

**Karen Hickey**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 May 2024 19:21  
**To:** Appeals2  
**Subject:** Application Ref SU17.319397Tromman Quarry

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To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this email as a submission to oppose any consent for Keegan Quarry.

As a local living under the dust cloud created by Keegans quarry, I would fully oppose any application for planning to this individual.

We all do not want to live next to a quarry, and when we built our house 17 years ago, the quarry rights to both current quarries were not too far from being exhausted and that they would then be returned to pasture.. or so I naively believed.

But, I also realise that they are necessary. We would not have been able to build our house without them. My issue is with the way Keegen bulldozer his way past all rules and regulations. Blatantly defies all regulations and clearly does not give a damn about anyone other than himself.

He is well known about the locality to be a bully and threatens people. Noted for his famous sayings, such as 'better to ask forgiveness than permission', and 'I could hold a party of all my friends in a phone box'.

Recently, I went to the Kilsan Quarry next to Keegans for a half trailer load of gravel. I was turned away because new regulations had just come out that ALL loads leaving a quarry had to be covered. Even though I live on the road behind the quarry, I was not allowed to have the gravel until I had a cover. I have seen on many occasions since, trucks leaving Keegan Quarry without covers on them. Some of the trucks even had the cover attached but not bothered to cover the load!

Working hours don't seem to apply either. As a shift worker, I had met Keegan trucks at 4am!

There is a huge mountain of quarry stock pile that dominates the skyline and blows dust for miles as it is not tended to correctly. I've seen farmers fields white with lime created from the quarry. Considering how tightly farmers are regulated, this may have a huge impact on them due to nitrate issues!

What it does to the average household and inhabitants, is not even measured.

Keegan trucks are also a menace on the roads. It seems they are under pressure to get 'one more load in' each day or something. I was passed out by a cement lorry in a 50kmph area in Summerhill, heading towards Rathmolyon. I clocked the lorry at 70kmph in the 50 kmph zone and over 100kmph at times between Summerhill and Rathmolyon (this is a 80 kmph road, and for good reason) At 70 kmph through the village of Rathmolyon, I gave up the chase and informed the police of the incident and the vehicle registration number. Their response was ' And what would you like us to do about it?'

This is where I loose faith in the system. When Guards are informed of dangerous driving (in a truck), and they chose to ignore it, a quarry owner is operating illegally for years under the nose of the council, ignoring all legal letters and notices, the planning department sitting idly by. The European court even found the local planning department guilty! An Bord Pleanala seem to be a toothless lion (when it comes to the big boys, not a meek local) and even RTE was bullied into removing Keegan quarry from a recent documentary about illegal quarries operating in Ireland.

This is the difference between the 2 quarries in Rathmolyon. They are both in the same business, but one follows rules, the other makes his own

During my time in Castletown Rathmolyon, I have had many a sleepless night worrying about quarry expansion, having talked to other people affected by it, it appears that quarries have the right of way, every time.

My bedroom window used to look over a dark reserve but now the lights of Keegan Quarries make it look like a small town is across the road. Pulling curtains only sends slithers of light about the room, making it hard to sleep at times.

To be honest, I feel I am wasting both your time and mine even submitting this email but, if I don't, and on behalf of many people around the district that feel the same, I feel obliged to have a voice heard.

Please prove me wrong.

Kind Regards,

Sean Kelly.  
Castletown,  
Rathmolyon.  
County Meath.