

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYMORE**
County : **WESTMEATH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	29	26
Landscaping	40	31	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	193	185

Ballymore, Co. Westmeath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ballymore is an extremely attractive village with beautifully maintained grass verges and tree-lined streets. Congratulations to all those involved in the upkeep of the village. In future applications, it would help greatly if you could mark clearly on the map, the location of the projects that were undertaken by the community.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church on the Athlone side of the village is a magnificent building and obviously well maintained. Its grounds are in excellent condition. Cunningham's pub looks very well and its window boxes and hanging baskets add great colour. The Health Centre on the Moate road is in good condition, but the garden needs some attention. The schoolyard is spotless. The Community Centre on the Mullingar side is beautifully painted and has terrific floral displays out front. Rooney's also on the Mullingar side, although no longer in use, has a magnificent stone facade which is extremely attractive.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping particularly on the Athlone side, is the predominant feature of the village. At the entrance to the church grounds there are wonderful flowerbeds containing plants and shrubs that are filling out nicely. The lanterns adorned with colourful hanging baskets are a lovely touch. There is also a lovely flowerbed next to Cunningham's pub, further up the street. The extremely well maintained grass verges lined with wonderful mature trees along this stretch, is most striking. The benches are very nicely painted. Well done to all those concerned.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The hedgerows outside the village have been allowed to mature naturally which encourages the development of a natural habitat for the indigenous wildlife. The GAA grounds appear to be in very good condition and the clubhouse looks clean and freshly painted. The lake looks extremely attractive in this most picturesque of settings. You might consider, under a long-term plan, improving access to the lake with the construction of a jetty for boats and anglers.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is excellent and there are no significant problems. The telephone box opposite the church was immaculately clean. One or two rubbish bins needed to be emptied at time of inspection, but all were clean and tidy.

TIDINESS

The space surrounding the water pump on the Athlone side, needed to be swept out. Some kerbs along the main street need to be sprayed with weed killer. The area in front of the old cosmetic centre is a little unsightly and needs to be cleaned up. The garden next door also needs some attention. There is a dilapidated house on

Athlone side of the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general, residential standards are very high. Most houses on the Athlone side are very well maintained and adorned with flower boxes and hanging baskets which are very attractive. There is beautiful stonework on the house opposite the school. Houses on the Moate road are clean and tidy. On the Mullingar side, again there are wonderful floral displays in front of homes on both sides of the road. I commend the residents for their excellent efforts.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach road from Mullingar is very good. The grass verge is well cut back and the signs are clear. The approach from Athlone is also good but the sign is a little battered and needs to be cleaned. The hedgerow/grass verge on the Moate road needs to be cut back on one side and the road edge needs to be weeded in places.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballymore is a beautiful, clean, colourful village and great efforts have been made by the local community to keep it that way. The residential areas are particularly impressive. There is a certain amount of dereliction. The Garda station in particular, needs a facelift. But the overall impression is very good.