

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYJAMESDUFF**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	--
The Built Environment	40	25	--
Landscaping	40	27	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	--
Litter Control	40	24	--
Tidiness	20	9	--
Residential Areas	30	18	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	--
General Impression	10	6	--
TOTAL MARK	300	171	--

Ballyjamesduff, Co.Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

I am delighted to welcome Ballyjamesduff back to the Tidy Towns Competition for 2001. Wonderful work has been carried out throughout the town with the introduction of hanging baskets and flower tubs. They make such an enormous difference to the streetscape, in that they bring colour and create the impression of a town that takes pride in its presentation. Very well done to all concerned. You have many projects mapped out in your 3-5 year plan and I wish you well with all of them, particularly the clean-up of the river which has such great potential. Next year please mark locations of interest clearly on the map.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the shop fronts in the town are presented to a high standard. Townhouse Gifts is well maintained and the window boxes are extremely pretty. I would suggest repainting the sign in brighter, fresher colours, however. Green's Pharmacy has a lovely facade decorated with colourful flower boxes. Reasons has beautiful stonework and again, wonderful floral displays. The neon sign is not in keeping with the overall look and should be replaced with a more traditional sign. The hall next to the Garda station is nicely painted, but the space down the side should be tidied up. The mart on the Granard road is very unsightly at present, and hopefully your plans for the car park will be implemented. The Old Courthouse on Stradone Street is beautifully painted. The surrounding area needs to be sprayed for weeds and the railings need attention. The Holy Trinity Church was inaccessible on the day of inspection but looked most attractive surrounded by wonderful, mature trees.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped areas in the grounds of the County Museum on the Virginia road are being well maintained. The lawns are magnificent and the hedgerow is taking hold nicely along the fence. Make sure the shrubs are kept weeded around the fish pond and the sundial. It was lovely to see such a mix of fish in the pond but the pond itself needs to be painted. The hanging baskets and flower pots surrounding the entrance are beautiful. The landscaping surrounding the church is maintained to a very high standard and is most attractive.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river running through the town is such a great natural amenity, it is a shame that it has been allowed to deteriorate to its current state. Its redevelopment is a huge undertaking and I would encourage you to start the work as soon as possible. I look forward to returning when the renovation is complete.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter was evident in front of the Market House. As this is the main

focal point of the town, it is imperative that it is kept litter-free. There was also litter in the handball alley on Stradone street and in the area surrounding the Old Courthouse. Overall however, litter control was quite good.

TIDINESS

The garage on Granard street is very run-down and untidy looking and the derelict factory on the Cavan road is somewhat of an eyesore. The church on the Virginia road needs to be painted and the kerbs around St. Clare's College need to be weeded. Also the area around the sports pitch here, needs to be cut back. The telephone boxes on Granard street next to Spar were very clean and tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential standards are quite high. Houses and gardens along the Virginia approach are excellent and kerbs and footpaths are being kept clean and tidy. There is a wonderful garden opposite the church on the Virginia road which deserves a special mention. Within the town, there are some lovely gardens opposite the Garda station. There are also some beautiful flower displays on the Cavan exit. Housing estates on the Oldcastle side appear to be well maintained. There is a lovely little estate surrounding the Holy Trinity Church, which has beautiful grass verges and wonderful mature trees.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach from Virginia is very good, thanks to the new road surface and well maintained verges. The Oldcastle road is also good and it is nice to see flowers at the base of the village nameplate. The "Tidy Towns" sign under the nameplate on the Granard entrance needs to be cleaned. The nameplate on the Cavan road also needs to be cleaned. The landscaped corner on the Cavan exit is most attractive. The nameplate on the New Inn road is very battered and should be replaced. Some of the parking areas in the town need to be resurfaced. Sign posting is reasonably good.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballyjamesduff is an attractive town with plenty of potential. The planned developments will make a great impact on the town and I wish you every success in bringing them to life.