

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINACARROW**
County : **SLIGO**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	28
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	180	179

Ballinacarrow, County Sligo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, it is essential that you formulate a three or five year work programme. This document need only be a few pages long outlining your plans for the village's future development and setting a time frame for their implementation. This will help you and the adjudicators to assess your progress as the years go by. You would appear to receive minor donations for your cause! It is to be hoped that these will increase over the next few years. Your problems in relation to the dumping at the lay-by area has been noted, but it did not seem to be a problem on the day of adjudication.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church and grounds were well maintained but its gates appeared quite rusty and will need attention before next year's competition. The school and community centre were well maintained with attractive landscaped grounds. The charming agricultural building with gable facing the roadside is admirable. The building is for sale – and I hope that it will be restored to its former glory in any new development as it is quite an unusual vernacular building. Both Fallon's and Jimmy G's were extremely fresh. Beren's looked fine – perhaps its plastic sign could be replaced with one of a more traditional timber variety.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped areas of the village were well maintained. The area to the front of the school and community centre was greatly admired and appeared to incorporate an old mill stone. There is scope for further development in this aspect of the competition.

WILDLIFE

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you left this section of the application form blank. As you have a marvelous riverside area and a wealth of mature trees and evident active birdlife, you are in fact quite fortunate in this regard. Please seek the advice of local experts and perhaps set a project for the schoolchildren in order for them to identify areas of wildlife habitat in the locality.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was quite good given the volumes of traffic passing through on the busy N17 route. A couple of papers were evident to the Galway side of the village and the bin outside the school was quite scratched.

TIDINESS

Weed control to the kerbs on the Galway side of the village was a problem on the day. Otherwise the village looked quite neat and ordered. Please remember to consider out buildings when looking at the overall presentation of the village. Tin roofs should be repainted in their traditional bright red or green colour.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses throughout the village and along approach roads were generally well maintained. The open space of the houses beside Bereen's appeared quite overgrown and this should be tackled in the not too distant future. A pretty cottage garden with poppies on the Galway side of the village was greatly admired.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main road on both the Sligo and Galway approaches appeared extremely overgrown apart from a grass verge which was being tended to at the time of adjudication. Advertisement hoardings were apparent on both approaches, these should be discouraged as they give a rather cluttered appearance. An empty frame on the Galway side of the village created a bad impression, perhaps this is intended for use as a support to a sign? The wild daisies in the grass verges were admired, however.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballinacarrow is a small village on a very busy main road from Sligo to Galway. Please try to ensure that you receive the support you most obviously seek and deserve in relation to maintaining the village to its highest standard.