

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MALLOW**
County : **CORK**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-06-2001

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

Mallow, Co.Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Mallow is welcome back to the competition after a five year absence. The committee seems to be a small one for a town of Mallow's size, perhaps you should try to encourage more members to join in your good work. You should also endeavour to garner more support from the local business community in a busy center such as this. Your five year work plan would appear to be a practical one and your strong relationship with St. Anne's Historical Society certainly shows a distinct and worthy appreciation for the town's wealthy heritage.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The standard in this category of the competition was generally quite good, although a few problem areas stood out. Mallow has a fine wealth of architectural heritage such as the Clock House, Mallow Castle, St. Anne's Church, St. James' Church of Ireland and the Courthouse. There are some fine and unusual bow fronted shop fronts. Sullivan Waters & Company was admired as was J.J. Joyce's both on Main Street. The White Deer pub adjacent to the entrance to Mallow Castle was well presented with a stone base and brightly painted red plasterwork above. The Hibernian Hotel was quite fresh as was the Post Office. Most shop fronts were well presented and the traditional style front to the McDonald's restaurant is to be commended. There were a few unfortunate areas such as that site adjacent to Dano's Supertoys opposite the park. Do discourage the use of curved plastic canopies. These should be replaced with more traditional fabric awnings.

LANDSCAPING

There is scope for further work in this regard, although existing mature trees such as those on the road leading up to the Park Hotel and along Main Street were greatly admired. The town park gives the committee scope for further work in this regard, as at the moment it looks quite bare, with merely the mature perimeter trees and expanse of grass. The area opposite looks quite regimented in its presentation, again just being an expanse of grass with two raised timber beds of flowers highly placed. The entrance area to this space was quite rough in its presentation – a pile of gravel having being dumped at the entrance. The park area on the Fermoy Road adjacent to the riverside was admired and was extremely well presented, as was the area at the entrance to the castle. The concrete post and wire fence to the picnic area on the Fermoy Road should be replaced with stone walling to give a more permanent quality to its presentation. The hanging baskets and window boxes to the Bank of Ireland were admired.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Beehives were noted to a garden on the Fermoy Road, as

were nearby wild roses. Do encourage wildlife by planting berry-producing trees and shrubs. Mallow is fortunate in this regard, in terms of its mature trees and riverside area. Perhaps a wildlife leaflet could be incorporated with your proposed riverside walk. Your plans to incorporate this walk with the Slí na Sláinte and make the route wheelchair accessible, is to be commended.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard in this category of the competition could have been higher. Quite a lot of litter was evident on the Limerick approach, although a litter monitor was observed in this location! More litter was evident near the park on the Fermoy Road, an abundance by the picnic table and outside the boundary of the town park. Litter had also been spilt by the bin on Spa Square. This was a definite problem on the day – more was scattered along Main Street. The litter bins were not in good condition and should be repainted.

TIDINESS

The town generally gave a neat and ordered appearance although there were a few problem areas, such as the empty site by Dano's Toys opposite the park as previously mentioned. The mural to the gable of the Favorite Shop was extremely flaky and should be maintained. A clutter of signage at the road junction by the town park appeared over-fussy. One or two empty premises such as Video One were in bad condition. The area adjacent to the Mart opposite the Courthouse could have been presented to a higher standard. The characteristic alleyways of the town should not be neglected when considering overall presentation.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Both individual houses and estates were maintained to a high standard. Of particular note were the fine bay fronted houses on the Limerick Road adjacent to Davis College. The attractive clematis clad house opposite the riverside park on the Fermoy Road and the magnificent Gate Lodge adjacent to same were greatly admired.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The attractive stone statue on the roundabout has always been admired by this adjudicator and landscaping in this area was of a high standard. The Limerick Road was fine – the grass verges had been roughly cut back. Perhaps the garages and industrial buildings along this stretch of road could contribute, in terms of presentation, by landscaping their forecourt areas. Weeds were evident on the N72 road to Fermoy and the road condition was not of the best in this area.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Mallow is a busy town with an abundance of business premises. These should be encouraged to play their part in

presenting the town to as high a standard as possible. Generally the standard was quite good and this adjudicator hopes to see much progress over the coming years.