



COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY



SAFETY AND HEALTH

NEWSLETTER

Welcome from Denis McCarthy

On Behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers of Ballymacoda & Ladysbridge Community Council (BLCC), I welcome you to our 2025 Newsletter. I hope you are well and enjoying life in our community. In this newsletter you'll find updates and opportunities that you may like to join. In 2026 BLCC will celebrate 30 Years since its foundation, as we approach this milestone, we reflect on those who are no longer with us, individuals who have helped shape our present community. Today we continue building a vibrant, welcoming place where everyone can feel proud to belong, connect with others and enjoy time together. If you would like more information about our activities or become more involved, please contact me or BLCC member **Denis Mc Carthy Chairperson Tel. 087 282. 1450** visit <https://www.blcconline.org>

Your Community Council

The busy bees behind the scenes, are volunteers working to make your community **safer, cleaner** and more **attractive**.



We plant and protect our environment



We provide and maintain Defibrillators



We clean beaches and roads



We organise events for social, wellbeing and educational benefit



We celebrate and preserve our heritage

Ballymacoda & Ladysbridge Community Council is a non profit organisation and invites everyone in the community to get involved. Volunteer on BLCC Facebook page or speak to a member listed in the newsletter. Any donation towards the work in your community is gratefully received

Upcoming Events

12 November

BLCC AGM

8pm

Ballymacoda Hall

28 November

Night By The Fire

8pm

Ballymacoda Hall

9 & 15 November

Ceramics Workshop

Ladysbridge contact

Stella 087 182 1158

29 November

Xmas Wreath Making

Ladysbridge contact

Stella 087 182 1158

Visit our website to find out more, get involved and donate to our work



SCAN ME

What's going on in your area?

Ladysbridge Tidy Towns works on keeping the village of Ladysbridge and surrounding area well maintained. We work closely with the Community Employment group and collaborate with Ballymacoda and Castlemartyr tidy towns groups on joint litter picks. This year we worked with our sister sub group, Grà Agus Folláine, to bring the idea of a community garden to fruition. We enter the SuperValu National Tidy Towns competition annually. We can be found on Facebook, Instagram and X social media platforms. **Contact Rosemarie Motherway 087 633 7351**

Ballymacoda Tidy Towns Volunteers have worked hard all Summer keeping 22 Flower Baskets and 14 flower barrels and pots looking well with daily watering and weekly weeding/ deadheading. We replaced the boat in the Ball Alley. Many thanks to the person who donated the boat and another donor who provided the topsoil for the boat. The addition of the Bench and seat to the ball alley have been used by many to relax by the river in the Summer heat. The group carry out regular litter picking throughout the village. Twice this year the full main road to ladysbridge and surrounding side roads were cleared of rubbish by Ballymacoda Tidy Towns working with Ladysbridge Tidy Towns and Knockadoon Enhancement project. It is a fantastic effort by 35 volunteers cleaning over 40km of roads.

Overall 300 bags of rubbish have been removed from the streets and roads of Ballymacoda this year. As we look ahead, we will embark on planting to the embankment at the entrance to the village. We are looking at new projects for 2026, if anyone has any proposals please do contact Aidan.

Join the Tidy Towns group everyone and all ages are welcome. Contact Aidan Healy 087 121 4634

News in pictures



Ladysbridge Tidy Towns



Come Dine Together - Italian



Historic Photograph Exhibition



Landscaping Ballymacoda

Grà Agus Folláine Ladysbridge and Ballymacoda Wellbeing Group. Our aim is to improve the physical and mental well-being of our Community by organising activities to bring the community together, try new activities and work together towards a healthier, happier Community for all. We run two monthly Book Clubs: Ladysbridge club meets on the second Monday of the month, 7.00pm The Thatch Ladysbridge. Ballymacoda Book Club meets on the first Thursday of the month, 7.00pm Finns Tavern Ballymacoda. We also have a Walking Group and a Community Sensory Garden Group, please see our Facebook Page or Instagram for regular updates on these groups or contact **Stella Collier 087 182 1158** for more information.

Social & Fundraising Group A very successful Daffodil Morning was held on March 28th raising over €4000 for cancer care and research. A bus was organised to go see "The Blackwater Lightship" in Ballyduff in February. Social Walking Group meets 1st Saturday each month. We've walked Knockadoon, The Greenway, Ardmore, Mahon Falls and Doneraile Park.

A singing group was formed in April, **Cór na Mara** meet every Friday from 7.30pm to 9.00pm, alternating between Ballymacoda and Ladysbridge Hall. Tea and Coffee is served afterwards, where we enjoy a chat. So far we've sung at a Marymount Hospice fundraiser and at Come Dine Together. We will be singing at Night By The Fire and a nursing home soon. We have over 30 members If it's something you might like to join, you would be more than welcome. **Come Dine Together** with an Italian twist was held in Kilcredan NS on 27th September. This is our main fundraiser for the year. An enjoyable evening was had by all, where we had food from Five Roads, singing by Mike Carey and Cór na Mara. Thank you to everyone who supported the draw and to all the local businesses that gave a spot prize. It is very much appreciated. See what we are doing, visit our Facebook page Ballymacoda/ Ladysbridge Social & Fundraising Group. **Contact Sandra Finn 087 6428742** if you would like to join either the walking group or Cór na Mara or support fundraising.



