

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINAGARE**
County : **ROSCOMMON**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	16	15
The Built Environment	40	17	16
Landscaping	40	11	10
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	12	10
Tidiness	20	8	7
Residential Areas	30	12	12
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	17	16
General Impression	10	4	3
TOTAL MARK	300	107	99

Ballinagare, County Roscommon

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ballinagare is welcome to the 1997 Tidy Towns Competition. The village looked well during adjudication. Projects completed for this year's competition have been noted; well done! Some suggestions have been made below which might be included in your work programme for next year. Thank you for the completed questionnaire and sketch map; don't forget to send in some details of your planned work programme. The problem of speeding traffic through the village is appreciated and we wish you well in whatever steps you take to have this problem dealt with. Perhaps traffic calming measures would be appropriate.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Well done on work completed on the restoration of walls on approach roads. The completion of the old school hall has been a worthwhile project also. We look forward to the completion of other projects. The church looks particularly well having been freshly whitewashed or painted. The Post Office has some fine architectural features which would be worth highlighting; this might be achieved by painting the property. The weatherstained wall across from the church which forms a junction with the Ballina Road should be cleaned and/or painted and the field behind it perhaps developed as a wildlife garden. Keep up the efforts to have inappropriate plastic signs removed from shopfronts. Most commercial properties along the main street are very well presented in terms of painting and overall presentation

LANDSCAPING

The wire and post fencing along the Dublin Road might be planted with hedgerow. Extend your tree planting programme to incorporate the area behind the stone wall on the Dublin entrance into the village. Landscaped carparking areas in the village centre at the top of the Castlerea Road look well. The wide main street could accommodate planted carpark bays. The chain link fencing on the Castlerea entrance might be replaced at some time in the future with a low stone kerb. Flower displays in window boxes and hanging baskets are colourful.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Perhaps a survey of the wildlife of the village and its environs would be a suitable project to start with under this heading. Some thought might also be given to the creation of a wildlife garden.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was reasonable during adjudication. Do try to maintain this high standard throughout the year.

TIDINESS

Weed growth between traffic eyes on the Dublin Road should be removed. Your wall restoration programme could be extended to include stretches of wall along the Dublin Road and Ballina Road. There are a number of sites which need to be tidied up/developed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The majority of private dwellings looked well. Some boundary walls of residential properties on the Ballina entrance could be upgraded. Property owners might also be encouraged to maintain the roadside area at their boundary walls.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Verges of approach roads tend to be somewhat overgrown although not seriously so. The welcome stone on the Castlerea entrance is most attractive. The wirescape along the main street is visually obtrusive; some thought might now be given to taking the initial steps for having it ducted. Some of the old street furniture such as the old water pumps would look well if refurbished. The telephone kiosk could be cleaned.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of Ballinagare is favourable. We wish you luck with future projects.