

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballymurn**

Ref: **471**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **228**

Category: **B**

Date: **08/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	32	33
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	228	226

Overall Developmental Approach:

Ballymurn Tidy Towns Committee appears to have a good working relationship with the local community in relation to the high level of help and support it receives. Relations with FÁS, Wexford County Council and the local school. You show a great interest in the history of the village, its various features and associated historical events. Your work on the restoration of the estate gates is to be applauded. The adjacent stone wall and seating area were admired. The discovery of John Hay, the 1798 patriot's vault, is also highly commendable. Your work in relation to the planting of native Wexford apple trees is an excellent initiative.

The Built Environment:

The church, on its raised grassy bank with retaining boundary wall, was admired, although its entrance will require painting before next year. The post office looked well, although its sign was somewhat flaky. The credit union was fine. The restored gates looked magnificent. The Anvil was quite fresh. The school appeared somewhat stained and should be painted before next year. The stone wall and attractive planting were admired. The rear area of the hall was in need of some attention.

Landscaping:

The graveyard was well maintained. The 1798 monument was well presented, but the concreted fence out front appeared quite weedy at the base. The landscaping and grounds of the church were quite excellent. The village pump was simply and effectively presented.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The wildlife area along the Ballinkee Road will be a marvellous asset, with its nest boxes situated in a natural environment. Your work creating habitats to attract birds, insects, fauna in the area from the post office to the water tower is a marvellous idea.

Litter Control:

The bi-lingual anti-litter signage is an excellent initiative. Morning collections of litter are obviously paying off. A small amount of litter was apparent on the Curracloe Road.

Tidiness:

Weeds were evident at kerbsides at the Ballymurn sign on the Enniscorthy road and at the base of stone boundary walls on the Oylegate Road. The recycling area was fine. The derelict cottage on the Oylegate Road had been landscaped at the front, but should be painted in order to improve its appearance.

Residential Areas:

The large amount of work to St Joseph's Terrace was admired. The entrance area looked most attractive with its stonework. The attractive stone wall with colourful flowers and permanent planting and trees was admired. A charming peach coloured house with over-hanging chestnut tree looked well on the Enniscorthy Road. A yellow house adjacent to the post office with red roses marching up its driveway looked quite magnificent.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The attractive overhanging mature trees, interspersed with newer ones, on the Curracloe Road looked well. The verges had been cut back, but as this is a long approach to the village, it appeared overgrown in a number of places. The road surfaces were not in good condition and the county council should be approached to improve this situation. Flaky signs at the crossroads in the village centre created a bad impression. On the Enniscorthy Road, verges appeared rather overgrown with nettles, etc. between the village nameplate and speed limit signs. On the Oylegate Road the attractive overhanging trees and stone-walling make this an attractive approach to the village.

General Impression:

Ballymurn is an attractive village which continues to progress well in the competition.