

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GALBALLY**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	43
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	34
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	247	244

Galbally, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the very comprehensive application form and very detailed map of Galbally and surrounds. Galbally of course is one of the most scenic inland villages in the whole of Ireland and is blessed to have the magnificent Galtee Mountains as backdrop. All the entrances to the village were inviting on what was one of the hottest days of summer so far this year. One comes to expect high standards from the whole community in Galbally and this year was no different. Despite the fact that there was a lot of disruptive pipe laying work taking place, the village looked exceptionally well. The level of interaction between the committee, local authority, other agencies and local community associations is commendable and proving very beneficial to the village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both commercial and private buildings in main square area of the village were presented to a very high standard and indeed there have been improvements to buildings since this adjudicator visited Galbally some years back. It was noted that the old residence next to O'Domhnaills was being renovated to fit into the style of the streetscape. The colour scheme for the village was much admired with a number of premises most notably O'Neills Shop and O'Donovans having very attractive colour combinations. Stonewalls are a major feature of the village and its environs. The walls near the Community Centre referred to in last year's report have been improved upon. The two premises near the Church were a little tatty and badly in need of a coat of paint. The public buildings such as The Church, School, Community Hall and the extremely well kept graveyard deserve special mention. Similarly many private residences were seen at their very best including the typical Golden Vale Farmstead opposite P Ryan's Pub on the Moore Abbey Road. Hedigans, Frazers, Monument View, Abbey View and individual properties with nice floral arrangements also look very well. The War of Independence monument was in good condition.

LANDSCAPING

Good to see that you have taken a practical approach to the maintenance of hedgerows and grass margins. The Moore Abbey and the adjacent picnic area was resplendent with well maintained amenity furniture. Some nice individual planting features were to be seen around the village most notably at the Ballylanders/Galbally Signpost junction outside the village. Similarly there was a very nice stone flowerbed to be seen opposite Paddy Ryan's Pub on the Moore Abbey Road. I thought the bedding plants which consisted of annuals and bi-annuals were very colourful.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Good to see that you have reacted positively to a suggestion in last year's report by undertaking to produce a booklet on the wildlife of the area. This coupled with the siting of bilingual sign boards are positive steps in this category and will eventually spawn additional initiatives.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was excellent on the day. The measures taken by the committee to infuse people with the spirit of good litter control is paying dividends. The idea of involving the schools is an excellent one as these will be the adults of the future.

TIDINESS

Even allowing for the disruption caused by the uprooting of roads, the village and outlying areas were very tidy. A little weed growth was evident near the auctioneers yard on the Moorabbey road and at the base of the wall in the graveyard carpark. It was good to see that the graveyard was being well maintained.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

With the exception of a very few, the standard of presentation of private residences was very high. Galtee View, Pine Avenue and Marian Terrace were in pristine condition.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main approach roads and side roads including the Hill Road were in tiptop condition with wildflowers giving that attractive splash of colour. The stonework on the Tipperary Road mentioned in last year's report has been refurbished. The Mooreabbey Road has some very impressive residences and pleasant planting arrangements.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Galbally is a very impressive village with many natural backdrops such as the Galtee Mountains. The Committee have at all times tried to tackle issues of concern and have been quick to respond to any positive suggestions that would benefit the village. Congratulations to all involved.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/08/99)

Galbally, a former winner of the national competition, is set in some absolutely magnificent scenery. The buildings throughout the town and in particular the main square looked well despite the fact that pipe laying work was still in progress

on the day. Galbally has some fine traditional shopfronts including A.J. Ryans, Mulveys and O'Donovans with its cheerful red window frames and doors. Road signage was generally very fresh. However, the nameplate sign on the Tipperary side of the village had fallen. Roadworks appeared to be in progress on this road on the day. Although the sheds and outbuildings on this side of the village will need some attention before next year's competition, work was in progress washing down walls along this road. Indeed lots of activity was evident on adjudication day. Landscaped features throughout the village looked well such as the incidental bed of flowers on the Aherlow Road and indeed on the Tipperary Road. The village pump to the former road will need repairing and a single can was evident on the day. Besides this pump litter control was generally very good. There is a wealth of fine stone walling along approach roads which is to be commended. Congratulations to all concerned on a fine level of presentation.