

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballyvaughan**

Ref: **575**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **222**

Category: **A**

Date: **09/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	32	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	24
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	222	218

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for submission form, map and copy of CAAS Report. This report, though dated is still relevant and should be revisited for fresh thinking. You need to update your planning and put together a 3-5 year plan that will chart the way forward. Like most villages Ballyvaughan is undergoing development change and you need to plan accordingly. It was difficult to read the writing on the application form.

The Built Environment:

The usual well presented buildings did not disappoint this year and some have been freshly painted. The following are exceptional, Hylands, O'Briens Restaurant, O'Lochlains. The Spar store is well presented and has some attractive floral displays. The school is poor in presentation and the roof replacement of some years ago was not followed with landscaping. The school gates should be replaced and the boundary wall needs painting. With all the colour and landscaping in Ballyvaughan this important centre of education should be presented to the highest standard. The Club House in the Community Field is really sweet and fits in well with the Burren environs. The field needs an identity sign.

Landscaping:

You have done well in this section and the great amount of colour in and around the village is commendable. Individual effort in this is excellent. The fountain in the village centre is well presented and the window boxes on the unoccupied house adjacent take from the poor look of this building. New tree planting at the housing estate is welcome and will further enhance with the passing of time. The estate needs a bilingual sign. The Enterprise Centre is only fair and previous years comments have not had any beneficial effect.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on the presentation and maintenance of the Wildlife Display Board on the Coast Road and also the nearby Bird Hide: is this being used?

Litter Control:

Once again this year the litter control is quite good and no serious problem areas in evidence. Litter bins are well positioned and seem adequate in supply.

Tidiness:

As mentioned previously you have a good deal of dereliction, unoccupied houses in badly kept open spaces - all combining to keeping your marks down in this section. Many of these have been problematic for many years now, but you should not give up on your endeavours. There is an old white van beside the two terraced houses on the road up to the school that should be removed.

Residential Areas:

Well done to R.I.C. for an extension to the self catering scheme in such good taste. It was good to observe the thatcher in action on adjudication day and the stone walls at the boundary wall further enhance. This is a praiseworthy village infill development and will improve this area further. There is some very good individual effort at the Housing Estate, but collective effort is not so obvious. The parking of agricultural machinery at the top of the estate takes from the attraction of this green area. The road up to the original R.I.C. scheme has improved and the Bottle Bank here is effective.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The road surface along by The Monks is poor and need surface dressing. The Kinvara approach is good with some lovely shrubbery in bloom along the entrance to the village. There is a small area of unfinished roadworks at the Speed Limit Signs near the Church that needs attention. Your great plethora of stone walls is quite demanding in maintenance, but you are coping well with their presentation. Do take an interest in the side and bank entrances especially those visible from the public road.

General Impression:

You have maintained your standard in general. However, there is not the same community effort in evidence as previous years. Do you have a Fas Scheme? Again we suggest you revisit the CAAS report, as it is still of great planning value. Good luck in 2004.