament where many of our local wells are contaminated.

We strongly feel that the developer has shown a complete disregard for all previous provisions and regulations set in place and we also feel this site has been neglectfully monitored and managed by relevant authorities. We are extremely concerned that there is still unauthorised developments occurring at this site.

In March 2018 an unauthorised roadway was put in next to the River Glash and a borehole was drilled in the Glash River.

B.A.R.A received phone calls from very concerned locals regarding the foul smell and silt in the river. The river looked completely black. Coincidentally all these activities generally commenced leading up to public holiday weekends. This unauthorised drilling was reported to Office of Public Works in Trim and to the Gardai via 999.



**Right: Silt in River Glash following drilling of borehole as seen in Left image**

#### **Water Contamination:**

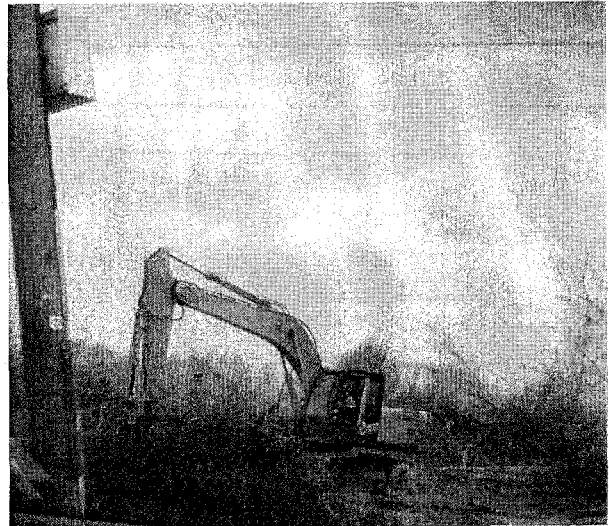
**In July 2018, a number of local wells have been privately tested with 80% of wells tested deemed unfit for human consumption. Areas affected include the Millpond, Kilglass, Clonuff and Ballinakill.**

B.A.R.A highlighted our concerns to the relevant authorities including the EPA and Kildare County Council at the beginning of **March 2017** when hundreds of tonnes of waste were deposited to the above mentioned site via trucks over a number of days. Gardai were also at the scene where local residents lobbied to stop these trucks in fear of contamination of our local well supply.

An update from TD James Lawless following this event confirmed that Kildare County Council served a Section 55 Notice of the Waste Management Act to the pit operator to cease dumping material and to remove any waste that had been already placed there. To date this waste has not been removed and it is questionable the type of waste that is disposed in this pit!



**ABOVE LEFT: LOCALS PROTESTING MARCH 2017**



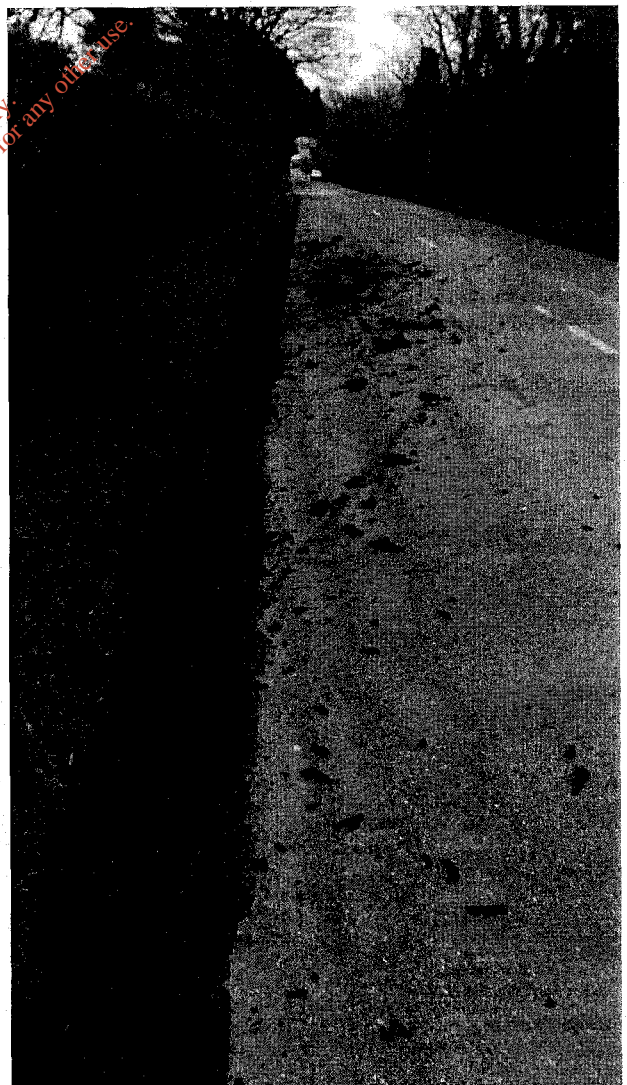
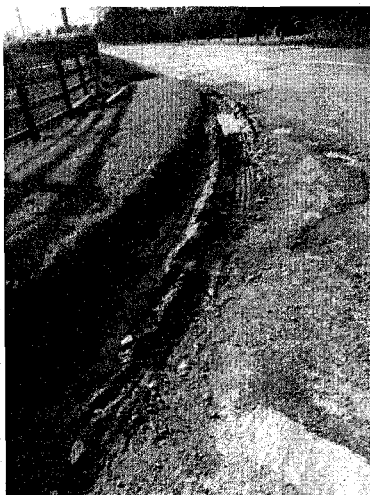
**Unauthorised Roadway being developed for Drill Rig**

