

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINLOUGH**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	16
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10
Landscaping	40	20
The Built Environment	40	20
Litter Control	40	20
Tidiness	20	8
Residential Areas	30	12
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	12
General Impression	10	4
TOTAL MARK	300	122

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for the returned questionnaire. It would be helpful if you could provide greater detail in reply to the questions. In addition, we would strongly recommend a simple five-year development plan produced in co-operation with the local authority, FÁS and other interested parties.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

All areas have potential for wildlife and natural amenity developments. A good starting point would be to invite your local environmental groups to assist you and advise as appropriate.

LANDSCAPING

The new flower bed developed on the stone wall along the church is very well done and shows the potential of other parts of the village. The wide street provides opportunities for tree planting and the approach road with the dry stone walls needs your attention.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the owners of commercial premises do play their part. The B&B on the Square is very well presented and newly painted. Campbells, The Tap, Fitzmaurices, the Post Office, ODonellans, Connollys, OConnors and the Mace Supermarket all look well using traditional shop-front design rather than plastic signs, etc. The ESSO garage is very poorly presented. Where appropriate try to discourage the use of plastic signs, plastic canopies and inappropriate advertising in windows. More could be done by way of flower tubs, pots and hanging baskets to give a better presentation.

LITTER CONTROL

While the main street and market square were litter free, there was a lot of litter on the road from The Tap up to the SEAT garage on the Ballyhaunis road.

TIDINESS

More could be done to improve the village to make it neat and tidy. In the short-term, removal of plastic signs and the development of landscaped green areas will help but in the long-term, a re-design of the market square and new footpaths should be considered.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

You do have problems with derelict houses and some poorly maintained premises, walls and gateways. Try to encourage improvements through local competitions, etc. over the coming years.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The long approach roads are critical to providing a first impression of a Tidy Town competitor. Weeds and grass verges need to be weed controlled and tree planting and landscaping completed where appropriate. The market square is critical but should be re-designed to incorporate a new sculpture focus with re-citing of the public telephones.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This village could do well in this competition but a new focus should be given to a longer term plan to provide a vision of the future and a detailed programme of work.