

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYLINAN**
County : **LAOIS**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2002

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 39 | -- |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 23 | -- |
| Landscaping | 40 | 26 | -- |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 18 | -- |
| Litter Control | 40 | 18 | -- |
| Tidiness | 20 | 11 | -- |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 19 | -- |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 21 | -- |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | -- |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 181 | -- |

Ballylinan, Co. Laois

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Despite difficulties encountered with building works going on in the town it is recommended that you put a simple plan together. It will give a residents' perspective to how the town should develop. Thank you for your most useful map.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The thatched cottage to right opposite Campus Service Station is falling into disrepair. The Garda Station is fine and the old RIC building with its green and surrounding trees in very attractively presented. The Health Centre beside RIC House looks well painted yellow and red. The thatched cottage on the road up to Wynn Park is pretty and catches the eye. The nearby Supermarket frontage requires repainting. Further into the town it was disappointing to see Whelans Garage falling into disrepair. St. Patricks National School looked exceptionally well. Painted brown and cream it is well maintained with flower boxes in the yard and hanging baskets on the pillars and a nice array of shrubs and flowers in the bed around the back of the car park/school wall. Exceptional. The row of terraced houses on opposite side of main street are quite well presented, some with hanging baskets. Both St. Anne's Church with shrubberies and lawns and adjacent run of bungalows were well presented.

LANDSCAPING

A nice feature at the Castlecomer end is the red village pump supported by the green in the apex of the triangle. This is the centrepiece area of village amenities, but more attention is required to control kerb weed. The walls surrounding the old RIC property are well maintained. Wirescape is not too bad. Main road lighting is of the heavy duty style reflecting the town's through traffic levels.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wynn Park looks very well although there was some isolated litter. There were no waste bins in evidence. The New Park, formerly a school is well presented with information display panel with interesting historic details. It features nice planter of shrubs and is surrounded by a fine old wall. The old Church and graveyard with fine wall frontage near local authority estate appears suitable for creating a wildlife area.

LITTER CONTROL

There was evidence of litter on footpaths near the fast food outlet, but generally litter free although there is not much evidence of litter bins.

TIDINESS

The flow gas sign should be removed from flower bed at the water pump at the Castlecomer end of the town. The old church (St. Anne's Hall) at the Athy end is in the care of FAS and in its car park are the recycling bins. This looks well with painted railings and shrubs.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Linden Drive features a selection of modern bungalows with well maintained gardens. The terrace of local authority houses behind St. Patrick's NS is generally well kept with cut verge and flower tubs on opposite side of road. The entrance to Llandii Drive needs weeding. Houses well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach road into Ballylynan from the Castlecomer end shows a lot of kerb weed on the left short of the Campus Service station. The approach from Athy side features bill board against barn to the right; there are nicely trimmed verges here on both sides.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballylynan is a busy through traffic town which suffers from its redevelopment phase. There are a number of dilapidated buildings, but at the same time there is a vibrant reconstruction activity taking place, particularly in the development of new residences.