

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYBRACK**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	36
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	23	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	26	26
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	195

Ballybrack, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ballybrack is welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission including map and details of the proposed development works for your area. Well done on your liaison with community groups and statutory bodies and congratulations on your Urban Village Renewal Programme status. Ballybrack is an area of high amenities, being located between Loughlinstown Woods and Killiney Beach and is well served with schools, churches, business and general amenities. We wish you every success in achieving a library service for the village also. It is important to provide village namesigns on all the major entrances into the village to give a strong sense of identity to Ballybrack for the travelling public. The development of a heritage trail and Slí na Sláinte walks might be considered.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

We look forward to the implementation of plans for a civic space at the core of Ballybrack. It is good to note that you have identified heritage properties and have taken steps to protect these. We commend your vigilance regarding the future development of the area. The metal shutters on the 'Ballybrack Post Office' and premises could be improved upon as they have a very harsh appearance. Both the Igo Inn Bar and the Cedar Lounge Bar are handsome properties and feature a good colour scheme. The majority of shopfront premises are reasonably well presented but not very imaginative in design or presentation. The Marianist Church is a magnificent building and its green area is simple but elegant and makes a strong visual impact.

LANDSCAPING

Permanent planting such as trees and shrubs are more desirable in terms of Tidy Towns success than flower displays which can be labour intensive and costly. The ivy clad walls at the top of Killiney Avenue are an attractive feature and could be repeated where walls need to be improved upon. The forecourt area of the Statoil and Mace premises could feature planting.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It was good to note Ballybrack's involvement in the 'Shanganagh River Project', which involves removing debris from the river and restocking with small trout. There are several other dimensions to wildlife in this area of high natural amenities, perhaps the Committee might consider becoming involved in another project such as a nature walk to Loughlinstown Woods or along the coast.

LITTER CONTROL

Congratulations on a good overall standard of litter control. There were however a few weak spots, in particular the boundary of the DART station, just across from the 'Court Hotel Killiney'. Some litter was also noted on the Wyattville Road. An abandoned shopping trolley was also noted at the latter location. Litter was also noted on green verges on the Shanganagh Road. Try to improve litter control in these areas.

TIDINESS

Weed growth along kerbs at the base of wall and around the base of trees is a problem under this heading. Good luck with your endeavors to eliminate the problem of graffiti and congratulations on work achieved to date. Graffiti was noted on all the rear garden doors lining the small lane leading to the Catholic Church. The advertisement hoarding on the DART station building is unfortunate as it detracts the eye from the beauty of the stonework here.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Congratulations to the Ashlawn Park Residents Group regarding their big clean up initiatives twice yearly. The Fir Grove development is beautifully maintained. The large property beside the 'Spar' shop is quite imposing and could do with being re-painted. Residential properties in the 'Laurel' development need to be repainted to its front and rear facades, a co-ordinated colour scheme might be considered here. Weeds were also noted along footpaths together with small amounts of litter. The 'Dale View Park' identification stone is a nice touch. The 'Carrig Grennane' residential development appears to be being finished to a high standard to its roadside edge. The visual impact of shrubs, trees and rocks is pleasing. The stone arrangement (boulders), on the large green in the residential development at the roundabout at the bottom of the Shanganagh Road, is interesting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Street furniture such as litter bins, street name signs and service poles, in many cases, needed refurbishment. It is hoped that the wirescape in the village centre will be ducted as part of the urban renewal. An attractive feature of Ballybrack is its many long stretches of stone walls with good quality stone work.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballybrack covers an extensive area which makes it difficult to relate to the core of the village. Name signs could address this problem together with walks / trails. Good luck for the future.