

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballymurphy**

Ref: **284**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **213**

Category: **A**

Date: **10/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	29	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	35	32
Tidiness	20	18	17
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	213	202

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for all the information sent with the entry form which is indicative of your development approach and strategy which has brought you much success in recent years and will hopefully again do so in the future. The presentation of the village on adjudication day is an indication of the continual cooperation which you have from your County Council and, most importantly, your local community, without which you cannot hope to succeed. Your Development Plan makes very interesting reading and it is encouraging to see that you have not overburdened yourselves with too many projects. Success in the Tidy Towns Competition does not come overnight but is a gradual process over a number of years.

The Built Environment:

As last year, your Church, School, Community Hall and Post Office looked extremely well again and reflect great credit on the community. Ballymurphy does not have very many commercial premises but those that are there were very nicely presented on adjudication day. Your comments regarding the area of the Community Hall have been noted and the Adjudicator looks forward to seeing further improvements in that area next year. The new grotto railings are a nice feature as is the grotto itself and the village pump.

Landscaping:

Your efforts in this regard are a major plank in your Tidy Towns effort. Hanging baskets, tubs of flowers, and window boxes create a lovely ambience in the village, as indeed does the newly planted trees and additional landscaping, particularly on the Killealy Road and the vicinity of the Pound. The landscaping at the junction of the Kilkenny and Borris Road is unique and creates a lovely atmosphere particularly for those entering the village for the first time. The floral display in the vicinity of the bridge, together with the new lights, was lovely to see and, all in all, the whole presentation reflects greatly on your residents and their interest in the preservation of their environment. Congratulations and well done to all concerned. In addition, the surrounds of the Church, its walls and open spaces were lovely to see and have been maintained to a very high standard.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The planting behind the School was noted and seen on adjudication day. Do however consider other projects under this heading which will have the benefit for you of gaining additional marks. In this connection consult the Tidy Towns Handbook. It will guide you on this and it has some very useful information.

Litter Control:

Ballymurphy was litter free on adjudication day. This again reflects great credit on your community and your children. Well done to all concerned.

Tidiness:

As in previous years, the village was again presented in a very tidy manner and reflected greatly on the interest which your residents have in their environment. This situation together with your freedom from litter creates a wonderful ambience in Ballymurphy which is much admired.

Residential Areas:

A very high standard is being maintained by your local residents in the presentation of their houses and gardens, many of which are a joy to behold. In a small village this aspect of the Tidy Towns effort is vital and all concerned are to be congratulated.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

As last year, approach roads were very well maintained and have been nicely trimmed. Surfaces are good and in this respect great credit is due to your County Council. All side roads looked well and added greatly to the overall appearance of the village.

General Impression:

This is the second time that this Adjudicator has visited Ballymurphy and once again is impressed by the amount of work which is being carried out in maintaining the village's wonderful appearance. As well as new projects, maintenance of what you have is equally as important. Keep up the good work all round.