

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Ballintogher** Ref: **862**  
County: **Sligo** Mark: **259**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **03/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	43
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	39
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>259</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Ballintogher Tidy Towns Committee is welcome to the 2009 Competition in this your 21st year of entry! You would appear to have a large committee for the size of the village, which must be very beneficial to your work! The anti-litter poster competition was a good idea. Your six-year plan made for interesting reading. It would have been beneficial to see the Ballintogher Village Design Statement - perhaps this could be included in next year's submission?

### **The Built Environment:**

It was noted that Kingsfort House is for sale. In its prominent location in the village centre it will be important that it is not demolished or changed radically, and that it retains its unique and traditional character, as this is a most important and prominent building in Ballintogher. The Enterprise Units were as well maintained as ever. The new Mace was bright and cheerful. The school looked well behind its discreet hedging. The attractive mosaic was admired to the church tower and the grounds of the church were well maintained. We note your problems tracking down the owners of empty buildings within the village and wonder if the County Council could give you some guidance on this issue? Treston's is an attractive traditional shopfront. As stated in your application form, there was work underway at the community centre on the day.

### **Landscaping:**

We note in your application the hard work that had been undertaken with regard to this category of the competition. The photographs of the daffodil displays in springtime were delightful, and these must be a sight to behold. The amenity area opposite the school was well maintained although litter was apparent in this location and in the vicinity of the football pitch, although the nasturtiums planted to the front created a good impression. The grotto in the village centre was well maintained and fresh.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

This is an area of the competition to which you could give further attention. The planting of deciduous trees and flowers to attract bees is all to the good but it might be well worthwhile conducting a habitat survey with the local school.

**Litter Control:**

The standard in this category of the competition could have been better. On the day, some litter was evident along the main streets, and in particular at the stone seating of the amenity area. It was difficult to locate any litter bins in the village - do you have any?

**Waste Minimisation:**

The recycling area was well maintained and looked quite cheerful on the day. Have you any other projects planned for this category of the competition?

**Tidiness:**

The standard in this category of the competition was reasonable. We note your problem regarding empty properties. The tin roof of a fresh outbuilding in the village centre was in need of some attention. Some graffiti was evident to directional signs by the amenity area. There was evidence of dereliction on the Dromahair Road.

**Residential Areas:**

New housing estates are evident throughout the village and we note your efforts to landscape these with tree planting etc. This is all to the good and these were generally well maintained. The forecourt area in front of houses on the Sligo Road was quite rough in appearance. There are some marvellous vernacular houses along this road and in other areas of the village which would benefit from restoration to their former glory.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads were reasonable on the day. The freshly painted wall by the pump on the Riverstown Road looked very cheerful. Signage was quite fresh on approach road. However, the Dromahair Road was quite overgrown.

**General Impression:**

It was a number of years since this adjudicator had visited Ballintogher and it was surprising to see the amount of change that had taken place in a reasonably short space of time. The magnificent scenery makes for a marvellous setting for this quiet village.