

The oldest shop still in existence is 'O'Keeffe's', which is located at Gattabawn at the eastern side of the parish. The original shop was built in 1909 by the O'Keeffe family and is now operated by the third generation of the family. It has developed into a hardware and agri store where you can obtain a vast selection of building material and farm supplies.

The only other remaining shop in the parish is Kilcummin Post Office located in the village and has been operated by the McCarthy/Healy family since 1946. Today it continues to offer a wide selection of monetary and business services to the people of the parish. We are very fortunate to have this service given the number of Post Office closures that have occurred throughout rural Ireland.

It's incumbent on parishioners to support the shops within the parish to ensure their viability to trade. In times past these shop owners were empathetic and supportive of families who needed assistance. This was in the form of credit, or what was known as 'The Slate'. This allowed customers to purchase items on credit due to lack of money. These items were the essentials to continue daily living such as flour, tea and sugar. The credit owed would then be repaid once an animal was sold at the Fair.

With the advance of technology and urban sprawl the dynamics of shopping has changed. Some people shop online and get the items delivered to the door. Others prefer to visit the large shopping centres in our towns and cities which a wide variety of stores.

While advances in life are always welcome the convenience and vitality that our shops provide to the parish cannot be underestimated. As well as providing vital services they also provide a hub within the parish where people meet and greet. With the support of the locality these shops can continue to thrive and form a central part of our community.

This is a brief history of shops in Kilcummin parish from 1909 to 2024. Below is a list of shops that have existed within the parish for the timeframe outlined.

O'Connor's	Rathanane
Hannah Horan	Knockmanagh
Paddy O'Keeffe	Gattabawn
Dan Corcoran	Milleen
Will Patrick Fleming	Milleen
Michael O'Connor	Milleen
O'Sullivan's	Inch
Hannah Fleming	Toremore
Paddy Cronin	Toremore
Pat Downey	Toremore
O'Connor's	Knockataggle Creamery
Michael Friel	Knockataggle Creamery
Peter Sheahan	Knockataggle Creamery
Joe Breen	Knockataggle
Billy Healy	Dooneen
Andrew McCarthy/Reena Healy	Clashnagarrane
Kelly's	Clashnagarrane
Tish Healy	Clashnagarrane
John Moriarty	Clashnagarrane
Denny Lucey	Mastergeeha
Tim Culloty	Mastergeeha
Daniel Cunningham	Mastergeeha
John T McCarthy	Anablaha Creamery
Peter Dennehy	Anablaha Creamery
Frank Fleming	Knockancore
Margaret Murt O'Sullivan	Dromadeesirt
Paddy O'Keeffe	Travelling Shop/Van
Joe Breen	Travelling Shop/Van
Mike Moriarty	Travelling Shop/Van

