

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYLONGFORD**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	27	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	184	177

Ballylongford, Co. Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

You have quite a large area to cover and many old buildings are no longer used for their original commercial purpose and yet you have numerous opportunities to make significant progress in nearly all sections of the competition. You do need a 3-5 year plan that will chart the way forward for you. Such a plan would also act as a guide to progress and could be phased to do a little each year. You should contact the relevant agencies for support.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

It was a treat to walk around the church and school area and witness the many historical illustrations developed in recent years. The sculpture in the church grounds is attractive and also the stainless steel abbey window illustration. Some of the information plaques are now fading, so you need to prepare for replacements. The Highfielder is very well presented and colourful, together with O'Connor Pub and Goldilocks. The derelict building beside O'Connors is very poor and needs attention. Kerry Creamery is poor and needs attention. Some rusty roofs near the Old Mill are now quite unsightly. Halla an Phobail would benefit from painting.

LANDSCAPING

The picnic site on the Ballybunion approach needs new seating and litter bins and the tub should be replaced. Better to request users to take their litter with them if you feel the bins will not be emptied. The plethora of finger signs in the square is a mess and ineffective. The river bridge is well presented. You should consider improving the stone bridges on the Mill Road as they have nice traditional character. Cast aluminium signs throughout the village are excellent. You have a lot of dereliction throughout the village that will need long term action to rectify.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Well done on a good display board. You have good opportunity for promoting wildlife because of the river area – such action could raise your marks in this section.

LITTER CONTROL

In general litter control was good, apart from a little at Halla an Phobail, where the litter bin needs painting. You need to ensure you have an adequate amount of litter bins.

TIDINESS

Because of the large amount of dereliction, unoccupied houses and unattended open spaces you have a good deal

of untidiness. The Mill Road in particular will need attention. Such a requirement is beyond the scope of a small Tidy Towns Committee, so your best strategy is to lobby the Kerry Co. Council who have power to deal with dereliction.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general houses and gardens were well presented and many shops have living quarters attached which ensures improved presentation. As a policy you should encourage village renewal and infill development rather than ribbon development on the approach roads.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Well done on the improved presentation of the Eddie Carmody monument, which is now excellent. Road surface was good and as already mentioned signage is excellent, but don't clutter the village with unnecessary signs. Farm gates are also part of the adjudication system, so try and paint them a strong colour.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a great delight for this adjudicator making a first visit to Ballylongford. The village has much to be proud of and much to offer. Your challenge now is to build on your strengths and highlight the traditional features to good effect.