

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BELMULLET**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	18
Tidiness	20	8
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	159

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your 5 year plan is a good approach to the development of the town and is progressing the committees work. There is a need to address litter control as it is a serious problem in amenity areas. Dereliction is still a problem but you seem to be making good progress.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The proposals to develop the Bunduaile area is very positive and we look forward to the new information sign. Some trees and shrubs are needed by the edge of the road to screen unpleasant views. Why not seed wildflowers in some of the roadside areas here. Try to use native plants in such sensitive areas.

LANDSCAPING

The new stone walling at the factory exit on Church Road was noted . You should try to plant trees along the factory side of the road. The planting at the Garda station looked well but some work could be done to the planters at the Met station. The new planting on the corner at Bunduaile looks very well with the town sign. The continued development of the footbridge area is commended - there is great scope for development here. Generally, more planters and windowboxes are needed throughout the town. There were many empty brackets noted. Windowboxes and hanging baskets can give a great lift to a town, so try to encourage this practice more. The new roundabout and grassing looks very well. Across the quay from the national school is still very stark - you need to think about a landscape plan for this area.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

It was good to see the renewal of some of the derelict sites in the town, and it is good to see the town overcoming the dereliction problem. You have made great improvements in the area of derelict buildings, in particular An Bulan Blasta, Udaras and the Ulster Bank. Shopfronts along this street are generally well presented, although there are a few premises which could use some attention. The tourist office should replace the rusty sign with a wooden one. The hanging basket was empty ! Try to encourage repainting of buildings along Main street. The sweet shop on quay street could use a namesign. The dock area is in need of renewal, and is included in your development plan. It could be tidied up in the meantime by painting walls, seating and litter control. The recycling area was noted.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in the town has improved considerably. You will need some litter bins on Quay street, especially near the phonebox. There was no litter noted near the school. There was quite a serious litter problem along the Corslough-Binghamstown road. The foreshore area around stripe was badly littered with cans and bottles which has washed up - these areas need to be cleaned up on a regular basis.

TIDINESS

The general standard of tidiness in the town was good. There were piles of gravel and soil on the verge of the Bangor road. Council workers were seen sweeping kerbs on this road which was good to see.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses along Quay street are generally well maintained and counter somewhat the dereliction which remains. Some windowboxes are needed. Housing areas along by the river are generally well maintained. At Fr. Mulhern park, the areas and houses were well presented and the hanging baskets were very impressive - well done ! Some of the boundary walls here could do with painting, similarly the Ballyglass road needs freshening up.

ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Ballyglass road was a bit weedy. There is room for tree planting here. Hedging is needed to screen unsightly lots. Along the Ballina road, grass verges were cut and generally tidy except for a stretch of dumping as noted. Along Church road, the grass verges were not mown to the speed limit signs.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You are making good progress in your efforts. There is evidence of renewal in the town which is encouraging. One problem area is the outlying areas along the Corclough road and on the other side of the quay. These areas should be regularly monitored for litter.