

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYCLOUGH**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	18	16
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	17	20
Tidiness	20	8	7
Residential Areas	30	17	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>145</b>

## **Ballyclough, Co Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your submission of your development plan. The targets that you have set for yourselves are very attainable. They will continue to give the community a definite focus. In view of the comments made under Litter Control, it is vitally important to involve the local school and run a litter awareness programme. Some communities also benefit from organising local juvenile clubs to do sponsored clean-ups.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard of presentation of business premises in the village is to be commended. The school and church were also greatly admired. There are a number of buildings that could become focal points in the community, namely the old church and the tower. It is assumed that these buildings are under private ownership. However every effort should be made to improve the presentation of these buildings. Buildings with such a rich historical and cultural importance should not be neglected. The community centre is well maintained. The adjudicator acknowledges the construction work taking place on the centre.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The use of planted trees throughout the village is to be complimented. The hanging baskets on private residences and business premises added colour to the village. The provision of benches on the green area on the Doneraile road deserves praise. The flower barrels could be used to better effect throughout the village. This comment is made with particular reference to the barrels on the main street. They tend to make the street look very cluttered. The hanging baskets and the trees already achieve the desired effect without over elaboration.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Ballycloughs rural location should be developed to the villages advantage. The most obvious natural resource, which has the greatest potential for development, is the river. This would prove to be an invaluable amenity for the community. It is recommended that the committee should consult with a local wildlife expert who could prioritise areas for development.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

This is an area that requires urgent attention. There was a lot of litter evident on the approach roads, with the Mallow road and the area around the church and the school being the most obvious examples. Litter was also prevalent on Main Street, in the river and on its banks. It is recommended that bins are placed in more strategic locations. A litter awareness programme should also be run in the school.

## **TIDINESS**

There was a reasonable level of tidiness. However, some areas detracted significantly from the committees efforts. There is a problem with weeds and overgrowth in some areas. Examples include the area around the co-op and the field in front of the church is unsightly. The driveway into the castle requires attention, as do many of the walls in the area. The works carried out on the bridge wall were noted. A number of derelict buildings require attention. In particular the derelict coal store on Main Street was quite untidy.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The residents on the Liscarroll road should be complemented for the presentation of their houses. The houses on Main Street were also very well maintained, as were a number of houses and gardens in the surrounding area. All should be commended for their efforts. This is a category that can involve more people in the community and should receive every encouragement.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads in general looked very well, most notably the Liscarroll and Mallow roads. The tree planting on the Mallow road deserves praise. Some of the comments made under the Tidiness Section would also apply here. There was some graffiti at the bridge on the Doneraile road. The signpost on the bridge was also defaced.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Ballyclough is a pleasant rural village with immense potential for development. The community is fortunate to possess a number of historical and natural amenities. These could be developed for the benefit of the community. There is a commitment to implement the development plan for the area. We wish the committee continued success in its efforts.