

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYCOTTON**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	26
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	18	18
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	166	163

Ballycotton, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting your Community Development Plan for Ballycotton. This is a useful outline for the general development of the area; perhaps in time you may draw up a plan aimed more specifically at the Tidy Towns aspect of your activities. There are, however, aspects of the plan you have prepared which, if implemented, will advance Ballycotton's position in the Tidy Towns Competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The situation in relation to buildings throughout the village was mixed. The lifeboat (in which there is a great pride locally) premises were well maintained. Catherine's Newsagents premises were very nicely presented. The Catholic Church and the old church building at the Middleton approach were both very well maintained. However, prominent buildings in the village such as the Garda Station and the school would need to be repainted. The Flamingo Commercial premises are also very much in need of repainting. The thatched house near the school entrance was very attractive.

LANDSCAPING

The planting in flower tubs throughout the village has proved very colourful. Also the use of window boxes throughout the village adds considerably to the overall effect. The difficulty of planting species which will survive the location is appreciated but perhaps this aspect may be pursued further in the future. It would be very beneficial if species which would give long-term effort could be identified as suitable and planted where appropriate.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Ballycotton is fortunate in that it provides many natural areas of habitat for a varying species of wildlife and the area has therefore become a very popular location for bird-watchers and others interested in wildlife. Your community obviously realises the international reputation of Ballycotton and surrounding area for wildlife and its protection. Your objective in relation to the maintenance of ditches, hedges etc. is noted and in the course of adjudication particular notice was taken of the lovely fuschia hedges which have been retained throughout the centre of the village. Your maintenance of such hedges will in turn lead to suitable nesting places for other species of wildlife. The tasteful construction of the Birds of Ballycotton display board is an excellent idea.

LITTER CONTROL

There seemed to be an improvement in the litter situation this year but there will need to be a greater vigilance in the future. Though a litter bin was provided there was a considerable amount of litter in the car park at the rear of the Bay View Hotel. The car park near the Catholic Church was free of litter.

TIDINESS

The road to the Cliff top could have been better this year; also the car park in this area was somewhat untidy. There was grass and weed growth along the wall of the car park behind the Bay View Hotel which gave an untidy image. The Grotto area was very tidy and very well maintained. The area in the vicinity of the Tennis Courts was also very tidy. The stone fence along the roadway behind the Catholic Church looked untidy and repairs need to be carried out to sections of this stone fence. Some seats in this area were in need of repairing.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Households in the village obviously make a valuable contribution to this aspect of the Competition. The houses and gardens at Beach View Heights were very nicely maintained. Residents on the roadway leading behind the Garda Station make an excellent effort with very colourful window boxes, flower baskets and a disused boat utilised for very colourful bedding plants.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach road from Midleton with its stone fence was very nicely maintained. The road leading into the village from Ballycotton was also quite tidy. The immediate area around the premises of the Coast and Cliff Rescue needs to be attended to. Several traffic signs and poles throughout the village are in need of repainting or replacing. These include signs at the Midleton approach and in the car park in the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is expected that the new co-ordinated approach which will be applied in conjunction with your plan for the future will bring better results for the community. In the past, Ballycotton made a considerable contribution to the competition and this can be repeated with a new approach.