

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYMACARBRY**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 16-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	35	35
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	215	212

Ballymacarbry, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

A detailed 3 or 5 year Development Plan is the missing element in Ballymacarbry's otherwise excellent Tidy Towns entry. The several benefits to be gained from the preparation and implementation of such a plan have been outlined by previous adjudicators, and of course additional marking under the above heading is a useful spin-off. Your map, which arrived just in time for adjudication, has been helpful in identifying essential sites. Yours must be the longest village in Ireland, and it is appreciated how much work goes into maintaining it.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Pinewood factory is the most imposing building in the neighbourhood; the older sections are exceptionally well maintained, and the recent additions are impressively designed and presented. The curtilages of the factory are also smart, with good signage. The business premises to the south – Melody's, Doody's and the Tourist Information Office make a very charming and well-kept group, so much so, that one is naturally tempted to linger. The Glanbia depot had been much improved. The paintwork of both the Garda station and St Patrick's Hall could do with freshening up.

LANDSCAPING

Well-nurtured flowerbeds on the main roads, at the entrance to St Martin's, and especially in the vicinity of the Tourist Office, gave life and colour at the time of adjudication.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The wonderful natural resources of the surrounding countryside offer superb opportunities under this heading. Cleaning of the river was very favourably noted. It is recommended that the suggestions made by last year's adjudicator under this heading should be considered.

LITTER CONTROL

This was an improvement on last year. Congratulations.

TIDINESS

There is a welcome absence of most of the factors which so often mar other towns and villages – signage clutter,

excessive overhead wires, derelict sites. Kerbside weed was at a minimum. A rusty corrugated iron shed near the Post Office needs attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Housing in and around the village is well kept. An older terrace at the village centre was admired. The cottages at St Martin's are neatly maintained – the disturbance created here during the building of the two new houses is temporary. Deerpark View provides a challenge to the developers; it is hoped that the new estate will respect the building traditions of the locality and that there will be judicious planting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There have been notable advances under this heading. Road and carpark surfaces are good, as is paving. (Part of the Pinewood carpark was not up to this standard.) The stone walls are excellent. The new lighting standards, to a traditional pattern, are a tremendous improvement. Seating, tables, signage and bins are meticulously presented. Verges of the approach roads were well trimmed at the time of adjudication.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A village which is very well looked after by its residents. It is good to see a number of guesthouses, so visitors can now stay and enjoy this attractive and friendly place. Congratulations on the sustained work.