

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYVAUGHAN**  
County : **CLARE**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21
Landscaping	40	26
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	27
Tidiness	20	15
Residential Areas	30	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>201</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the three year development plan. Your intentions for the further development of areas outside Ballyvaughan are commendable. You have raised your standard in recent years and you now need to concentrate on shortcomings outlined in previous years reports. Your plan should be phased, with an agreed amount of work to be tackled each year. Some of the development required is beyond the scope of a Tidy Towns Committee and requires the co-operation of Local Authorities and private developers.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is a new category for which there are valuable marks allotted. You have advantages being adjacent to the sea and you should now set about highlighting the attractive fish and birdlife in the area - similar to what has been done for the Burren flowers. This development can be progressed through the Walking Trail.

### **LANDSCAPING**

You have many excellent examples of landscaping in and around the village. You have a great abundance of flower boxes hanging baskets, tubs, shrubs, and trees - all of which enhance the stone work throughout. Some of previous years work is not being maintained to a high standard i.e. the area around the bee hives is now overgrown and the grass here needs cutting. The beautiful flower displays on so many houses on the Coast Road excel and great credit is due to all concerned. The landscaping around Dallan and the tourist Office needs to be completed. The road surface here is very poor, and the signage is loud and perhaps inordinate in size.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The church grounds are excellent and the grass was freshly cut. Buildings which were mentioned last year looked well again. The new Spar complex is well designed and quite attractive. Don't be tempted to erect any more signs on this building. You have some problems with unoccupied houses, in particular the large two storey houses beside the fountain but this is recognised in your submission. The low boundary wall from this house along the Coast Road is now in need of painting as it is in a focal point entering the village. Ballyvaughan Service Station is excellent.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

This is one of your strong points. The village was litter free on adjudication day, suggesting good will from locals and visitors alike. Litter bins are well located. There is a welcome presence of wheelie bins in all areas also and this is commendable.

### **TIDINESS**

Because of the poor road surface in many areas, uncared for small open spaces, some pot holes, overgrown margins and unfinished developments, the village is not as tidy as it should be. Developers have a responsibility, even during development to keep sites in a reasonable state. However, the village centre is very well presented with a high degree of fresh painting.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The standard of houses and the many well developed front and rear gardens are most praiseworthy. For the most part houses are well designed and blend in with the environment. The demand for regular painting is acknowledged and you have scored well in this section. The housing estate could be much improved by painting the boundary walls and improving the footpaths where required. This estate has

potential for much improvement. The Holiday Cottages need improved landscaping and more colour. The road up to these houses is poor and margins overgrown. The Dolmen Housing Village has some excellent landscaping and should further advance your marks when finished. The two Rent and Irish cottage developments are very well presented.

#### ROADS, STREET AND BACK AREAS

As mentioned much of your road surface is not up to standard and needs improvement. Side and back entrances now play an important part in the competition, so you should try and impress upon traders and householders the importance of same. You have a traffic problem that is costing you valuable trade. There is no reason why parking should not be prohibited - except for deliveries between The Spar and Hylands. Some cars were parked in this area during the period of adjudication. You have an opportunity to develop a number of small car parks that would enable visitors to shop and browse in comfort and so benefit Ballyvaughan.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village has a high appeal for visitors and many of recent years developments have enhanced the overall appearance. You now need to pay greater attention to detail and try and carry out some of the suggestions in this and previous reports - well done on the 1996 performance.