

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYNEALE**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 25-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	24	22
Landscaping	40	25	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	21
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	163	154

Ballyneale, County Tipperary SR

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting the map of the village together with the completed questionnaire both of which proved useful on the day of adjudication. Your Committee, although small, has continued to make trojan effort and this is very much reflected in the pleasing manner in which the village is presented to the visitor. You seem to have successfully gained the involvement or at least the goodwill of most in the village. The creation of a 3 or 5 year programme of works which secures endorsement by the community at large in the village will materially assist you further in your on-going efforts to improve matters. Where possible strive to create a clear division for the commencement of the village on the various approach roads. Continue the policy of planting suitable sized trees which give dignity and gravitas to the approach roads.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The housing stock in the village is of necessity limited. Accordingly, a greater emphasis than might be expected falls on the fine approach road walls - the Glenbower road particularly being favoured in this regard. The Village Inn was delightful, well presented with fresh paint and a range of hanging baskets and other floral displays. The Parochial Hall was similarly pleasing but some additional presentation work would be advantageous. The imposing new gateway to Baile na Deirce reflects the fine stone wall already referred to. The School, now 40 years old, was freshly painted while the grounds and outer wall were neat, clean and tidy. The presentation of Kilmurray Church graveyard is superb and great credit is due to all those involved in the fine presentation of this historic location. The monument to Thomas F. Kiely continues to be very well presented.

LANDSCAPING

The large open area opposite the Church ground is softened to a degree by the small low level flower beds. These were colourful but could, with advantage, have more full planting for optimum effect. Please remember to paint or whitewash the butt of the flower bed retaining wall. The highlighting of the small pump was a pleasing feature. The grounds of the Catholic Church were neat and orderly. Plaudits are due to the creators and those who tend the landscaped grounds opposite the School on the Carrick-on-Suir approach road.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Surrounded by a thriving rural area the need and advantage of specific wildlife habitats may not be immediately obvious. However on reflection it will be appreciated that the presence of birdlife does enhance the village. Seek specific advice from local bird and wildlife enthusiasts as to how best to exploit the many advantages your location and topography offer.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter generally does not feature throughout the village although minor examples were observed here and there. The School area was noticeably clear of litter. More and suitably sited litter bins, especially in the larger Church car park area, where only 1 small litter bin was observed, is suggested.

TIDINESS

The Committees efforts to eradicate dumping in the quarry area are noted and applauded. The sign will hopefully serve at least as a retarding devise against this practise, the best defence being an enlightened public opinion. Some builders spoil was noted in the gateway above the Parochial hall.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The very limited housing stock are presented to a good standard although one would welcome an improvement in the presentation of gardens and grassed areas notably in the housing crescent close to the School. Some houses have agreeable flower beds at the base of front facing walls. Please remember to whitewash or paint the retaining walls for best effect.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

We re-echo the comments concerning the fine stone wall and note that hedgerows have been well cut back on all approach roads. The delightful, small scale, superbly carved Ballyneale nameplate above the Village Inn is splendid and deserves to be highlighted to a greater degree. Attention is directed to the confusion as to the correct spelling of the village which on directional signposts is shown as Ballyneil where as the village nameplates spell it Ballyneale, the ordnance survey maps spell it Ballyneil.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballyneale is a pleasant village which has done much to enhance its appearance and in particular should be proud of its work for local heritage notably Kilmurray Church. Keep up the efforts and in particular give attention to the minor points outlined above. There is an emphasis on Wildlife and wildlife habitats and this aspect should be incorporated in the new 3 to 5 year programme which the Committee is urged to compile.