

## **An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 2, 2018**

**Ballinasloe: Overall 2018 result: 33rd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered**

It is disappointing that Ballinasloe is one of the few towns surveyed in to have missed out on achieving Clean status. With just three top ranking sites in the town, the majority of them were littered to some degree. If a little extra care and attention was taken at the moderately littered sites some of them could get the top litter grade e.g. Dunlo Street and Car Park at SuperValu at St. Anne's Park. There were two seriously littered sites in Ballinasloe: The Bring Centre at Slí na Abhann was badly let down by dumping of black sacks to the rear of the recycle units. The residential area of St. Anne's Park, St Teresa's Park / St. Grellan's Terrace was also poor with regard to litter.

**R357 Approach from Ard Cairn Roundabout to Beagh Roundabout: Grade B.** There was a variety of fresh litter on the passenger side of the road. There was also some 'chopped up litter' due to grass cutting before removing the litter.

**Slí na Abhann Park: Grade A.** This park environment was very good with regard to litter. The overall impression was of a well cared for environment and was enhanced by floral displays. 'Welcome to Slí na hAbhann Park' signage was in very good condition and all appeared in good order at the car park.

**Bring Centre at Slí na Abhann: Grade C.** On first impression this Bring Centre seemed not too bad with regard to litter. Closer inspection revealed not just litter but dumping of black sacks to the rear of the units.

**Main Street: Grade B.** Extensive road works were taking place along the Main Street. Much of the litter along the Main Street was associated with the road works – a variety of food and alcohol related litter was trapped beneath the fencing. A blue street bin was in poor condition and a former telephone kiosk had fly posting with the remnants of plenty of former notices – this presents very poorly.

**N63 Mountbellow Approach Road: Grade A.** The overall impression created along this road into Ballinasloe was a positive one. Road surface, signage and markings were in good order and there was no visible litter.

**Dunlo Street: Grade B+.** This site just missed getting the top litter grade. A variety of small litter items were to be seen, mostly on the kerbs – a more thorough approach to cleaning same would make this a top ranking site.

**Car Park at SuperValu beside St. Anne's Park: Grade B.** Much of the car park presented well – good road surface, markings and signage and the main surface area was good with regard to litter. However, there were a couple of corners which were littered – mostly plastic bottles, sweet papers, cans and plastic bags. If these areas were addressed it could easily be a Grade A site.

**Ashfield Drive: Grade A.** A clean and tidy impression was created throughout this residential area – there was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

**St. Anne's Park / St Teresa's Park / St. Grellan's Terrace: Grade C.** A littered and untidy impression pervaded throughout this residential area – on the kerbs, in the side laneways, on the public green and in the hedgerows. Plastic bottles, plastic bags and sweet papers were most prevalent with lower levels of cans. The litter was most pronounced in the hedgerow next to the open green.

**M6 Ballinasloe – Galway Link Road: Grade B+.** Motorway maintenance was excellent along this busy route – grass verges, trees and grass were in very good order. The overall appearance was let down by plastic bottles and coffee cups with lower levels of cans, fast-food wrappers and sweet papers.