

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYHOOLY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	194	187

Ballyhooly, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

This village has many very attractive features and the community has over a number of years done a considerable amount of work, which has improved the overall image of the village. These efforts can now be re-invigorated by following a definite plan for future participation in the Tidy Towns Competition. Perhaps the Tidy Towns Committee will now draw up a plan of action for the future. Such a step would enable the community to build on a very good foundation and so achieve further progress.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings in this village continue to be of a good standard generally. The school building is very well maintained; the adjoining grounds were equally well maintained. The "Forge" building and the Banding Wheel are very interesting. The Church and adjoining grounds were very tastefully presented. Business premises throughout the village were maintained to a very good standard. The Post Office building is very attractively presented. The Parish Hall was in need of attention; the door needs to be repainted. There was also broken glass in some windows.

LANDSCAPING

The shrubbery planting outside the cemetery wall is being very well maintained. The large green area in the vicinity of the Castle entrance is very neatly maintained. Window boxes and hanging baskets which are in place throughout the village provided a lot of natural colour. Trees which have been planted in the park in and around the village are now enhancing the overall image considerably. The very colourful flower planting in the school provides excellent colour here.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The village enjoys a very pleasant location close to the River Blackwater. Such a location provides excellent habitat for many species of wildlife, many of which are visible from the bridge area close to the village. Also there is a considerable amount of mature trees/woodland close to the village and is a valuable source of habitat for other species of wildlife.

LITTER CONTROL

The village street was generally free of litter but there was

some evidence of litter in a couple of areas; for example, there was some litter at the entrance gate to the Church of Ireland church, the gates and entrance of which are very impressive. There was also some litter along the Fermoy approach road near the village. There was some litter in the vicinity of the Parish Hall and no litter bin could be seen in this area and this would need to be rectified.

TIDINESS

There was a good level of tidiness throughout the village. The entrance area to the castle and the adjoining green area were quite tidy. The steps leading into the cemetery were quite tidy. The area in the vicinity of the "Forge" was very tidy. Also areas adjoining business premises in the village were very tidy. The entrance to the Playing Fields was very tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Householders in the village contribute substantially to the work of the Tidy Towns Committee by the manner in which they present their houses, gardens etc. They are obviously well cared for and where there are gardens, a lot of natural colour is provided. In other cases, hanging baskets and window boxes enhance the village considerably.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Some approach roads to the village were very well maintained. On the Fermoy approach, the kerb and footpath were kept quite tidy. The Mallow / Castletownroche approach road was very well presented; here grass verges were very neatly trimmed. Also the stone walls here looked well. The map of Ballyhooly, showing various attractions etc. and erected by the Tidy Towns Committee and erected with a canopy on an elevated stone elevation is a positive development. On the Kildorrery approach road, the place name sign for the village was in need of repainting. Also some stretches of the old stone wall here are in need of repair.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This is a most pleasant rural village in a very attractive setting. As already indicated, there is a great foundation here for further improvement. The Committee should now begin to plan future work in a co-ordinated manner. Such an approach will enhance further this lovely village.