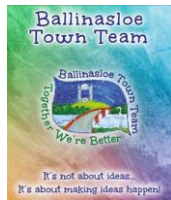


The logo for Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre (BEC) features the letters 'BEC' in a large, bold, blue font. The letter 'C' has a white circle inside it.

Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre  
An Initiative of Ballinasloe Area  
Community Development Ltd.



## **Background & Details of Ballinasloe Area Community Development**

Ballinasloe Area Community Development Ltd (BACD Ltd) is Ballinasloe and its hinterland local development company that was established in 1999 by the Ballinasloe community. The Company is a not for profit entity with charitable status with the main objective to create sustainable employment by promoting enterprise and supporting projects that encourage investment into the Ballinasloe area.

The company is run by its Board of Directors, which currently has 15 members and is a cross section representation of the Ballinasloe community.( See details below)

The company employs a fulltime manager to run Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre and to manage, promote and support the various different community projects spearheaded by the company. Some of these Projects include

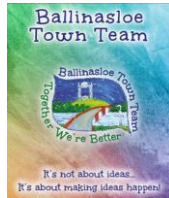
**Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre (BEC):** The once derelict building has been extensively renovated to become Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre, offering high quality office, work and training space to start-up and existing businesses in the area. The building currently has 29 enterprises directly employing over 181 people. The company manager also provides support and network services to all local businesses in the area. Over the past 20 years over 500 jobs have been created in the centre. ( see details in Appendix )

**Ballinasloe Life Magazine:** BACD Ltd oversee the publication and delivery of Ballinasloe Life Magazine a free glossy bi monthly magazine that is delivered to every house and business in Ballinasloe and strategic locations in the wider Ballinasloe Hinterland. The magazine highlights every aspect and organisation in the town and gives all local business's & Entrepreneurs a platform to advertise themselves locally, the magazine also has a designated "business section" where editorial articles are done on local business's & entrepreneurs and informs & encourages residents to participate in the many different functions/outings in the town.

**Ballinasloe Town Team Project:** This project has been coordinated by BACD Ltd. through the formation of the town team . It is an ongoing project with the main aim to revitalise Ballinasloe town centre and its hinterland. To date a number of successful projects have been carried out including the building and maintenance of the new town website [www.ballinasloe.ie](http://www.ballinasloe.ie), the establishment of Ballinasloe Zombie Walk. Ballinasloe Christmas Illuminations Project, Sustainable energy communities & the People Of The Year Awards.

**The Pulse Club** is an innovative business networking group in Ballinasloe area supporting start-ups and existing enterprises, It provides peer to peer mentoring, training workshops and large scale networking events . Since the inception of the Pulse Club in January 2019 , the club has supported over 20 new business to go from idea to launch.

**The Re- Imagining St. Brigids Plan** was an in depth process over 9 weeks in 2018 that culminated in a day long workshop based on over 200 submissions received from the community and stakeholders to route map possible uses for the old Psychiatric Buildings and the 51 acre campus



they stand upon. A full report was issued to the relevant stakeholders and principally the key Dept. of Health .

**The Advance Factory Project** was a three year plan led by BACD that involved negotiating with the IDA and EI and other stakeholders after an incubation Enterprise Centre company had to move town with 200 jobs in 2017 as there was no suitable building. A lease was secured on an IDA site and outline planning permission was obtained with support and funding from the local Credit Union to deliver a shovel ready site for any potential investor to the midlands.

### Current BACD Board Members and Expertise

- **Seamus Duffy**, Chairperson : 30+ Years Financial Experience as financial advisor and retired Bank Manager, 12 years as Chairperson and 14 years on the board
- **Brian King**, Vice Chairperson, 30+ years international enterprise experience , 3 years on the BACD Board
- **Micheal Connolly**, Galway County Councillor, 30+ years industry experience , 4 years on the board
- **Dan Dowling** Retired Farmer & Local community activist, director with BACD since its founding (20+ years)
- **Eoghan Kenny**, Local consultancy business owner with 15 years experience, founding member of the Pulse club, joined BACD board in 2020
- **Joe Lyons** Retired Engineer with 40+ years experience, part of the BACD board for 12 years.
- **Kevin Broderick**, Local pharmacist with 30+ years experience, part of BACD board for past 4 years
- **Pearse Keller** Local business owner with 20 years experience in the travel industry, part of board for the past 3 years
- **Marina Downey**, Local restaurateur & publican with 40+ years experience in the industry part of BACD board for past 3 years
- **Noel Madden**, Retired CEO of Ballinasloe Credit union with 40+ years experience . On the BACD board for 20 years
- **John McKenna**, Financial controller in AIT with 30+ years' experience. On the BACD board for 5 years
- **Ruth Sheridan Cregg**, Local business owner with 15+ years education experience. On the BACD board for past year
- **Anita Killeen** Radiographer in Portiuncula Hospital and coordinator of the Sustainable Energies Community. On the board for the past year
- **Valerie Dolan** Local business Owner and community leader. Founding Member of Ballinasloe Walks & Trails. On the board for the past 2 years
- **Sean Kelly** Accountant with 30+ years industry experience. On the board for the past year.
- **Lyn Donnelly** Civil Engineer with 15 + years experience in business & Community development. Employed as fulltime BACD manager for the past 8 years

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