

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballitore**

Ref: **613**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **190**

Category: **B**

Date: **04/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	33
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	18	19
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	190	192

Overall Developmental Approach:

Twelve is a good membership number for a village of this size. The map was helpful at adjudication time. A 3 to 5 year plan is required under this category in the competition. This plan would be very helpful to focus on particular issues that need to be tackled and to list these, assign various tasks, plan what is to be done, how, when and by whom, and what resources or processes are needed. This could be monitored each year and reassessed.

The Built Environment:

Good work is being done on some buildings. The local museum and library look well. The plaques on walls commemorating historical events add great local character to the village. The health centre looks well. Derelict buildings continue to hinder the appearance of the village. Placing colourful containerised plants by the derelict building in the centre was noted - good work. The stonewall by the stream is attractive and the remains of the old stone arches have been well availed off. Poor décor on some buildings together with the derelict buildings present a huge challenge, which hopefully will be met. The square has tremendous potential and hopefully this will be fulfilled in time.

Landscaping:

The colourful containers placed around the village give a good sparkle of summer colour and these are particularly important due to the state of some of the buildings. The riverside area has potential but appears to have been a little neglected. Grass verges along the roadsides are nicely mown and maintained. Hopefully when the square is reorganized in the future, tree planting will become an important component. Individual gardens within the village contribute greatly to the landscape of the village and credit is due to their owners for this.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

A wildlife observation and appreciation project is needed in the village. The riverside appears to have potential for developing a riverside walk. At the moment the riverside area has a seat and a small-grassed area.

Litter Control:

There is a serious amount of litter on the streets, by the roadsides and at the riverside where material has been dumped. The square is reasonably good. There is a big challenge here in coming to terms with the litter situation in the village. Perhaps campaigns, frequent organised litter picks and greater volunteer help would resolve this difficulty.

Tidiness:

Because of the many derelict buildings and those needing attention to décor it is difficult to score well in this category. Overhead wires are unhelpful too. The efforts to detract from these buildings are commendable

Residential Areas:

Generally there is a good standard of care and attention to the housing in the village. Individual householders contribute well to the appearance of their own homes and surrounds. It is good to see so many residences right in the centre of the village creating a very good community spirit in the village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads are attractive with the well-mown entrance verges and tree planting. Several walls along the roadside also give a pleasant appearance. Footpaths are generally in good condition.

General Impression:

Ballitore has great potential because of its unique structure and historical nature. A big drive is needed to resolve the derelict and neglected buildings through the village. When this is achieved, then the framework remaining will form a perfect basis for vast improvement

Second Round Adjudication: