

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYHALE**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	23
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>176</b>

## **Ballyhale, County Kilkenny**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

It is again disappointing to read that you appear to be still fighting an uphill battle in terms of community support when it comes to the Tidy Towns effort. Have you considered the suggestion made in last year's report - the calling of a public meeting at which your Local Regional Tourism Authority Officer, Local Authority representatives, representatives from FAS etc. could attend. In the meantime, thank you for the information sent with your entry form and the map which was most useful on adjudication day. The following are comments on your progress and should be read in the context of both the 1996 and 1997 reports.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The church and school were again very well presented on adjudication day. The area in the road leading to the church was very nicely presented with baskets and tubs of flowers which looked very well. Your comments regarding the building of the wall near the GAA park have been noted. Commercial premises in general were well presented, others carry to many advertising signs and hoardings which not alone take away from their own building but from the whole ambience of the village. Your plans regarding the building of other walls are noted. There was no evidence of this on adjudication day, so it is assumed that this will be a project for completion for next year.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Activity under this heading was noted on the Waterford road. Well done to those concerned. The open space in what looked like the Dispensary building was well presented but needed cutting. The comments made in last years report are still applicable. In the event of the planting of trees and shrubs please do take the best advice available to you through your local authority or Coillte.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your comments under this heading were noted and it is indeed a pity that the ducks put in position are no longer there. However perhaps you might give this heading further consideration for 1999 and again the comments made in last year's report regarding getting some expert help still apply.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

There was almost no litter to be seen in Ballyhale on adjudication day. This is a major achievement. Well done to all concerned.

## **TIDINESS**

In general the village was presented in a neat and tidy manner but comments regarding open storage made last year still apply. As already mentioned there is an oversupply of advertising signs and hoardings in Ballyhale. However the adjudicator appreciates the difficulties in having these moved in the short term.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Private houses were generally very well presented. Some with lovely gardens in full bloom which went a long way to presenting a very nice image of Ballyhale. Again well done to all concerned. The continuance of the individual effort is all important.

## **ROADS, STREET AND BACK AREAS**

Unfortunately approach roads looked very overgrown so comments made in last year's report are still applicable. In this respect the Waterford approach was the best. Road surfaces are good and paths in general were also in good condition. Back areas in general were reasonably well presented. Do bear in mind that the adjudication does include the back streets and back areas and not just the main streets.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

In spite of the lack of co-operation from most quarters, very good work has been done and continues to be done. Because of this additional marks will be granted this year. Continued success may win over new friends for the Ballyhale Tidy Towns committee. If possible try to visit other centres in your own and other counties such as Bennettsbridge, Inistioge, Rossadrehid in South Tipperary, Ardmore in County Waterford and indeed Kilkenny City. It would be possible for you to meet with a committee at one or other of these centres and discuss mutual problems. Most Tidy Towns committees have had the same problems in the past- lack of support, a small number of people involved, lack of finance etc. but they have managed to overcome these and achieve a high level of success.