

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLINAMUCK**  
County : **LONGFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	20
The Built Environment	40	21	17
Landscaping	40	22	19
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	8	8
Litter Control	40	21	20
Tidiness	20	9	8
Residential Areas	30	16	14
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	16	14
General Impression	10	5	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>124</b>

## **Ballinamuck, County Longford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

A lot of work has been completed in the village in the past year. Thank you for your comments and the interesting piece on the Commemorative Monument and Remembrance Park. Historically the village is very important and the centre is a good idea providing a place of explanation to visitors. Now that the work has been completed, a plan is required setting out the vision of the village over the next 3-5 years. The judges were delighted that all the work was completed in time last year.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Heritage centre is a fine building and with the information office was presented well. There was some glass in the carpark and litter here should be cleared. The 98 bar looks well with its new thatch. There is gravel outside the graveyard which requires removal. The Pike Inn was painted a lovely warm colour and had some lovely baskets. The Ceard Scoil looks well though further attention to the railings is required. The Post Office is clean and neat. The walls which make up much of the village will look better when selected vegetation is allowed to grow on them.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Some residences and buildings have made great effort in the provision of plants and colour. The house beside the Post Office looked well. The length of the village and its rural nature really requires that you consider only native plants/trees and shrubs on the outskirts of the village. Allowing select native plants such as stands of honeysuckle and ferns can look very well. A tree in the carpark of the 98 Bar has seen better days.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Obviously due to the concentration on cultural aspects during the last year, not a great deal of attention has been paid to matters of wildlife. Identification of areas in which wildlife can be enhanced or perhaps awareness developed through school competitions could be considered

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Overall the litter position was good, however some litter in the carpark must be dealt with. There seemed to be a deficit of litterbins which should be rectified. Domestic recycling and attitude to it should also be considered.

## **TIDINESS**

The main village area was tidy though the outskirts on the approach roads required the removal of mown grass.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are some nice houses on the Gaique approach and in the centre of the village. The house beside the Ceard Scoil looked well and had some nice planting. The green and white cottage (which looked really well) and other house along here had bunches of Crocosmia which will look really well in a month's time. There are several derelict houses which need attention – the judges wonder if there would be market for these as the area is important in fishing terms and some of the cottages have a lot of character.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach road from Gaique had been cut back well; allowing ferns through which looked well. Hay (mown grass) had not been collected in some places and this looked untidy. Other approach roads require attention. As it is a long and rural village, only marginal cutting is required to bring the village together and also the management of the hedgerows by cutting out some species and encouraging others.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Ballinamuck has improved considerably and well done to everyone involved. Planning is now required as well as attention to detail. Litter should be totally eradicated and attention should be paid to the approach roads. Well done on the work carried out and good luck for the future.