Historical Group Since reforming in January 2025, we have been engaged in a series of exciting initiatives and gatherings that continue to celebrate and preserve the rich heritage of our community. From our lively meetings filled with fresh ideas to new projects aimed at uncovering forgotten local stories, the group's dedication and the local interest in preserving our history has become very evident. We have monthly meetings alternating between Ballymacoda and Ladysbridge where we have formulated and agreed our main pillars through which we align our activities: Preservation, Promotion and Recognition. Thank you to everyone who has supported us so far, if you'd like to get involved, be sure to attend a meeting, follow us on Facebook and check back regularly on **our website** [https:// blccheritage.ie/](https://blccheritage.ie/)

Clean Coast We protect our wonderful coastline and beaches from pollution, littering and erosion. The Ballymacoda estuary has a unique eco system that supports wildlife and birds which are at risk without intervention. The Clean Coast Group carries out monthly beach litter collections on Sunday mornings alternating between the following beaches, Ring Strand, Greenland, Ballywilling and Glenawilling. They maintain the three rubbish bins located on the slip road access points to Ring Strand and Greenland beaches. Over the next year we hope to arrange educational beach walks with local experts on wading birds, coastal erosion, marine habitat and the foreshore biodiversity. We welcome anyone who wishes to get involved.

It is very important to know where **Defibrillators** are located in the Parish. Look for the yellow metal boxes. Break glass on key box and use key to open lock. OFlynns Mace Shop & Garage, Ladysbridge Kilcredan School Colemans Shop & Garage, Ballymacoda Glenawilling/Ring Cross Road on Knockadoon Peninsula Reception inside Garryvoe Hotel Knockadoon Dominican Camp Fr ONeills Sportsfield, opposite Playground. Code is 0000. **Contact Margaret Hyde 086 884 4818**

News In Pictures



Sharing stories through pictures



Clean Coast have collected over 2 tonnes of rubbish



Know where your defibrillators are located

Community Care hosts fortnightly bingo and social activities in Ballymacoda Hall for the elder ladies group, Na Saoithe. Social interaction, learning, contributing and mental / physical activity is crucial for ageing well and this group have enjoyed theatre visits, Christmas parties, singing traditional songs and gentle exercise workshops. They're contributing to the 'Clean like your Granny did' project. The group meets every other Monday afternoon in Ballymacoda Hall and welcomes new members, please contact **Mary Colbert 086 078 4508**

Community Alert provides alarms for any lone person or anyone aged 65 and over. Community Alert is a community safety programme for rural areas with an emphasis on older and vulnerable people. It operates as a partnership between the community, An Garda Síochána and Muintir na Tíre. If you or anyone you know would benefit from a personal alarm, Please **contact John O Brien 086 056 3331**

Knockadoon Enhancement Project (KEP) was set up in 2014 to act as a 'Tidy Towns' for the area around Knockadoon. This area, known as the Knockadoon Peninsula comprises of Knockadoon, Ballyskibole and parts of Ring and Glenawilling. Activities include (but are not limited to) the installation and maintenance of street furniture and signage in the area, the reopening and upkeep of old walkways and the general improvement in the appearance and safety of the area.

<https://www.facebook.com/KnockadoonPeninsula>

BLCC sponsor the **Community Employment Scheme (CE)** which offers jobs and up skilling opportunities for long term unemployed. There are several people employed by the scheme in our area, from Knockadoon to Aghavine to Ballybutler, and our two villages. These workers contribute hugely to the community and local enterprise. Contact Stephen Wimpenny, CE Supervisor **089 209 5572**

Womanagh Community Hub Ltd is a new company formed to design and guide the development of a new community space in Ladysbridge. Plans are submitted and fundraising has started. For more information contact **Christine Conway 087 979 1877**

News in Pictures



Looking out for our elder community



Protecting & Enhancing Knockadoon Peninsula



Developing community space in Ladysbridge



WHO'S WHO

Community Council members are volunteers who discuss, decide and drive action across our community and geographic area. Each townland has an elected council member who represents your concerns. The Community Council is a Not for Profit organisation which is guided by directors.

Appointed Directors

John Colbert
Christine Conway
Dan O Connor
Denis O Flynn
Aidan Healy
Frank Kingston
Denis McCarthy

Officers

Chairperson Denis McCarthy
Vice Chair Aidan Healy
Secretary Katharine Roff /
Janice OLeary
Treasurer John O Brien /
Christine Conway
Communication Sandra Burfield /
Christine Conway

Elected Councillors

Ladysbridge East	Michelle O'Connell Lorraine McGrath
Ladysbridge West	Stella Collier
Ightermurrah / Rathaha	Sandra Burfield Betty Mammeri
Lisquinlan	No Councillor
Curraghlea	Tracy Deasy
Ballydaniel	Denis. McCarthy / Janice O Leary
Shanakiel / Yellowford / Fanisk / Curaheen	Mary Kenefick
Aghavine	Ellen Jackson
Ballykenneally	No Councillor
Ballymacoda	Sandra Finn
Glenawilling	Ciara Harrington
Knockadoon / Ring	John O Brien / Aidan Healy
Ballyferode	Pat O Reilly / Dave Farrell
Ballycrennane	Teresa Kenefick
Garyvoe Lower	Mary O Connell Motherway
Garyvoe Upper	Christine Conway
Ballyhimikin	Tomás Moore
Dromada Beg	Sheila Hayes/Katrine Holland Colbert
Knockglass / Garranassig	Rosemarie Motherway