

2026 NEWSLETTER FROM BALLYMACODA & LADYSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Celebrating 30 years of serving our community 1996 - 2026

Welcome

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers of Ballymacoda Ladysbridge Community Council (BLCC), we sincerely thank everyone in our community for their support throughout the years. We look forward to the election of a new council for 2027/2028.

Anyone interested in getting involved is welcome to contact a member of the current council.

As we look ahead to 2027, exciting projects are in the pipeline, particularly the major development of Ladysbridge Hall. Follow our social media for updates and opportunities to get involved in what promises to be a fantastic asset for our community.

Keep up to date with the many projects undertaken by BLCC's subgroups, which continue to make our community a vibrant and welcoming place.

To those who have recently moved to Ballymacoda or Ladysbridge, you are most welcome! We hope you find this newsletter a useful introduction to our community and the work we do.

Denis Mc Carthy, Chairperson Tel. 087 282. 1450 visit <https://www.blcconline.org>

Our AGM will be on

Wednesday 11th November at Ballymacoda Hall, at 7.30pm

All Welcome, Vote in new council members and get involved.

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

What's going on in our area

Ladysbridge Tidy Towns group works to enhance and maintain the village and its surrounding areas. We typically meet once a week in the spring/summer months and do litter-picking, painting, planting and weeding to keep the area looking good. We also work closely with the local community employment scheme team who do great work in the village.

We are financed mainly by grant funding and each year we enter the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition and continue to increase our scores yearly.

In the Spring we launched our "Clean Like Your Granny Did" campaign to remind us that we don't need to use harsh chemicals to clean around our homes, and the ingredients our grandparents used such as washing soda, bread soda and vinegar are just as effective today and do not harm the environment. The campaign also promotes reusing items in

novel ways and recycling. The video clips feature our volunteer Mary Colbert who brings this ethos to life.

We would love to see new members join in so please reach out if you would like to do so. You can follow our activities on Facebook, X (LadysbridgeTT) and on Instagram where you will find us under Sustainable Labysbridge.

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. The group carry out regular litter picking throughout the village, being awarded accolades and funding for our work through completion entry. Join the Tidy Towns group everyone and all ages are welcome.

Contact Aidan Healy 087 121 4634

Grà Agus Folláine Ladysbridge and Ballymacoda Wellbeing Groups' aim is to improve the physical and mental well-being of our Community through activities to connect with others, nurture happy healthy relationships and work together to form a healthier, happier community for all. We run the following monthly meetings:

- Ballymacoda Book Club,
- Ladysbridge Book Club,
- Garryvoe Book Club & Walking Group in Ladysbridge.
- We also have a Community Sensory Garden (no experience necessary)
- Plus we organise other Community Events and activities throughout the year.

We would love new members to join any of our groups. For more information follow us on FB: Grà Agus Folláine or contact **Stella Collier 087 182 1158**.

Social & Fundraising Group The past year has been busy and enjoyable for the BLCC Social & Fundraising Committee, with a range of successful events and fundraising activities.

Come Dine Together 2025 was a great social occasion and fundraiser, while our support for Daffodil Day helped raise funds for the Irish Cancer Society. Recently we hosted Culture Night in Ballymacoda Hall, celebrating local history, skills, food, music and song, with wonderful support from the community and local performers.

We are now looking forward to celebrating 30 years of BLCC at the Strand Ballroom, Garryvoe Hotel, on 21 November 2026, with music from Bog the Donkey and DJ Shane Farmer. We are also exploring future events, including Night by the Fire in early 2027.

Behind every event is a great deal of work, from organising venues and entertainment to securing sponsorship, promoting events and coordinating volunteers. We sincerely thank everyone who has supported us, especially our volunteers, local businesses, sponsors and event attendees. Contact **Sandra Finn 087 642 8742**

Historical Group: 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://blocheritage.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 on Ring Strand and Greenland beaches. We welcome anyone who wishes to get involved.

Contact **Tómas Moore** 085 831 6452

Defibrillators: These are located in the Parish. Look for the yellow metal boxes. Break glass on key box and use key to open lock.

- Dominican Camp, Knockadoon P25 TF34
- Glenawilling/Ring Crossroads, Knockadoon Rd P25 PH30
- Coleman's Shop, Ballymacoda Village P25 KW83
- FON Community Sportsfield, Aghavine P25 R290
- Kilcredan National School P25 FW50
- O'Flynn's Shop & Garage, Ladysbridge P25 H797
- Garryvoe Hotel Reception P25 DR94

Contact **Margaret Hyde** 086 884 4818

#Get to know the locations of defibrillators

The Community Care group hosts fortnightly bingo and social activities for elder community members. The Na Saoithe group meets every other Monday afternoon from 2pm 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 over 65. 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, 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. 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 upskilling 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. Development is underway and fundraising has started. For more information contact **Christine Conway** 087 979 1877

Visit our BLCC website <https://www.blcconline.org>

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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.

2026

BALLYMACODA & LADYSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL



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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