

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYDUFF UPPER**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	21
The Built Environment	40	26	24
Landscaping	40	22	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	29	28
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	182	177

Ballyduff Upper, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your entry form and map which was of great help on adjudication day. It is good to see that you liaise with the Waterford County Council and that the LEADER Company have been providing some funding for you. The adjudicator would also suggest that you contact your Regional Tourism Authority, Telecom Eireann, the National Rehabilitation Board, the ESB who will be only delighted to be of whatever assistance and help they can be to your Committee. You have a good Committee of 10 persons and if you can get more members of your Community to assist you with your work, all the better. The adjudicator would strongly encourage you at this stage to produce a plan for the next 3 to 5 years which would help you enormously with your work. The plan should be a very simple one, not more than 3 to 5 pages and it should set out clearly your objectives for each year covered. Do not adopt unrealistic objectives - have a limited number which are achievable and, which are far more likely to yield results for your Committee. Much of the expertise will be found in your own Committee and any further advice which you might need will often be available in the wider local Community. Look on the plan as a guide for your Committee and as something which can be built on over the years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Garda Station which is in a delightful location is a building of great character. There is great scope to do some planting in front of this area. The Church was well maintained. The graveyard was at the stage of the grass needing a cut. The School again looked neat and tidy and perhaps some more planting of trees and shrubs could be done here. The Community Hall is a lovely new building and enhances the whole village. The white railing does need painting and I would suggest that some planting be done in front of the railing with the plants being native to the area. The commercial buildings throughout the village were very well maintained and that included the shops and pubs. Well done to all. The Co-Op stores do need attention and the adjudicator would suggest that tree planting be done inside the wall which should act as a screening when the trees begin to mature. This Company should be approached and no doubt they will only be glad to co-operate with the Committee.

LANDSCAPING

Some nice planting done at the River Blackwater sign and at the Ballyduff signs and looked very well on the day of adjudication. The tubs containing flowers throughout the village looked very well and a lovely selection was used. The adjudicator notes that you plan to have large stone flowerbeds over the next few years.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is great potential in Ballyduff Upper to explore and develop under this category. The River is a most important habitat for wildlife and it should be used to the full in any development of this category. A good starting point would be to identify the wildlife habitats of your area and see what species of fish, animals and birds that it attracts. You will be both surprised and delighted at discovering the number and extent of these. If you need help in identifying local wildlife habitats or getting the project off the ground, do invite your local environmental expert in to advise you and provide you with the necessary knowledge you will require. Additional guidance is available from the Conservation Volunteers of Ireland.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall it is very good and very little was in evidence on the day of adjudication with the exception of small amounts outside the School and near the housing estate. Well done to all concerned.

TIDINESS

Overall the village does look tidy. As mentioned already the Co-Op stores certainly requires treatment as does the area around the Community Hall. Open spaces in some areas would need to be tackled. The farmyard storage and small transport centre, again needs attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All residents take great pride in having their properties looking attractive. The houses in Marian Terrace are well maintained and there were delightful displays of flowers and shrubs.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general the approach roads were tidy. Regarding the stone wall to the School - the adjudicator would suggest that you would clean the top of this wall. The Ballyduff sign and the Blackwater sign would need to be cleaned. It is suggested that you remove the weeds from the stonewall on the Lismore Road. Some of the footpaths and walls are fine, others as you indicated in your report would need improvement. Do liaise with the County Council who will in time assist you with this.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your Committee is making a very good effort overall and you are to be congratulated on this. You have a very good base to start with and you can only go from strength to strength. It will help you enormously to have your 3 to 5 year plan in place and where you can achieve a number of improvements each year.