

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballinderry**

Ref: **341**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **239**

Category: **A**

Date: **31/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	33	33
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	37	37
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	33
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	239	235

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thanks for the completed application form and map of the village, it was very much appreciated as this was the first time that the adjudicator set foot in Ballinderry.

First impressions were good but it would be beneficial if the Committee could put together a simple work plan for the coming 2/3 years.

This would allow for goal setting over a given period of time.

The Built Environment:

Ballinderry is a very charming little village, small in size but big in appeal, adjacent to Lough Derg. It has many unspoiled features that one does not find in more developed villages, but it was a somewhat disconcerting to see the sale sign with planning permission for 20 holiday homes at Elsie Hogans Traditional Pub and garden. I suppose that this is progress unfortunately it will change the character of this pretty village for ever.

Other properties that were noted for good presentation were The Tavern-upgrading work in progress, Lakeshore Foods and Liam Kennedy Machinery with its magnificently restored private dwelling and tidy store yard.

The Pump feature is an example of what can be done with such relicts of old decency rather than letting them decay with age.

Landscaping:

There was a brief reference to tree planting in your application submission without stating where they were to be found.

That aside the trees at the wooded area at the Ballyfinboy Road bridge give a secluded feel to Ballinderry,

These trees were complemented by a large number of older established native trees, healthy roses, valerian and wild fuschias in the core area of the village.

Consideration should be given to putting together a brief landscaping sub plan as part of the overall 3 year action plan suggested earlier.

This would identify what could be done to improve what is already in place.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Again there is no reference to a wildlife programme for a village.

This a pity for a place that has so many natural habitats that would be the envy of other places around the country.

It would be worthwhile to seek the advice of the Local Authority environmental officer prior to undertaking any such work.

Litter Control:

The standard was quite good and all residents seem to be playing their part in keeping litter to a minimum. Bins were sited in accessible areas of the village

Keep up the good work

Tidiness:

Organizing an awareness evening to highlight the importance of keeping Ballinderry tidy was a worthwhile initiative on the part of the Committee.

A couple of property advertising hoardings actually stand out in a village the size of Ballinderry and it is a pity that those in situ at present are that bit garish.

It is also hoped that some posters of a high profile Euro candidate (defeated!) will have been removed within the next week.

Other than those items mentioned the village had a very ordered look about it.

Residential Areas:

The village is the main residential area and the standard of presentation was quite good within the core and at the outlying areas.

It was noted that a number of residences were undertaking some maintenance work on adjudication day.

There were a number of excellent garden frontages, while most back and side areas were tidy and clean with no unsightly rubbish. Those that are not in line should make a better effort to come up to the standard set by their neighbours.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The standard in this category was very good and verges and hedgerows were treated with care and in accordance with recommendations for the encouragement of wildlife.

The Terryglass entrance was presented in a very basic but effective manner and the Puckane entrance was excellent.

The Borrisokane entrance was good but was not helped by an untidy area around a prominent business premises.

It is time that store/pub owners do away with unattractive and sometime grubby signs and replace with replicates of traditional signs.

Lasc Min road was nicely lined with both native and non native trees and has that inviting appeal for

the visitor.

General Impression:

Ballinderry has achieved high ratings in the competition over the years, this year is no different. On a personal note it would be sad to see the traditional look of Hogans being tampered with, so let's hope that the future buyers/developers will bear this in mind and treat the structure with sensitivity.

Second Round Adjudication:

Ballinderry is a very attractive small village with a very well cared for appearance. The newly laid road surface looked well and as soon as the large amount of loose chippings settle will be fine. The riverside area is an attractive feature and one that much more could be made of by developing even a short riverside walk. Also if access to the river at the other side of the road were possible it would greatly enhance the scene. Hopefully whatever development takes place at Hogans garden will be in keeping with the village style - this is a little worrying - the little cottage style old building in the Hogans garden presumably is under threat. The beautiful entrance roadside verges and stone featured walls add great character to the village - especially those on the Puckane Road. Great credit is due for the very high standard of roadside verge maintenance. The large beech trees in the village lend a lovely atmosphere. The cheery trees by the fence along the roadside towards the Terryglass side are looking well. A little attention to painting of the green agricultural shed by the riverside would be helpful and some attention to the side of the Village Stores premises. The caravan park is well screened and looks well cared for. Roadside gardens help to give a very nice splash of colour to the village.