

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballyliffin**

Ref: **177**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **223**

Category: **C**

Date: **06/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	34	31
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	223	218

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your entry form and map. The picturesque village of Ballyliffin was most welcoming on a sunny afternoon in July. It was nice to see a large crowd at the Ballyliffin Golf club making use of such an excellent facility. Ballyliffin is making steady progress but you now need to produce a three to five year plan in support of next years application. In this regard you should read page 14 of the Tidy Towns Handbook relating to the creation of such a plan. Keep your objectives realistic and carefully consider the observations contains in this and last year's report. You are still very much at the planning stage, keep up the enthusiasm and you can look forward to a productive 2006 campaign.

The Built Environment:

The new Ballyliffin lodge is a welcome addition to the streetscape having been finished to an exceptionally high standard. The Oratory, Strand Hotel, Ballyliffin Hotel, Trasna House and Rossaor House are prominent in presentation and enhance the landscape as does the picnic benches at the beach. The adjudicator commends the use of stone in the village as it helps the village to retain the old world feel that visitors love. Ballyliffin Golf Club has good all round presentation. The areas surrounding the Pollen Beach Hotel requires attention as does the derelict building beside Mc Gees.

Landscaping:

It was wonderful to see a new development like Ballyliffin Lodge's landscaping finished to such a high standard. This is the standard that should be set for any future new developments. The colorful floral displays at the Oratory and at Rossar House and the Strand Hotel were much admired and the use of stone walls throughout the village adds to the charm. As recommended in last year's report more colorful hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs are needed to impact more extensively on the streetscape. Your plans for tree planting on the main street are awaited with interest.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

No great progress under this heading. For advice and guidance refer to the Tidy Towns Handbook. You might also consult with a local marine/wildlife expert and engage the support of local school children. Keep your plan realistic, maybe a learning centre is a little over ambitious.

Litter Control:

Ballyliffin was litter free on adjudication day except for an incidental black bag of litter disposed at the beach. Well done to all concerned.

Tidiness:

The new bilingual signage on the entrance to Ballyliffin is bright and welcoming. The committee are to be commended on the privately commissioned recycling bins in the centre of the village; they are well maintained and the area around them neat and tidy. Overall Ballyliffin is a tidy and well kept village.

Residential Areas:

Individual houses on all approach roads looked well, many with tidily cut lawns, color planting and well cared for boundary areas. All new housing development presented well and most notable were Aughrim Heights - the use of stone and the brightly colored doors add a splash of color to the centre of the village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads in general were presented well, although the area adjacent to Trasna House was poorly presented with building material discarded. The billard outside the Ballyliffin Hotel also requires replacing and the car park opposite the Strand Hotel requires resurfacing and lining.

General Impression:

Your enthusiasm to succeed is obvious, although it will require a sustained effort and the continued support and goodwill of the community. In brief, continue working the way you are - strengthen your relationship with the local authority and give attention to detail. Another good performance this year is rewarded - good luck.