

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYVAUGHAN**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	22
Litter Control	40	29	27
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	218	210

Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submission and details of work in hand. We wonder if you should not be in category B of the Competition - over 200 population. You still need, at a minimum, a short-term plan that will identify a list of improvements over the next couple of years at least, otherwise, commercial development will dictate developments and may not take due cognisance of the environmental requirements in and around the village.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There is a welcome mix of old and new buildings in Ballyvaughan. The hotel as ever, is excellently presented and provides a favourable image from this approach. The stone wall development leading to the church is now getting the treatment suggested in last years adjudication. You have a high number of holiday homes in and around Ballyvaughan. For the most part the group schemes are well presented, but some of those at Dolmen Village need painting. The landscaping at the R.I.C. scheme is very good and the green windows make a change. Individual holiday homes should be encouraged to keep their premises to a high standard. The entrance to the Ballyvaughan Cottage is undergoing improvement and will improve this location on the Galway approach. The school is disappointing, despite the development of some years ago. Even the school plaque should have the letters painted.

LANDSCAPING

You have a good deal of welcome colour and the many flower beds and shrubberies add great colour to the village. The attractive red roses outside the Garda Station are now obliterating the signage here. Flower tubs are well maintained and many individuals keep their gardens to a high standard. You still have scope for more tree planting and some of the existing trees are poor in presentation.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You are one of the very few centres with a well developed and easy accessible bird hide. This was a good development, coupled with an informative illustrated display board.

LITTER CONTROL

You can be well pleased with your performance on litter control. The village was well presented on adjudication day and litter does not seem to be a problem. The recycling unit should be moved to the village centre for greater use.

TIDINESS

Your problems here relate to a good deal of poorly presented open spaces, unoccupied and derelict houses and poorly presented sheds needing a clean up. The storing of farm/building equipment at the rear of the housing estate near the Enterprise Centre is unfair to residents. There is also a good deal of building rubble here and an abandoned car.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses is high and residents illustrate a keen desire to keep their premises well. You should encourage more rural infill as the village would benefit from appropriate house building within the village core. Houses currently under construction should be encouraged to finish to a high standard and reflect the rural ethos of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The busy traffic places a high demand on your efforts to create and maintain a clean, tidy and well presented village. For the most part road structure is good and signage - though overdone in some places, is well maintained. Side and back entrances now form a core part of adjudication and commercial operators in particular should be encouraged to keep these areas clean and tidy.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is always a pleasure to visit Ballyvaughan and the sun shone on the date of adjudication. You have some superb spectacles on the coast road especially and your nearness to the Burren and its beauty combine to make Ballyvaughan special. Many comments of previous reports have not been addressed but it is acknowledged that as a voluntary organisation you are limited in your powers of persuasion. Your challenge is to liaise effectively with statutory and commercial bodies in your quest for further progress. A good performance.