

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYLOOBY**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	191	186

Ballylooby, County Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you indeed for all the information and the map sent with your entry form which was most useful on adjudication day. Your Committee are to be congratulated on the work which has been carried out to date. You received an in-depth report from last years Adjudicator. The following therefore is by way of comment on further perceived progress to date and should be read in tandem with that report. As mentioned last year, an action plan, setting out what you can do on a year-to-year basis within your physical and financial resources, would be a valuable guide for your future efforts. This could be simply done in conjunction with your Local Authority, Fás and your Regional Tourist Board – the latter having vast experience of the Tidy Towns Competition. In the event enclose a copy next year with your entry form so that the Adjudicator can have sight of it. Sponsorship of 12,000 euros is, indeed, a remarkable achievement. Those giving this sponsorship are to be applauded.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As last year, the Church/Community Hall, the Old Post Office, the Grotto, the Ned Tobin Monument and the School were very well presented. The Grotto is a lovely feature. The area of the newly painted pump offers further potential for flower and shrub planting. Commercial premises again looked well but, in this respect, some of the comments made in last years report are still applicable.

LANDSCAPING

The Cahir approach looked wonderful on adjudication day and great credit is due to those responsible for its upkeep. Planting which has taken place in the past is now maturing and creates a lovely ambience throughout the village. Part of your plan could be the identification of further areas where trees and shrubs could be planted which would give you some colour on an all-year-round basis. Containers of flowers are being well maintained. There are further numerous possibilities for this type of presentation.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You do not appear to have undertaken a project under this heading. The river area would be a natural site for such a project through, for example, the introduction of ducks. In addition you might consider the provision of feeding tables and nesting boxes which would have the effect of attracting other types of wild bird. The Tidy Towns Handbook gives information on this subject. Also, the Wildlife Officer of Duchas is available to give help and advice or perhaps there is someone in your locality who is interested in this type of project.

LITTER CONTROL

This is an important aspect of the competition which needs constant monitoring. On adjudication day there was, unfortunately, some litter to be seen in the area of the School, the Church and in the grassed area surrounding the pump. Perhaps an anti-litter campaign could also be part of your future planning.

TIDINESS

The village, on adjudication day, was presented in a very neat and tidy manner. This reflects greatly the interest which your residents have in their living environment and congratulations are due to all concerned.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Ballylooby does not have many houses but those that are there are being very well maintained. Many had lovely gardens in full bloom on adjudication day. In particular the landscaped house beyond the school was a joy to behold. New house building in the village was noted and this will further enhance the infrastructure next year.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surfaces and paths are in very good condition and in this respect, credit must be given to your Local Authority. Approach roads looked well with evidence of cutting. The cutting of grass verges on approach roads is also an important part of the Competition as it tends to set the tone for the rest of the village.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballylooby is a lovely village with an obviously caring community. Simple planning and attention to detail will greatly enhance the area and will get you additional marks in the Competition. The Adjudicator looks forward to returning to Ballylooby next year to see further progress made. In the meantime well done to all concerned.