

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYMURN**
County : **WEXFORD**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	31
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	300	208

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your Development Plan submitted for the next 3 years was extremely good and well presented. Well done. It makes for very interesting and varied development over the next 3 years. You have certainly worked on the historical and heritage aspects of your village. These will in years to come be of significant interest to visitors in your area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As a Tidy Towns Committee you have an important role to play in protecting, enhancing and increasing wildlife in your community. Do include nature conservation in your development works. Do invite a local environmental expert to advise you and provide the committee with the specialist information you will require. What about the woodland area across the road from the Credit Union offices? It could be a great area to develop that aspect. A good starting point would be to identify the species of animals, birds, etc. that these habitats attract. Also the Sow River area should also be considered in any wildlife plans.

LANDSCAPING

The trees planted do look lovely and when mature will further enhance the village. Trees are very important in the village landscape. The stone work benches are a work of art and the flower planting looks stunning. The rockery at the corner was very well done and a lovely blend of shrubs used. All shrubs and flower planting throughout are maintained very well and are a delight to see.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church on an elevated site overlooks the village and appears just magnificent. The grounds are presented beautifully with great attention to detail throughout. What a wonderful place to worship. The Mausoleum is a great historical site and of interest to locals and visitors alike. The Cemetery again was presented very well with grass cut and the walls painted white. The School was again a delight to see - lovely window boxes with a stunning collection of flowers. The Credit Union building was presented excellently with a wonderful display of hanging baskets, window boxes, etc. Prendergast's Bar & Lounge is again well presented with another wonderful display of flowers and plants. It was great to see that the stone work projects are due to commence.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was excellent throughout. Litter is now a big issue countrywide. Do not relax on litter control. Keep up the excellent work in this area.

TIDINESS

Kerbs were weed-free and all areas were neat and tidy. All areas under signs, etc. were cut and tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All properties are well maintained and gardens are lovely. St Joseph's is well maintained and all the open spaces are neat and tidy. Their gardens again looked very well. I do understand their anxiety about more important works to be done to their properties and your committee has taken the right approach. No doubt over the next few years will see this problem solved. Perhaps a power wash might remove the staining and painting may not be necessary.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads were clean, neat and tidy. It was great to see the stonework repaired. All signs were

clean and free from scratches, marks, etc. All bins were clean. The work on the bridge was excellent and at Ballinkeelee Estate gates. There were some stones in places were no doubt being used for further stonework. All streets were in good repair as were the roads.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your Tidy Towns Committee have combined in a strong manner to enhance the presentation of the village. The work done on the stone benches, rockery, the bridge and the painting of the Ballinkeelee gates. It is a great tribute to the Committee.