

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYVAUGHAN**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	43
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	27	27
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	213	211

Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for returning completed entry form and copy of CAAS Report. Indeed, this fine report has served you well and still contains many worthwhile suggestions not yet acted upon. You have touched some of the black spots outlined in previous reports and your challenge now is to step up a gear and tackle some of the remaining problem areas. You should list about ten small projects from the CAAS report each year and keep them before you as a priority.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public buildings looked well again this year. The school is getting a new roof and now is an opportune time to try some landscaping on the forecourt. The Burren Exposure (a first visit for this adjudication) is very well presented, with good quality landscaping and a most informative illustration of the Burren history and heritage. The fountain is now improved, but you need to go a little further in improvement – refer to CAAS report. Hylands is really excellent and projects an attractive image on this entrance. The Craft Centre is in need of improved surface dressing and some of the signage has gone shabby.

LANDSCAPING

Individually, the efforts to landscape premises is very good. Much of the landscaping of previous years, especially on the approach roads is now further enhancing with the passing of time. Grass control is generally good, especially on the Lisdoonvarna approach.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You are well positioned to score a high mark in this section. Is there any progress yet on the bird-hide mentioned in your application? The wildlife and flora is important to Ballyvaughan and you should try and involve yourselves closer with the promotions on the great variety of sea birds in particular.

LITTER CONTROL

You have maintained your marks here and the village was generally litter free. A small amount was seen at the shopping centre.

TIDINESS

You have problems here because of a small number of unoccupied houses not being well maintained. The old weigh-bridge area is quite untidy also. Signage needs a painting blitz and in some areas you have too many signs.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses is very good and many have lovely attractive colour schemes and rich landscaping. The Rent An Irish Cottage Scheme is really excellent this year and looks attractive with well cut grassed area, good flower displays and some fresh thatching. The flower display at the road entrance is particularly well done. You have a good deal of holiday homes, although not to be compared to other sea-side towns in the county. As a community, you should aim for closer integration between the holiday homes and village core - the R.I.C. seems to have the balance correct. St Joseph's housing estate is well presented this year and grass reasonably well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general, the road structure is well maintained. The attractive new shop fronts in the village centre are praiseworthy and helps to keep the village core at a high standard. Signage is too cluttered and ineffective because of the plethora of finger signs in confined areas. You have some weed growth in the gutter that needs spraying.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The village looked well on adjudication day and you have maintained your marks. You still have potential for improvement and you should re-visit the CAAS Report for ideas on improvement.