

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BANTEER**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	--
The Built Environment	40	28	--
Landscaping	40	23	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	--
Litter Control	40	20	--
Tidiness	20	12	--
Residential Areas	30	20	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	7	--
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>--</b>

## **Banteer, County Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Banteer is welcomed back to the competition after a ten year absence. You have rightly identified this competition as an ideal way of developing a structured approach to developing the village's future! Your plans and ideas for the village are to be commended, particularly in relation to the Slí na Sláinte route, sign posting, and landscaping to the new housing estate. You have also identified the problem areas and appear to have sensible plans for same. Areas to be particularly aware of would be the ongoing residential expansion of the village. Many thanks for your very clear map which was most helpful on the day.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Most buildings of the village looked well cared for on adjudication day. In general the quality of the built environment was to a very high standard. The Post Office and its associated landscaping was presented to a high standard as were the White Country and Old Coach Inns also located at the village crossroad. The attractive sandstone church with its well maintained grounds lends an attractive quality to this area of the village. Do note that it is not recommended that plaster render be removed from traditional vernacular houses and buildings in order to reveal the stonework underneath, as this is generally of an inferior quality and was not intended to be visible. The curved roof and gable wall to the garage on the Mallow Road should be freshly painted before next year's competition. The modern National School looked fine although its boundary wall needs some attention and dead weeds were evident at the base.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping at the Eagle View Estate is maturing well, although the green open space in the center with its dead grass looked most unfortunate. The surrounding copper beeches and silver birches are coming along nicely. Tree planting was also evident along the main streets of the village and this is an action to be commended. The concrete boxes filled with flowers at the crossroads spelling out the village name were admired, as were the planted areas to the public and commercial premises in this location. As there is much evidence of enthusiastic landscaping, there is scope for further development in the location of the National School and Community Centre, both of which look quite bare and neglected at the moment in comparison to other locations.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is an aspect of the competition in which you are most fortunate with your wealth of mature trees, the fine resource of the Glen River and the marvellous asset of the pond field with

its new habitat. Many butterflies and swallows were evident along approach roads on adjudication day.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The standard in this aspect of the competition was quite good although the odd paper was evident blowing along the main streets on adjudication day. More litter was evident on the Kanturk approach and quite a few papers were visible on the Millstreet Road.

### **TIDINESS**

The village generally gives a neat and ordered appearance. However there are a few problem areas. The concrete post and rail fence on the Millstreet Road should be replaced with a more appropriate stone walling or indigenous hedgerow in beech or hawthorn. An unattractive yard area by the White Country Inn should be more successfully screened from public view. You should actively discourage the habit of fly-posting as it creates a most untidy appearance. The boundary wall to the graveyard is quite badly stained and the new galvanized gates appeared to be rusting in places and should be painted. You have identified derelict problem sites in the village which will need attention in future years, of particular note is the rusty steel frame adjacent to Statoil in its prominent location close to the village crossroads. The railway station will benefit from future landscaping as its grounds and forecourt area currently are not as well maintained as they could be.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Houses, both individual and in estates, were generally maintained to a high standard on the day. The Eagle View Estate was generally well maintained apart from the area previously noted, however one or two boundary walls were in need of some attention. The attractive gardens extending to the roadside of houses on the Mallow Road were greatly admired and the Glenwood Estate was fine.

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

The hedgerows on approach roads appeared to have been cut back quite severely do ensure that maintenance of hedgerows is confined to times that do not interfere with birds nesting. Road works were in evidence at the new railway bridge on the Cork Road. The bollards on the Millstreet Road should be painted up as they appeared quite rusty. The Mallow Road is an attractive long approach into the village with its abundance of mature trees overhanging the road. However the roughly cut grass at the village nameplate sign looked quite scruffy.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Banteer is an attractive village located in some magnificent scenery. Its return to the competition after an absence of ten years was certainly a successful one! Good luck with your future endeavours.