

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINAMORE**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 22-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	31	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	23
Litter Control	40	29	29
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	212	206

Ballinamore, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As last year Ballinamore looked bright and cheerful on adjudication day. The efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee and the residents are beginning to bear fruit and it is good to see that many of the projects started some years ago are now completed.

The fountain at St Phelims College was well presented. The seating and greenery here is worthy of comment and it was nice to see the residents of Ballinamore enjoying the sunshine and the fountain in a pleasant rural setting. The Carrick-on-Shannon approach looked extremely fetching today. The schools and public buildings were presented to an extremely high standard. Well painted buildings, well kept lawns and lovely floral displays were the order of the day. Well done to all concerned. There is obviously a great *community spirit* in Ballinamore.

There are however a number of problems which have still to be overcome. Many of them were there last year. The TTC are well aware of them and they will have to be resolved if Ballinamore is to reach its full potential in the Tidy towns Competition.

Thank you for returning the completed Questionnaire and Map which were most helpful.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As last year most of the public buildings had a high standard of presentation. The RC church is a magnificent building with a lovely floral display, well cared for and well maintained. The plants were being watered on adjudication day. As already mentioned the VEC and the other schools in the vicinity looked splendid. The McGirl monument had an impressive floral display.

The Locaboat Marina has a lovely presentation although some litter was noted in the vicinity of the main building. The floral displays here are beginning to need attention. The Public Marina on the Golf Links Road looks well. Ballinamore Textiles is well presented with nice treeplanting however the car park area is in need of some attention. There are some problems in this area, as mentioned last year, beside the Fire Station which was reasonably well presented. St Phelims College looks well – complemented by the fountain and ‘green’ area to its front.

The housing to the rear of SuperValu is excellent and we are looking forward to its completion. The Genealogy Centre and the library are excellent. As last year Lilly Industries had a nice presentation. The Church of Ireland

church and graveyard were presented to the same high standard. The Community Hall looked well, however the remarks of last year still apply.

Many of the commercial buildings were also extremely well presented. Worthy of comment are: Colm's, Scorpio Boutique, Priors, Lyric, O'Brians Sports. Others to catch the eye were Ballinamore Cabs, Coach and Horses, Credit Union, Kavanaghs, Laurences, Shorts Heritage Bar and Scollans. Overall the standard of presentation in the main street is excellent. Well done. The presentation of the façade in Church St is very good with its antique street lamp and floral displays. As mentioned last year the floral displays of the Leitrim Money Advice Centre on the Swanlinbar Rd is worthy of mention.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping is, as last year, most attractive. The floral displays on the approach roads and throughout the town were most colourful and gave Ballinamore a most pleasing appearance. The display of hanging baskets looked extremely well, particularly those on the ESB poles in the Main Street. Well done.

The shrubbery display at the Locaboat Marina is lovely but will need attention shortly as there is a tendency for overgrowth.

The fountain and the 'green' area were well presented on a bright sunny day. There were nice floral displays on the McGirl monument, nice tree planting near Ballinamore Textiles, and there is a well kept 'green area' with seating on the Golf Links Road. There is however a most untidy area near the petrol station on the Golf Links Road. The Public Marina here is well presented and the overall appeal of the shrubbery, floral displays and tree planting is a credit to the residents of Ballinamore.

A sour note is the Car Park at the rear of the Genealogy Centre on the Main Street. This leaves a lot to be desired in comparison to the lovely floral displays at the Centre and the church opposite it.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As last year the marina basin looked lovely and there were duck and ducklings sunning themselves in the bright sunshine. The treat of the fox has apparently disappeared. This is a feature of the marina area and you are looking after it well.

LITTER CONTROL

Very little litter to be seen on adjudication day. However some litter was visible near the entrance to the Locaboat marina. Some residential litter can be seen on the Carrigallen approach road. The committee and residents

are doing a good job here but vigilance is required at all times.

TIDINESS

Ballinamore is respected as a nice tidy riverside town, however there are still some areas under this heading which have persistently presented problems over the years. They still remain and detract from the fine effort of the committee and the residents.

Firstly there is the car park at the back of the Genealogy centre – both the entrance and the car park itself leave a lot to be desired. They are very untidy. As mentioned last year the road past the Lilly factory is still an eyesore. Though screening has been attempted the dereliction is still visible – abandoned farm implements, rubble, cars and farm trailers. A better job of screening is necessary, however removal of all the dereliction is required.

Opposite the Tratmona Estate (well presented) is an overgrown garden, a derelict house and two abandoned car as was the case last year. These items will continue to affect your ranking until they are removed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The presentation by most of the residents on the approach roads is first class. Brightly painted houses, well maintained gardens and lovely floral displays were the order of the day. Nice stone boundary wall were also a noticeable feature. The housing estates were also well presented. The holiday homes at the rear of SuperValu look lovely and this development when completed will be a great asset to the Tidy Towns effort. The residents of Lahord Estate have improved on last years effort – the floral displays are lovely and the hanging baskets are most colourful. Well done. Tully Heights looks well and as last year Church Street was extremely well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads, as last year, were well presented. Well maintained verges and tree planting are a nice feature. When the development on the Enniskillen Road is completed it will enhance this approach and when the Sports Centre is finished it will be a nice addition to the Tidy Town effort. The river through the town is very well presented and maintained. The entrance to the car park , as already mentioned, needs attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballinamore has great community spirit and most of the residents support the Tidy towns effort. However some persistent problems need to be overcome.

Another great effort this year.

