

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballymore Eustace** Ref: **357**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **243**
Category: **C** Date(s): **25/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	26
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	2
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	243

Overall Development Approach:

Ballymore Eustace is welcome to 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included your planned work program. Ballymore Eustace enjoys an excellent location on the Banks of the River Liffey and has an interesting layout and street pattern with a rise and fall of some of its roads which adds visual interest. Stone buildings and walls give the town a fine character. Well done on your partnership approach with your local authority and other state agencies together with businesses and schools and on all you have achieved for this year.

The Built Environment:

Well done on work accomplished for the church boundary wall and railings together with activities on derelict buildings. We wish you well with future projects under this heading. The Fogarty premises has too many signs and its Dutch awnings should be either removed altogether or replaced with a more traditional type. Most commercial properties are well maintained and Headons is an attractive and well presented buildings. While the church itself is still a little weather stained, the adjacent hall had been beautifully painted by the day of adjudication, the church is certainly well appointed and creates a positive visual impact in the villagescape. The school and its grounds are neatly presented. It was surprising to note a number of dated plastic beer signs in the village.

Landscaping:

The planting of native species on the Naas and Poulaphouca Roads together with the River walk is most appropriate as this is supportive of wildlife, we note also your plan to continue with native species in your landscaping programme. The Millennium Garden in the village centre is a most attractive feature and

continues to be well presented. The landscape entrance and drive to KTK Quarry was admired.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The sports grounds were presented to a high standard particularly in relation to its roadside edge, both the Liffey Walk and the general amenity here offer fine recreation opportunities to the community. Well done also on the creation of a wildflower garden to attract butterflies, insects and other wildlife. We wish you every success in your Biodiversity Survey and the extension and increase in the number of wildflower gardens

Litter Control:

Our appreciation is offered to the students of Scoil Mhuire on their participation in the National Spring Clean. A similar big thank you is extended to the Girl Guides for their work in cleaning up the streets of Ballymore Eustace. Hopefully your liaison with Kildare County Council regarding litter control and enforcement staff will be successful.

Waste Minimisation:

We note your proposed pilot composting scheme at Liffey Heights estate and your intention to provide additional recycling facilities, do keep us informed of the outcome of both. A waste audit might also be undertaken to establish the volume of waste produced by the community with a view to devising strategies to reduce this.

Tidiness:

Well done on your initiative in compiling a report and submitting it to Kildare County Council local councilors and TD's on your goals for the upgrading of roads, footpaths and walkways within Ballymore Eustace. We wish you every success in the proposed remedial work for derelict buildings, it is good to note your awareness of these and your photographs of same. Do try to keep weed along curbs and at the base of walls to an absolute minimum.

Residential Areas:

The well maintained single storey dwellings within the village are charming and the small estate located behind the church is neatly presented. It is good to note that a large number of properties still retain their traditional sash windows. We wish you every good luck with the Barrack Street development of town houses and other new residential development in respect of assimilating new residents into the social fabric of the community and of course involving them in the Tidy Towns initiative. Your plan for bilingual street names is noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

You are more aware than most communities of the work that needs to be accomplished under this heading for your lovely town, thank you both for the survey results and photographs. We wish you success in having these problems addressed as they are part and parcel of your daily life in Ballymore Eustace. New footpaths were noted in some areas together with bollards. Hopefully the overhead service cables, particularly on the road from the Liffey Bridge to the church will be ducted in the not too distant future as it has a negative visual impact. The old nameplate at the school junction should be refurbished.

General Impression:

The overall appearance of Ballymore Eustace is favourable although your problems regarding roads and derelict buildings and vandalism are acknowledged and appreciated, no doubt the committee and other community groups will persevere with having these addressed.