

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballyfermot**

Ref: **247**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **179**

Category: **F**

Date: **25/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	31	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	15	15
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	179	175

Overall Developmental Approach:

Ballyfermot is congratulated on their entry into this year's tidy towns competition. The information supplied with the entry forms was very comprehensive. The overall environmental approach is highly commendable as there are a number of initiatives to create awareness and generate interest amongst the community. Involvement of the local schools in projects and Ballyfermot Environment week are excellent initiatives. The strong tidy towns committee are encouraged to keep up their work with the Chamber of Commerce and Dublin City Council in the overall development of the area. In future years, however, an overall 3 - 5 year development plan should really be included with the entry. Also, while the map supplied with the entry form was very good, it would have been beneficial to the adjudicator if specific areas of interest were indicated on the map provided.

The Built Environment:

Many of the commercial units on Ballyfermot road were well maintained, Fowlers public house, Molloy's liquor store and the Sports bar all looked well on the day of adjudication. Some of the units along Ballyfermot road are in need of some maintenance, the Gala bingo hall is in need of some attention as are some of the older units along the main stretch of shops. The Civic centre looked well on the day; it is quite a unique building and the facade is quite unusual. The church opposite the civic centre was well maintained on the day of adjudication as was the Garda station on Drumfinn road. The shops on la Fanu road were well maintained and Tim Youngs and Stanely racing looked well.

Landscaping:

The local community should be commended for the number of landscaping projects they have undertaken this year. The involvement of the local children in these projects is an excellent initiative which generates awareness and interest by the children. The newly landscaped area of Elmdale, and Cloiquinn road are welcome in the area. The adjudicator looks forward to future planting initiatives in these areas. California Hills area looked well and was nicely maintained. The overall approach to landscaping and planting in the area is excellent. The mature trees along Kylemore road looked well. However some of the tree bases on the Ballyfermot road are in need of some attention. The area opposite the bingo hall could benefit from some maintenance as could the area along the industrial estate on the Ballyfermot road. The Ballyfermot roundabout looked well and was nicely landscaped. The garden area outside the Civic centre is a lovely feature and enhances the lovely facade of the centre. Work in this area should be commended. Ballyfermot benefits from some lovely park areas which are well maintained; Drumfinn park looked well on the day of adjudication with a nice mix of flowers, as did the park near Claddagh road and Spiddal park.

The window boxes for Ballyfermot road will be welcome when they are in place as will the proposed landscaping of the green space on Blackditch road.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

There are a number of parks in Ballyfermot that are well maintained and provide the community with a wide number of sporting activities, however some of the parks and entrances are in need of some attention. Extra care should be given to the railings La Fanu park and Markevic park. The environmental projects undertaken throughout the year are to be commended.

Litter Control:

The anti litter talks within the schools are an excellent initiative to help combat litter in the area. There were a large number of bins in the area, which seem to be assisting the campaign against litter. However extra care is required along Ballyfermot road in front of the main commercial units. The commercial units should be encouraged to maintain the area directly in front of their own shop. Some litter was also evident on the base of the trees on the Ballyfermot road which was unfortunate. Litter was also evident in Raheen park. Some extra anti litter signs and increased anti litter awareness in the area is encouraged.

Tidiness:

The overall tidiness of Ballyfermot should be commended with many areas being very well maintained. Many of the residential areas were well maintained, as were the approach roads. Ballyfermot roundabout looked well on the day of adjudication as did the area in front of Molloys liquor store. Many of the park areas were well tended to with some work being done on the day of adjudication. The civic centre and the Church on Ballyfermot road were very well maintained. Graffiti continues to be a problem in some areas, outside Iceland, and on some signage approaching Elmdale. The bases of trees along Ballyfermot road also require some attention. Some extra care is required in these areas. The possibility of getting local business to adopt an area which they would maintain on a regular basis could be something the committee could look into.

Residential Areas:

Many of the residential areas within Ballyfermot were well maintained. The houses on Ballyfermot road were well tended to, as were the areas at Elmdale and Elmdale drive, though some of the public green areas were in need of some attention. Lally road was also a nicely kept residential area. The garden club is an excellent initiative to keep the community informed of their options in relation to their own gardens as is the terracotta pot sale and the high impact low cost project which encouraged residents to paint the front of their houses. All these initiatives help maintain residential

areas and keep people abreast of opportunities open to them. Ballyfermot committee should be congratulated on all their new and existing environmental initiatives. The completion of Cedar Brook residential will be a welcome addition to the area.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The signage and approach roads into Ballyfermot are well maintained. Kylemore road has nice residential housing and plenty of mature trees which are well maintained. The Ballyfermot road towards the industrial estate is in need of some attention; the business in the industrial estate could possibly become involved in this project. Many of the roads off Ballyfermot road are well maintained and well sign posted. Though care and attention needs to be given to litter and graffiti in some areas.

General Impression:

The work carried out by the tidy towns committee and environmental groups should be highly commended. The initiatives undertaken in the past year are excellent, especially the constant inclusion of the local schools in the projects. The adjudicator looks forward to the new developments proposed for the coming year. Keep up the good work and well done.