

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINAHINCH**
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 28-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	23	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	28	26
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	16	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	190	182

Ballinahinch, County Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank for the completed entry form, practical work plan and informative sketch map which proved very helpful to this adjudicator, as it was my first time visiting the pleasant and secluded village of Ballinahinch. I think your plan to appointment a liaison officer to interact with the school is an exemplary idea and one that should be taken on board by much larger centres. The rest of your village plan is very practical and more importantly achievable.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The public buildings were well presented, the Church and grounds with it very ornate railings looked extremely well and did the National School. The cobble stone path around the church area is both attractive and practical. The Parish Centre is coming along nicely and will be a worthwhile amenity for various community groups. Handball must rank with hurling as a major pastime in Ballinahinch!

An Bonnan Bui is a nice example of a rural village pub but it does need to be repainted in keeping with the village streetscape, nothing too garish. The graveyard was also very well presented, as were the private residences and adjacent yards. It would be unfair to single out individual private residences suffice to say that there were a number of fine examples of traditional village residences and farmhouses. The committee is to be complemented on acting on the suggestion in last year's report to re site the old post box.

LANDSCAPING

The proposed plan to plant broadleaf trees adjacent to the impressive Parochial House is noted. The school children can play an important part in keeping the school grounds looking well by maintaining flower boxes and pots. I would suggest that you site a few timber flower tubs/boxes across the way from the Church it would more add more colour to the area and complement the fine stone wall.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The plans to create a natural wildlife amenity outside the village at the local forge are very praise worthy. Hopefully you will be in position, money permitting of course, to put up an information board depicting the life and importance of the local smith and his contribution to village life. The idea to have a mini wildlife project at the school is also a very novel idea as school children embrace such ideas with enthusiasm.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little litter evidence on the day of adjudication and the litterbins were emptied.

TIDINESS

Even thou Ballinahinch are situated in a rural area and amidst an active farming area the village was relatively tidy and free from farm related residue.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The village is really the residential area and all premises and adjoining yards and back areas were in good condition. One or two boundary walls need to be whitewashed.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The entrance from Newport needs to be cut back appropriately as the Ballinahinch sign is obscured. The Nenagh entrance is in a similar condition and needs to be cut back also. The concrete fencing on this road does not complement young saplings that have been planted over the last few years.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The Committee has encouraged all sections of the community to become involved in the tidy towns effort. With that approach Ballinahinch will make progress in the Competition in the years ahead.