

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYAGRAN**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	26
The Built Environment	40	26	24
Landscaping	40	26	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	181	171

Ballyagran, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Thank you for completed entry form, which include a sketch map of the village.

Also it was good to see that you have produced a practical work plan, which focuses on the priority issues that need to be tackled.

Co-operation between the committee, local authority, agencies and the local community in general is very good and long may it continue.

The results of this interaction can be seen as Ballyagran looked very well on adjudication day

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The presentation of buildings both public and private was very good with a few exceptions, which is to be expected, but there was a big improvement overall since this adjudicator last visited.

The road surfaces are a little rough and it would be in the interests of the committee to lobby the local authority to undertake improvements within a reasonable timescale.

The GAA Grounds were in excellent condition; it is more noticeable than ever this year that the standard of sports grounds right around the country has improved immeasurably.

The Church was well maintained although the railings need to be repainted.

There are a two fine examples of old thatched premises in the village, both are probably due for rethatching so hopefully, despite the cost, the proprietors will retain the thatch appearance.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping undertaken over the last few years is effective in complementing the streetscape and providing camouflage effects where needed.

The Committee deserve credit for encouraging locals to take responsibility for the maintenance of green areas.

Excellent examples of planting arrangements can be seen at St Michaels, Church View, GAA Grounds and near the school on Castletown Road.

Grass cutting of green areas was in progress on adjudication day.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is a need to initiate a project in keeping with the local wildlife habitats and it would worthwhile to involve the local

schoolchildren.

The Committee should seek advice from the County Council Environment/Wildlife Ranger, if there is such a person, and also get input from a local wildlife enthusiast.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard in this category was very good as the village was virtually litter free on adjudication day. Credit to FAS workers and the schoolchildren for their collective efforts.

TIDINESS

Some weed growth was evident at the area opposite the Church and this area in front of the galvanised building could do with resurfacing.

Otherwise the standard was acceptable with no fly posting to be seen and road signs were in reasonable condition.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Both residential housing estates were very well kept although there were one or two back areas of private dwellings that could be tidied up a little.

The green areas, as alluded to earlier in the report, were well managed with nice shrub beds to be seen.

The trees at the Gable wall at St Michaels are maturing nicely.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Allowing for the poor condition of the road surface the standard in this category was very good.

The Castletown entrance was very well presented although the hedgerows were cut back too much.

Care should be taken that the compliance with the Wildlife Preservation Act is adhered to in this context.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The Committee has made great effort to tackle contentious issues and ensure that improvements are made where needed.

The Village is looking all the better because of this, keep up the excellent work.