

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLITORE**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 13-06-2001

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2001 | Mark Awarded 2000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 32                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 27                | 27                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 17                | 17                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 20                | 16                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 13                | 13                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 24                | 24                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 5                 | 5                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>190</b>        | <b>187</b>        |

## **Ballitore, Co. Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Ballitore is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for this year's entry. It was a good decision on the part of the committee not to withdraw from the competition this year and the adjudicators are very pleased that you made the decision in this way. Don't become disheartened by the presence of the derelict buildings in the centre of the village. They are an eyesore and that cannot be denied but it cannot last forever. We wish you well in further developments in the village, particularly regarding footpaths as you have mentioned in your application form. Ballitore is a beautiful village with a heritage the community can rightly be proud of.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Business premises were quite well presented, although the O'Connor premises still features its dated plastic neon beer signs. The old CIE sign on Kellys should be repainted.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Container plants were noted at several intervals around the village, most of these contain shrubs rather than simply bedding plants which is good as they are more permanent being there throughout the year and not just during the summer. The numerous trees planted in the last decade are maturing well. The wide stretch of footpath on which the terrace with the Shaker Store and the Health Centre is located could accommodate some tree planting.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

A small amenity area on the banks of the river Greese is a nice touch. Some of the container plants need to be replanted, two in particular at the 'Glanbia' property. There are opportunities to develop a looped walk of the village, this could be investigated. Some wildlife walks or trails through the estate grounds just beyond the terrace on which O'Connors and Kellys is located might be developed.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was quite good around the village. A few scraps were noted here and there but did not amount to a serious problem. There is an increase of marks for litter control.

### **TIDINESS**

The pile of building materials near the derelict Butterfield shop should be removed when construction work has ceased. You are aware of the problem presented by derelict buildings so this does not need reiteration.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The memorial to Paddy Dempsey and to Owen Finn who were shot in the 1798 Rebellion is a nice touch in this terrace of dwellings. The new housing development looks well and new footpaths and roads here complete the development. Tree planting has already taken place. It is now important to keep the grass cut short around the base of these trees to give them a chance to mature.

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

An old water pump at the wall at the western end of the village near the hard surfaced Square should be refurbished. There are several stretches of new footpath in the village, are there more to come as is implied in your submission? Street furniture looks well.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The overall impression of Ballitore is favourable. The village has a unique heritage with a distinctive appearance with lots of opportunities for further amenity development and, of course, upgrading of the built environment. Don't be too disheartened, this work will take time but it will happen, given our current economic climate.