

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LADYSBRIDGE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	18	17
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	201	194

Ladysbridge, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The material submitted with the entry form, map etc. was very helpful. Your five year plan for the Competition is a very comprehensive one. In all there are some twenty nine objectives set out for future action. It is suggested that this ambitious plan be undertaken in a coordinated way and it may be advisable to select a number of priority projects to be acted upon. Your comments in relation to the usefulness of the Competition are encouraging.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard of buildings in the village is generally very good. Business premises such as The Village Shop, The Bridge Inn and The Thatched Inn were all well presented. The church and surrounding area were beautifully maintained. The Parish Hall and the old school building were also very well presented and the window boxes on the latter were colourful. The new housing development project underway in the village is noted.

LANDSCAPING

In addition to the attractive bedding plants which have been planted in various parts of the village, the tree planting, which has been carried out in the village will have a good long term effect. It is important that tree and shrub planting form part of a community's landscaping plans since such a balanced programme of planting will prove beneficial in the long term. Therefore the tree planting which has been carried out in the vicinity of the car park/cemetery is a very good development.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Almost all rural villages have some wildlife habitat. In this village the river area has potential for encouraging some species of wildlife. The cleaning of the river/bank etc. is referred to in your five year plan, also the cutting of hedges etc. It would be advisable when undertaking these works that care be taken so that no existing or potentially wildlife habitats be disturbed. The river area was quite clean at the time of adjudication.

LITTER CONTROL

The community should continue to pursue the present approach to litter control. At the time of adjudication the litter situation throughout the village was quite good. The Litter Free Roadside competition referred to in your plan sounds a very good idea; such a competition could contribute significantly to a greater awareness of litter in the community generally. The streets in the vicinity of Post Office, shops etc. were all free of litter. The problem of litter

is a continuous one and communities need to be constantly on the look out.

TIDINESS

The village was generally tidy and focal areas such as the monument in the centre of the village were particularly tidy. Also the area near the Parish Hall, the old school and the car park at the rear of the church were very tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses and gardens in and around the village was very good. The houses and gardens in Blossom Park were very nicely maintained. The houses and gardens at Ardan Micheal O Briain looked well. New housing developments on the Garryvoe and Ballymacoda approach roads were noted. The houses across from the Post Office were beautifully presented. The old style cottage (probably not inhabited) on the Ballymacoda road is very attractive but perhaps the roof might be painted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

A number of traffic signs, poles and finger-post signs in the village are in need of attention; some are rusted and others are in the need of repainting. The Ballincurra approach road was quite tidy and the old stone wall here was very impressive. The approach road from Cloyne was reasonably tidy. The approach road from Garryvoe was quite tidy. The welcome sign, Failte go Droichead na Scuab, on one of the approach roads is a good idea. On the Midleton approach road, a portion of the old wall is broken and in need of repair. The community is correct in its desire to retain the character of the "hump-back" bridge on the Ballymacoda road and it is hoped that the relevant authority will deal with this sympathetically. The completion of the stone wall near Blossom Park is noted.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

As acknowledged already in this report the Ladysbridge community has ambitious plans for the future of this very attractive village. Careful implementation of this plan in conjunction with relevant bodies should enhance further this village. A coordinated approach to the future development of the village will contribute substantially to the overall future of what is a very pleasant village.