

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYMORE EUSTACE**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	26
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>197</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed questionnaire and map which were very helpful to the adjudicators during the course of adjudication. The adjudicators look forward to the submission of your detailed five year work programme. With the improvements noted this year the adjudicators are very encouraged and look forward to further visits to see projects completed. Good luck on your new commitment to the Tidy Towns Competition and the strong presentation this year.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Overall, Ballymore Eustace is fortunate in having a number of wildlife features that help compliment the village. In particular, the Riverside Walk and the river itself provide valuable natural amenities for wildlife. The adjudicators walked the Riverside Walk - joined by a Robin on the trip! - with good evidence of wildlife, both plant and animal. Try to continue to improve this amenity. Litter was a bit of a problem on the path itself and the path could be improved. Try also to include some information, both at the entrance and along this walk. The school children have a major role to play in developing this amenity. You might encourage the schools to participate in projects during the year, giving the school children an appreciation of the importance of this amenity. Try also to avoid the use of weed killers, for example, near the bridge.

### LANDSCAPING

Small sprinklings of litter were noted at the shrubbery at the bridge. It was nice to see the flower baskets on the poles. Nice flower boxes were also noted in the town; for example, by Freds Fashions. Overall, a very good approach here. The green near Hillcrest was very well presented, as was the pump area. The adjudicators look forward to the completion of work at the feature at the square - this is something that has been called for, for many years. Congratulations in this regard. It was nice to see that water has been incorporated into the feature in light of the fact that Ballymore Eustace is located on the River Liffey. Try to include tree planting in this area, as the large open space of the square would be enhanced with the presence of trees in years to come. The adjudicators were also impressed with the street improvements further down with very attractive new cobble locking, extremely attractive new lamp posts and bollards.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Several good efforts were noted throughout Ballymore Eustace this year. There is room for improvement, but generally, there is a good impression left with the adjudicators, helped, no doubt, by the improvements on the Main Street. J. Donaghys had a major improvement this year. Congratulations on its use of flowers. Ballymore Homes and the school grounds were also very well presented. The grounds of Country Kitchens were very nicely presented but the area to the rear by the Sawmills is a bit untidy. Londis, a new Shopfront, which is bright and litter free outside was noted. The perimeter walls and railings at the Catholic Church would benefit from painting, as could several premises on the Main Street. It was good to see that the Library had been painted. Good effort was noted with several premises in their use of flowers; for example, the Pharmacy, which had an excellent presentation. The Post Office was also very well presented, as was The Thatch Bar and Restaurant; Paddy Murphys, Malones, The Ballymore Inn (particularly a good effort with baskets) and Anvil had been freshly painted up. The Credit Union has a nice traditional appearance about it. The Garda Station would have benefited from a painting on day of adjudication. With regard to the Hand Ball Alley, try to avoid the use of advertising on this building, is there any way climbing plants could be planted along parts of this to improve the situation? Overall, while there is room for improvement, if only through the painting of premises, good efforts were also noted this year.

## LITTER CONTROL

Generally, litter control was quite good in Ballymore Eustace this year. One bad area, as mentioned above, was parts of the Riverside Walk, which need attention. The car park of the Thatch was neat and tidy. Most of the Main Streets were also very litter free. New litter bins have also been noted in parts, perhaps you might continue a programme in installing these.

## TIDINESS

The appearance of Ballymore Eustace this year is one of a tidy and neat village, with improvements noted on previous years. Congratulations. It is nice to see the improved signage on Plunkett Street. On Barrack Street, weeds on the footpath take from the otherwise neat appearance - try to work on this. The advertising on the Hand Ball Alley should be discontinued. Some buildings need painting, which take from the overall appearance of tidiness - try to work on this for next year. Perhaps you might include in your work programme an innovative colour scheme to brighten up some of the premises. Also, try to remove gravel and grit along by the footpaths which also takes from the appearance of tidiness. Paint the cul-de-sac sign into Assumpta Terrace. Try to paint the pump outside the Thatch Restaurant. The cobble locking is a major improvement. It helps in the appearance of tidiness throughout Ballymore Eustace - try to continue this on the other side if possible. Weeds were noted on Plunkett Street. Otherwise a very tidy and neat appearance, helped by good litter control.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Overall, there was an excellent impression left with the adjudicators under this category in the presentation of residential areas. Congratulations to all those involved and the residents should be proud of their efforts. Marks have been rewarded in recognition of this. The effort is apparent in both residential estates and also in individual premises. At Hillside, the name is very attractive, tree planting is also noted, with good individual effort noted, e.g. No. 2. Try to be vigilant with the weeds, which were beginning to appear on the kerb side. At Knockenduff, planting was excellent in this area. Liffey Heights Estate had an excellent presentation - very neat overall, quite a good appearance, but some litter was noted to the rear of houses. At Assumpta Terrace, another excellent presentation was noted with nice shrubberys coming on well. The grassed area was well maintained - good individual efforts are also apparent here. The adjudicators would particularly like to commend St. Brigids with which they were very impressed. A beautiful presentation was noted; congratulations on your efforts here. It is nice to see that the climbing plants are coming on well on the wall opposite, which will help improve the appearance in years to come. Most premises on Barrack Street were well presented, including the premises next to the Garda Station. Overall, an excellent presentation here.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the approach road from Hollywood at the 30MPH sign, grass verges were okay and a good surface helped to create a good impression. It is also helped by the residents efforts but try to paint some of the perimeter walls. On the approach road from the Ardenode Hotel, try to rebuild the wall as a long term project, cut down the grass neater and try to keep the area of the Saw Mill tidier, or even screen off with a gate. By the 30MPH sign, a good presentation was noted with flower tubs noted also. The approaching from Punchestown, was very well presented. A very neat triangle was noted at the junction with the Kilcullen/Punchestown road with nice planting, edging and kerbing. Further out on the right hand side, long grass needed attention; try to work on this. Resurfacing is needed where work has taken place. Also try to landscape the bank with the school better. On the Blessington approach, an attractive stone wall was noted. The left hand side could have been cut neater, while the right hand side was well presented. Within Ballymore Eustace itself, weeds were a bit of a problem on Plunkett Street and Hillside, particularly by the footpaths, try to work on this as it takes from the overall appearance. The main square area and other areas were well presented and litter free.

## GENERAL IMPRESSION

The adjudicators were very impressed with the presentation of Ballymore Eustace this year, it is good to

see that significant improvements have been made in street scaping improvement, cobble locking etc. The adjudicators look forward to seeing the new feature in the square next year. There is good residential effort as well. Overall, an excellent performance this year. Try to continue this excellent effort as you can do very well in this competition. In this regard, try to work on a few more innovative projects within your five year plan. Good luck for 1997.