**Inadequate Road Infrastructure**

B.A.R.A frequently highlights the poor condition of our local roads to Kildare County Council and road users via our Facebook page. Extra traffic on these roads in the form of trucks to and from this site will add additional pressure to our infrastructure and road verges.

B.A.R.A works tirelessly to keep our grass margins maintained in good condition especially to offer some safety margin for pedestrians who walk this stretch of road as there is no footpath

Please find photographs of damage already done by said trucks back in March 2017. The road margins were left in a state and were hazardous for other road users.



## **Pollution-Noise and Air**

B.A.R.A are concerned by pollution to our area that will be caused by this site.

**Noise - Increasing traffic to and from the site and machinery working on the site.**

**Air -Dust from trucks travelling to and from the site and potential harmful toxins from materials deposited on the site.**

We are highly concerned regarding the waste that is in this pit. This waste should have never been disposed here in the first place. As a residents group, we WANT this waste to be appropriately removed and disposed of properly. This needs to be enforced by the relevant authorities. We also want an investigation and answers why this waste was allowed to be disposed here in the first place.

## **Unsecured Open Pit**

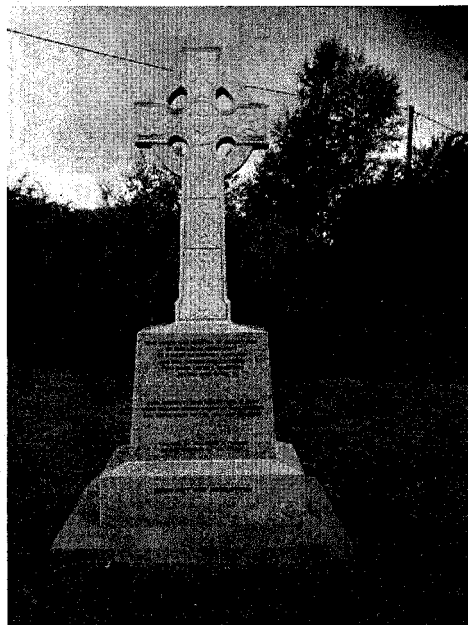
There are a number of unsecured deep water ponds within this pit which we have already highlighted to Kildare County Council. These are not secured by any proper fencing and anyone can walk onto this site at any time and these pose serious danger.

## **Cemetery Excavated from this site:**

An archaeological excavation of this site reported that there were 216 skeletons uncovered. A total of 69 skeletons were recovered during the excavation and the developer agreed to preserve the remainder of the skeletons. Abstract from archaeological report below.

We still do not know if these skeletons were preserved and how many skeletons remain at this site. In commemoration of this burial site, in 2017 B.A.R.A erected a memorial Celtic Cross and garden for prayer and reflection and is an area regularly used by locals and tourists. This cemetery is also included as part of our parish cemetery ceremonies and should be respected for what it is!

