

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ARDATTIN**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	34	34
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	35	34
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	33
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	244	243

Ardattin, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

This is a really welcoming village to visit. So quiet, so well cared for and such efforts put into every detail. With the small committee a great deal has been achieved and continue this good work please. The mature beech, ash and sycamore trees, together with the lovely stone throughout, enhance the village greatly.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church and school buildings are well presented together with the walls of the carpark. The restored 1798 comparative building is tastefully presented and the grotto beside this is very kept. The picnic tables are nicely tucked in giving a pleasant secluded area.

LANDSCAPING

The predominating landscape is of trees in the background – ash, sycamore and beech. It is nice to see these close to the village and a continual planting renewal programme should be planned. The smaller ornamental style trees are also helpful for gardens but the character is formed by the major trees. The big beech tree at the top of the road, shows how important one tree can be. The hedgerows are very important too and their cutting should be to encourage the greatest wild life populations. Within the Beechwood housing estate there is a wide green where tree planting could take place – maybe an opportunity to plant beech, oak or ash.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Hedgerows as mentioned above are a major feature of wild life in Ireland and it is wise to facilitate the wild life by proper cutting. Developing walkways off the roads is another way of appreciation of the wild life.

LITTER CONTROL

The litter bins are attractive and placed prominently in the village.

Litter is always a difficulty.

The vigilant picking up of litter and the patrol was noted.

TIDINESS

Ardattin is certainly a tidy village. The planters at the church give a nice tidy look and even though they are not colourful (except for green). They set a very refined tone to the area and are in keeping with the nature of the surrounding countryside.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Every home has a contribution to make in this regard. Some people will naturally attempt to make the most of their homes and gardens; others will need encouragement and the example of others. The Beechwood estate has many very well kept homes. The entrance to this estate is very pleasant with the Bullawn and surrounding plantings.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Roads and driveways are in very good condition. The sign posting is attractive and the map board at the church car park is a good feature. The approach roads are again very attractive this year. The stone walls and boundaries are lovely and a great asset to the village

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ardattin is a very attractive village with a dedicated team of people in the committee. There is excellent commitment from the local people - this is very evident and hopefully even more progress will be made in the coming years.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/08/99)

Congratulations again to the entire community for another increase in marks, so difficult to achieve at the upper end of the competition. On minor issues, some of the building development seems a little indeterminate. The forecourt of the building next the Community Centre needed weeding in early August. There was some disposable litter on the Carlow road. If anything, however, Ardattin exceeded its usual high standard.