

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballymore**

Ref: **210**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **207**

Category: **B**

Date: **11/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	207	205

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator would like to thank the committee for the completed application form and map. An overall plan with objectives would help focus the committee and would help in progressing the competition. It is good to see increased involvement from the local school.

The Built Environment:

Apart from the derelict buildings, this is generally a good category for Ballymore. Most buildings along the main thoroughfare are very well maintained and presented. Well done. The Garda Barracks continues to be an eye sore in the centre of the village. The new signage in several areas is most welcome and adds greatly to one's first impression of the village.

Landscaping:

Despite the challenge of the length of the village, it is extremely well maintained throughout. Well done. The trees on the right hand side as one leaves towards Athlone look very well and as they mature will prove very helpful in linking the village. It is good to see some colour has been added to the circular flower beds and that they have been cut back; these really have the potential to be very attractive and perhaps could be further enhanced again for next year's competition. The geraniums were again in full bloom and looked great!

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

No additional information was submitted in relation to this category. One hopes the idea to devise a development plan for the lakeshore area is still alive.

Litter Control:

There was little or no litter in evidence on the day of inspection on the main thoroughfare. The adjudicator is pleased to hear of the greater involvement of local school children. The recycling area was unfortunately a little untidy on the day of inspection and the local authority housing estate had a serious litter problem with bins overflowing and litter everywhere. This was a great pity as the estate had otherwise greatly improved.

Tidiness:

In general the village looks nice and tidy throughout, keep up the good work.

Residential Areas:

Ballymore Housing Scheme had in general improved. The residences were better presented and some had clearly taken great pride in their homes. The litter issue throughout the estate is unfortunately a big problem. Grass cutting and weed control in this area appeared to have improved. Otherwise the residences are very well presented throughout and local pride is clearly in evidence.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There has been a marked improvement in this category and the new signs look very well. The roads leading to Ballymore are very well maintained and the village is most attractive from all approaches. Continued good work will see you gaining valuable marks in this area.

General Impression:

Well done all all involved - Ballymore is progressing very well. Concentrate on developing a long term plan to focus all parties and try to develop some initiatives in the wildlife area to gain additional marks.