

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 05-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	33	34
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	6	7
TOTAL MARK	300	181	183

Ballyhale, County Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is understood from last year's report that you have some difficulties with community support. This offers a greater challenge. Perhaps as more progress is made support will follow. The work of a committee can be very disappointing when all the help you need is not easily forthcoming. Persistence and determination will bring success.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church with the old castle attached is an interesting feature. The school is well presented a little touch of paint on the railings would be helpful. The premises along the main street opposite the church look very well and great credit to their owners. The creeper-clad house and pub and the well painted business premises do much for Ballyhale. Attention to some premises is needed. Powers garage area would benefit from some extra attention. Stone walls are always a great feature and there are many fine examples.

LANDSCAPING

The containers with stone slab cladding are attractive. It is a good idea to have unity of container type. Even when other types are used these stone clad containers form a framework through the village. The cemetery and grotto area is attractive. The roses in the church grounds require a little more care to get the best from them. Many home gardens contribute greatly to the overall landscape of the village. The garden for instance near the grotto is a delight. The river banks could be a better feature. The stream by the road at the church has not enough stone on which to develop plant or animal life and this treatment of scouring the sides may be a little extreme. The school grounds are well maintained. There are beautiful lime trees behind the church. These are mature now. Are any being planted for the next two generations to enjoy ?

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The streamsides are good places for wildlife interest. Advice as to the best approach with wildlife projects should be sought. Schools and people with local knowledge would be most helpful as well as the tidy towns manual

LITTER CONTROL

Litter is difficult to keep in constant control without the co-operation of every individual in the village. There was litter noted in several places. Constant vigilance is always needed

TIDINESS

There is a reasonably tidy look to Ballyhale. Some buildings needing painting attention and signage of shops can make for some untidiness.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses are well cared for and people have developed fine gardens and container displays outside their boundaries which look really well

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road through is very well marked and in good condition. The traffic is very heavy and makes crossing difficult. Perhaps traffic calming measures should be sought. The footpaths are very broken in many places and as such can be dangerous and unpleasant. At Powers garage serious holes in the road were noted.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballyhale gives a nice impression on passing through. More tree planting – perhaps in school or any other sites would help. Consultation with other tidy town groups may be helpful in forming a stronger support within your own village