

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINEEN-ENNISKEANE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	21	20
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	176	176

Ballineen-Enniskeane, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to thank the Committee for the copy of Year 4 of the Tidy Towns Action Plan received with your entry form. However it is most important to put a time scale on each of your proposed actions in this Plan. The document received was dated April 1997. It is good to see, though your working Committee is small, that you have good local support for your good work for Tidy Towns. The area covered by the Ballineen-Enniskeane entry is very large and is at least 1 mile long. In Tidy Towns terms this is considered very long. Have you considered working closely together as before but submitting two separate entries for the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition?

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The project to illuminate the Church was an excellent initiative. You have quite correctly identified the problem of dereliction in your Action Plan. Try and see if you can get permission from property owner to white-wash external walls. Windows could be boarded up and painted matt black. In this way the original derelict property can become a feature of your village. There appeared to be re-development work under way at the Skoda Autos property. The Enniskeane Dairy Services property was well presented with appropriate landscaping. The Grainger Sawmills property was suprisingly well presented considering the nature of the work and the amount of heavy traffic that it must involve. The Church is a fine elegant building and the grounds are being very well maintained, The nearby Graveyard is also being well kept. At the Church car park nearby fine hedging was noted. At the National School near the Church, the long road boundary wall needs to be re-painted. Likewise at Shorten's Garage the small white site boundary walls need to be painted. The Tennis Courts and Playground looked well on adjudication day, as did

the nearby landscaped and grassed area. The Old Station House plans are noted and this will be an excellent development when completed. Across the road the Community Centre building looked well. The climbing plants at the toilet block were attractive but the area around the two signs needs to be cleared of this growth. In Ballineen attractive stone properties were noted. The Corner House is an attractive, simply designed, shop-front, and the Garda Station boundary wall need to be re-painted. There are still a number of projecting shop signs which are not all appropriate. These detract from the overall visual impression. Can you consider starting a campaign to replace some of these signs with traditional hand lettered flush mounted signs which will be much more appropriate, and which will enhance your street-scape. In Ballineen some buildings have not yet been painted and perhaps these could use a bright colour. At the Church of Ireland Parish Centre the area to the front of their building needs to be tidied up. Nearby the National School grounds need to be tidied up and the long grass cut and weed growth removed. The two road boundary walls should be re-painted.

LANDSCAPING

The upgrading of shrub areas is noted. There are a number of small landscaped areas in Ballineen-Enniskeane and these all looked well on adjudication day. At some of these areas the black and yellow kerbing is in need of re-painting. An attractive and well kept grassed area was noted at the Tennis Courts / Playground. Some of the private flower displays at retail or private premises are too large for the size of the property concerned.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your policy on the non-use of toxic sprays near the river is commended. The Bandon River is a major asset to the Ballineen-Enniskeane area, and from the bridges it is being well maintained. Hopefully you will be able to provide some display panels of the wildlife of the area.

LITTER CONTROL

On adjudication day litter control was quite good. Some litter was however noted on some of the approach roads. Have you considered involving the Schools in an anti-litter campaign each year?

TIDINESS

There are a number of untidy areas in Ballineen-Enniskeane. However the work in the area in front of the old Court House is noted. Some Speed Limit sign poles need to be replaced or painted. An untidy area was noted opposite Skoda Autos. On the short broad down to the Community Centre the old wire fencing should be replaced as soon as possible, and this is included in your Action Plan. A rusty gate here needs to be replaced also and the untidy grassed area behind tidied up. Above the playing pitches some untidy areas were noted with weed growth – at the end of the platform area. At the rear of the Community Centre the rusty wire fencing should be replaced – part of the Pitch & Putt boundary.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

On the Clonakilty approach road an attractive terrace of two storey houses was noted, with attractive flower boxes and hanging baskets. At Lilac Court the road boundary wall requires painting, The large green property opposite O'Mahony's impressed as did the adjoining property. An attractive row of cottages was seen on the Bandon side of the Church. Some private houses in your area are not yet painted and at others road boundary walls await painting. At Derrigra Crescent the grass should be cut. On the Rossmore road attractive private housing was also noted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general banks on approach roads had been cut, with the exception of the Rossmore approach road.

However in most cases cut grass had not been raked and taken away, thus creating a very untidy appearance. Generally approach roads looked well.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This entry covers a very large area and considering this, the overall presentation is encouraging for the future. As you are aware you have problems in regard to derelict property, and there is an unevenness in regard to property presentation. Good luck with the good work.