

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYMACODA**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	28
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	201	195

Ballymacoda, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

In working towards the proposals outlined in your plan, the community is adopting a coordinated approach to its implementation, which is essential if real progress is to be made. A considerable amount of work has already been carried out in this village and it is important that in carrying out your plan for the future care is taken to ensure that the characteristics of the village be preserved.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church building in the village is obviously a very prominent one and it is very well maintained. Though a small building, the parish hall is nicely presented. Business premises such as O' Donoghues and Finns licensed premises were well presented but sheds near the latter premises are in need of repainting. The business premises of Colemans Foodstore was also well presented. Some buildings across from the church would need to be refurbished.

LANDSCAPING

The community has carried out good quality landscaping throughout the village. In particular the landscaping in the vicinity of the 1798 Commemoration project is impressive. The tree and shrub planting which has been carried out is valuable for the long term. Where bedding plants have been used in the village, they are well attended to and add much colour in the village. However it was noted that some flower tubs in the village were in need of replanting. The planting which has been carried out on the sloping bank near the new parking area near the church will enhance this area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river/stream in the vicinity of the village is a valuable asset. This amenity provides some potential for wildlife in the area. This is one of the areas where care would need to be exercised when improvements are being carried out – it may be beneficial to obtain specialist advice from the wildlife authorities on the best way to proceed. The river area in the village is being maintained to a very clean standard.

LITTER CONTROL

The village continues to be almost entirely free of litter and the community should continue to be on the look-out in relation to litter. It is a problem which still besets many communities but if a vigilant approach is adopted, the problem can be kept under control. Your plan to deal with litter is noted in your Tidy Towns plan and you should ensure that such efforts are actively pursued. Litter bins, which are in place in the village were noted.

TIDINESS

Many areas of the village are quite tidy but there are some areas which need attention. Across from the parish hall there is a considerable amount of rubble and this would need to be tidied up. The new car park area near the church is being completed satisfactorily; the steps and handrails from here to the church are noted. The area around the telephone kiosk is quite tidy. A start on the tidying up of the approach has been made but much more needs to be done.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

This is an area of the competition where all residents can play a role. In this village there are many examples of excellent efforts being made by people who live in and around the village. In the village centre, the houses there are well presented. Also the houses and gardens at O' Neill/Crowley Terrace are very nicely presented. The use of colourful window boxes and hanging baskets was also noted and these provided much colour.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to the village were generally good. A new name place sign for the village has been provided and erected on this road. On one of the minor approach roads one of the 30mph signs was missing from its pole and this would need to be replaced. A map depicting the area's attractions and painted on a wall at a junction in the village looked well and obviously useful for visitors. The stone wall across from Coleman's Foodstore looked well and the bedding plants here added colour. The Knockadoon approach road was also quite tidy. Some signs in the village, for example "Caution Children" were in need of repainting.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The community should continue to implement its plan for future Tidy Towns development as outlined. The village is very pleasantly located and the work already carried out has enhanced the area considerably. The further implementation of your proposed plans will bring about further improvement.