***Celtic Memorial  
Cross Erected by  
B.A.R.A in  
memory of this  
cemetery***





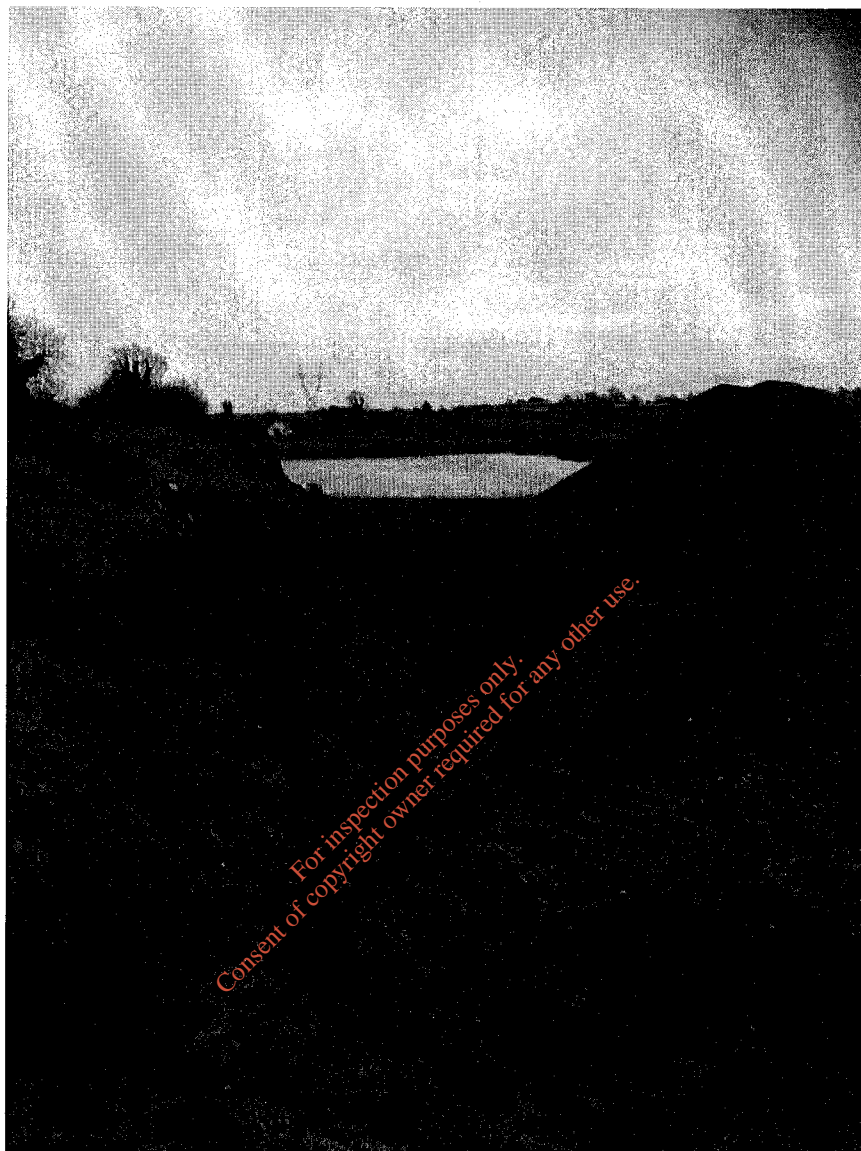
Before we conclude this submission, please find images below further highlighting the thousands of tonnes of waste that has been transported into this pit at Ballinderry from Dublin. We also wish to highlight the proximity of family homes to this pit and also the proximity of the massive pond of water beside the River Glash.



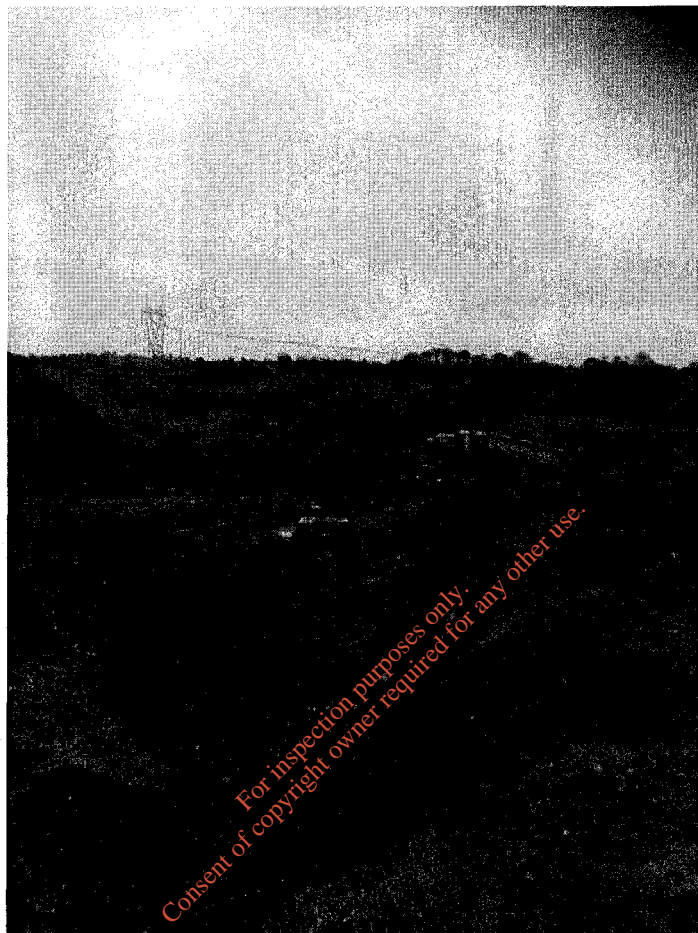
**Proximity of Family Home to Ballinderry Pit.**



**Before: Part of Ballinderry Pit prior to waste arriving from Dublin**



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**During: Waste from Dublin being transported into Ballinderry Pit**



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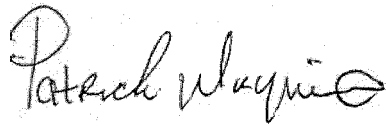
**After: Thousands of tonnes of waste buried in pit from Dublin beside a family home, beside an open pond and beside the River Glash which leads to River Boyne**

B.A.R.A is a voluntary community organisation that has been in operation for the past 25 years. We take great pride in our community and look to protect and enhance our area and the lives of the people within it.

We think that this situation in its entirety is totally unacceptable. Both GCHL and the authorities have been reckless to allow this behaviour to continue particularly in an area that relies on their own wells.

We believe this application should be quashed immediately given the history surrounding this site.

Yours Sincerely,



Patrick Maguire  
**Chairman**  
B.A.R.A

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