

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYORGAN**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	20
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	193	189

Ballyorgan, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ballyorgan is in the heart of Ballyhoura Country at the foot of the mountains of the same name, a haven of tranquillity. Thank you for the completed application form, detailed work plan and sketch map which made it easy to identify places of interest. The committee of 3 has succeeded in harnessing the energies of the local community and the result of this collective approach has meant that the village has improved immensely over the last few years. The interaction between the committee and the County Council has paid dividends and the involvement in the Ballyhoura Tidy Towns competition has also benefited Ballyorgan.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The addition of new stonewalls has enhanced the village a lot as it is quite small and something like this stands out. Most buildings were presented to a very high standard although the Old Creamery as one approaches from Cuttings Cross could be revitalised. The Church and School were in good condition. The boundary walls near school would look better if painted or even cement dashed. Mees, Lantern Lodge and the lovely colourful cottages in the centre of the village deserve credit for their appearance. The old cottage with galvanised roof was nicely camouflaged with a mural depicting the half door so synonymous with Irish country life long ago. Also I was fascinated by the quaintly named Long Delay cottage, indeed Ballyorgan is so peaceful one could delay there indefinitely. A few properties needed to be revitalised and the road surface out of the village had been recently resurfaced.

LANDSCAPING

The planting scheme near the delay cottage was much admired indeed there was evidence of ongoing work in this category which can only be of advantage to the village. The provision of more prudent planting of trees and shrubs will soften the image of Ballyorgan without taking away from its own natural charm.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The addition of the Bird Identification Board sponsored by Ballyhoura Failte is an excellent contribution to the promotion of interest in the wildlife of the area. The River with its new stonewall bridge and easy access to the bank is a haven for various wildlife species. Keep up the good work in this category.

LITTER CONTROL

The regular clean ups are paying dividends as the village was virtually litter free on adjudication day. Making schoolchildren aware of the need for good litter control practices is vitally important as they are going to be the future citizens of Ballyorgan.

TIDINESS

The standard in this category was a little mixed. There was some weed growth evident on the outskirts of the village also there was some farming activity residue to be seen around the place. Some side areas were a little untidy. Be mindful of the need to keep the kerbs free of weed growth.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category was good although boundary walls of houses on the Castleoliver exit need to be dashed or painted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

This year nameplates were clean and visible. The approach road from Cuttings Cross (where do these unique names come from?) was in good condition with verges cut back appropriately. Back areas were in general kept very well

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballyorgan is a charming village off the beaten track with the potential to do well in the competition. Keep up the good work.