

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYCOTTON**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2000

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2000 | Mark Awarded 1999 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 30 | 29 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 26 | 25 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 24 | 23 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 | 14 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 21 | 20 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 16 | 14 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 22 | 22 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 25 | 24 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 186 | 178 |

Ballycotton, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Over a number of years, Ballycotton featured prominently in the Tidy Towns Competition. There are indications now that the community, through the local Development Company are working in a coordinated manner towards achieving progress in the Competition again. Also the fact that the village won first place in last year's Local Authority Litter Challenge is a further positive development for the community.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both church buildings are impressive and imposing. The positioning of a flood lighting system at the Star of the Sea Catholic Church is a good millennium project for the community. Painting of Cliff Palace, the former hall premises was in the course of being painted at the time of adjudication and this will enhance this area of the village. Business premises throughout the village were quite well presented. Public buildings such as the Garda Station, school etc. all looked well.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping work which has been carried out at various areas throughout the village is being well maintained. The flower beds at the Midleton approach near the Church of Ireland church are colourful and enhance this area of the village. The flowerbeds along the roadway leading up from and behind the Garda Station towards the Catholic Church are pleasant, colourful and well cared for. The green area here in which a disused boat is used for flower planting was also very well maintained. The shrubbery at the rear and across the road from the Catholic Church is maturing well and obviously has been well attended to.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENTIES

The area in the vicinity of the village is rich in wildlife terms. The display board in which the area's wildlife is depicted is very informative for both locals and visitors. Also the manner by which access has been created to areas such as the Cliff Walk facilitates walkers who wish to experience / see the wildlife species of the area. For such an area, it is appropriate that new bird signs have been put in place in the vicinity of the entrance to the Cliff Walk. The Grotto area is beautifully maintained and excellently presented.

LITTER CONTROL

The Development Company's and hopefully the community's "constant clean up and vigilance" on the litter question is to be welcomed. This coupled with the provision of litter bins at various points throughout the village, including the school, vicinity of Cliff Walk entrance etc. helps to combat litter which is a persistent problem in many centres. At the time of adjudication, the village was relatively litter free, however constant vigilance is required in this area.

TIDINESS

Notwithstanding its location which is quite a difficult one, the immediate area of the Ballycotton Lifeboat premises might be watched with a view to giving it a more tidy appearance. The Tennis Courts and nearby car park were very tidy. The area adjoining the Bottle Bank was quite tidy. Seats provided in the green areas leading to the entrance of the Cliff Walk were well maintained but in one particular area, the grass in the vicinity of some seats had not been trimmed and in some cases had reached a height equivalent to that of the seats – this would need to be attended to. However, grass and seating in the immediate area of Cliff Walk entrance were very well maintained. The village streets generally were quite tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Like many other centres, this village is now experiencing increased housing development and as indicated in your submission, your monitoring of such developments may be beneficial in order that a balance may ultimately be achieved. Existing residential areas and holiday homes are indeed well maintained. Houses and gardens in areas such as "Island View Place" are nicely maintained. The thatched house close to the school was beautifully maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The use of white-wash along some walls in the village gave a cheerful, bright and welcoming impression. The approach road from Midleton to the village was very neat and tidy. The Ballyandreen road was also tidy but the poles for the speed limit signs here were in need of repainting. The provision of new signs for Ballyandreen and Ballytrasna at the Cliff entrance is a welcome development.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is encouraging that this centre continues to be actively involved in the Tidy Towns Competition and the combined efforts of the local Development Company and the community in general continue to bring about progress. The village has a very attractive seaside location with very

important wildlife habitats.