

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLISODARE**  
County : **SLIGO**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	30
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	27	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>183</b>

## **Ballisodare, County Sligo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed entry form, maps and 5 year plan. They were all very helpful in setting the scene. The TTC participates in a wide variety of activities outside the "normal remit" and this generates interest, pride and ownership of the village. This along with your fundraising ventures and community involvement is admirable. You acknowledge your success to-date with your list of achievements and it is important to both appreciate and build on these successful achievements.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Ballisodare continues to present a good overall impression as you pass through the village. Many of the private and commercial premises looked smart and tidy with bright colours and colourful flower displays contributing to the picture. In the main street O'Connor's and Sherlocks Butcher caught the eye, however there are still a number of plastic signs on premises that could be replaced with more sympathetically designed ones. There are still one or two derelict sites in the village that need attention. A simple tidy and cosmetic paint job can go along way towards improving the appearance of some derelict sites. The former garage could also refresh its paintwork. The Primary School looks very well now that it is complete with its bright paintwork and landscaping. The Grotto and the Ball Alley look well but the railings at the latter need to be painted soon. The Secondary School also looks well following its improvements. The water works looked tidy and the Tatch Pub also looked attractive on the day of adjudication.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Last years comments still apply in this section. Re: further appropriate planting. The flowers, tubs and neatness all looked well on the day of adjudication adding a lovely touch of colour to the village. The Sally Rods feature was a lovely original idea, that is very apt for the area. The pump and flowerbed on the corner of this road is also a lovely feature. It is particularly good to note that you identified the importance of maintaining features properly as well as installing them.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Ballisodare has a wealth of natural amenities and habitats and the committee has rightfully acknowledged these. All last years comments still apply in this section including involving the schools, identifying other opportunities and choosing appropriate signs. It is good to see you working with other

interested parties and the idea of combining the Historical and Wildlife Trail is a good one, as is the Sli na Stante Ronte through the woods. Well done for your innovative thinking so far and we hope to see some tangible results next year.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The TTC have clearly identified the need to change the communities whole approach to litter. However, there was some sporadic litter in the village and the bin inside the Sally Gardens take away needs to be replaced although your other new bins were noted. Your school awareness programme, litter patrols involving the county litter warden, and the school children sponsoring a bin are all excellent ideas.

## **TIDINESS**

The committee has demonstrated their awareness of the issues under this heading in the village. Hopefully the blackbags noted at the ball alley is rubbish waiting to be removed. Some of last years points still need to be resolved, particularly derelict sites and open areas.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Ballisodare continues to expand with many new developments growing and coming on line in the future. Cloondara looked very well with some lovely use of stone in the landscape features noted. The grass needs to be tidied at the phone box close to the main estate entrance. Similarly there is an open grass area behind the silver hill houses that needs to be tidied. Woodbrooke Heights has some lovely new landscaping and trees, but some railings need to be repainted in the estate. Some particularly lovely flower feature were noted at a house on the convent side road. Many of the houses in the village looked very well with some lovely gardens and smart presentation noted. Teeling Gardens also looked well. Well done to all concerned and continue your association with the residents groups as your plans progress.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads are the first impression to any town or village. There was generally a good standard of presentation on the roads to Ballisodare, with some tidy verges, hedges, good road surfaces, signs and footpaths in the village. Some fencing needs attention on the Colloney Road, but some fine weed free walls were also noted here. Young's Corner is, as you have stated, a location that needs to be tidied and appropriately developed. The 30mph sign on the road to the railway needs to be replaced and you could tidy the grass out to the fine stone bridge. A fine stone wall was being built outside the new housing development on the Sligo Road. The stone walls on the Ballina Road could be tidied and repaired

to show them off to greater effect. Last years comment re the Graveyard lane and its approach area and the old mills still applies.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The growing enthusiasm, participation and interest of the community and committee is to be commended again this year. You remain the only committee that uses the word fun in your submissions. I hope you are successful solving some of the outstanding issues. Continued improvement is rewarded with an increase in marks, well done again.