

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINSPITTLE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	10	9
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	175	173

Ballinspittle, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your Five-Year Plan 2000-2004 and Map was most useful to the adjudicator on adjudication day. It is however important that you would put a time schedule on your various actions. This will help you to know if your work is running to plan or not. The new Tidy towns Handbook has been issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to all Tidy towns Committees. This is a highly useful document which will be a great help both to established Tidy Towns Committees and to all new entrants. It is divided into a series of seven Action Sheets that together cover all aspects of the Competition. It might be most useful for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook. It is encouraging to learn that you are working with your Local Authority and FAS.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Co-Op is a large site within the village and the presentation was found to be good on adjudication day. However the railings should be painted. The Garda Station looked well but the road boundary wall needs touching up. The Catholic Church looked well. At the National School the road boundary wall should be painted. At the GAA premises at least nine broken windows were noted to the rear of the premises and these need urgent attention. Arus Scoile is a fine premises as is the nearby yellow painted building. The latter building demonstrates how successful the use of strong colour can be in certain locations. A large building noted in the village centre is in need of re-painting. At the bridge the Local Authority should repaint the yellow and black kerbs.

LANDSCAPING

The new tree planting has been noted. At the bridge a fine private landscaped garden with excellent

maintained grassed area was noted. The Grotto again this year was excellently presented. The superbly maintained grass across the road contrasted excellently with the uncut wilder grass area behind. This is an excellent presentation with wildlife in mind.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river potentially can be important for wildlife, as are the many nearby trees. The Tidy Towns Handbook that you will have received has a good section on this. The concept of walking trails in the nearby Kilmore Wood is excellent and presumably you are working with Coillte on this project.

LITTER CONTROL

Some litter was noted on the Clonakilty / Kilbrittain approach road, however a lot of litter was seen on the Garrettstown side of the village. At the Tennis Courts area in the GAA property litter was again noted, and also at the Church Car Park. The centre of the village was relatively litter free on adjudication day.

TIDINESS

At the GAA premises the gates are in need of painting, and the pile of sand, two tyres and the concrete block should be removed from inside the entrance gate. At the O'Regan premises the sign is damaged and needs replacement and the area to the side should be screened from view. At the Riverdale housing the long railing is in need of painting, in a bright colour. The old barn building to the rear of the main street needs urgent attention. A very untidy field gate area was noted about half way along the Church Car Park.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The sloping grassed area in front of the Riverdale houses was much admired, and these houses looked well. There is one boundary wall in need of urgent re-painting at this estate. A number of very

attractive houses were noted on the approaches to the village, and good landscaping had been carried out at most of them.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Clonakilty/Kilbrittain approach road the banks had been cut nicely. The "Please Drive Slowly" sign and poles here need to be replaced. Banks had been neatly trimmed on the Garrettstown approach to the village. On the approach road at the side of the large yellow building grass had been cut but not taken away. Banks had been too tightly cut on the Bandon approach road, and again grass was not raked afterwards and taken away. Again on the Kinsale road the banks had been too tightly cut. The stone wall noted here looked very impressive. However long grass was coming over the top of the wall.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Keep up the good work for Ballinspittle, you are making progress. Use you Tidy Towns Plan to guide your activities in a programmed way each year.