

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GARRISTOWN**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	176

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed entry form and map which was helpful on the day of the adjudication. The Garristown Tidy Towns Committee demonstrates a good approach to developing the area and this is illustrated in your work over the last few years. A suggestion for the villages 3/5 year development programme would be to compile information of the unique features of the village, its history and its hinterland.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

We look forward to future development of wildlife and natural amenities in the village. Suggested projects could include identifying the wildlife habitats of your village and what species of animals and birds these attract. This might be followed by conservation or protection measures in order to enhance these wildlife habitats. Other projects could include planting native berry-producing trees and the provision of bird and bat roosts and nesting sites/boxes in buildings. Perhaps a wildlife garden could be planned for next year.

LANDSCAPING

The trees, flowers and shrubs that have been planted in the village are very attractive. It is important to carry out regular maintenance of these planted areas and trees in order to ensure a year round effect. The open grass area opposite the old RIC Barracks in the village is very tidy but there was some incidental litter present. Planting trees and trimming hedgerows on the approach roads to the village would help to improve their appearance.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The shops and buildings in the village are to be commended for their efforts in improving the presentation of the streetscape. However, there were weeds and long grass present at the boundary walls of the Avonmore Plant. These should be removed and some trees/hedgerows and shrubs should be planted. The hanging baskets on the Avonmore office look well. The community centre is well presented but there were some weeds and long grass at the boundary wall to the rear of the building. The church and library grounds were clean and tidy and the library building appears to be well preserved. The flower boxes, window boxes and hanging baskets on the houses and shops in the village are to be commended. The wire boundary in front of Kinsellas shed needs to be repaired. It would be ideal if the few remaining plastic shop front signs in the village could be replaced with more attractive signage made from natural materials. On the open grass area the directional signposts should be cleaned and the street benches repainted. On the day of inspection the grass and hedgerows in the old Protestant Church and graveyard were being cut and trimmed. Access to these historical grounds is important. There was some incidental litter present in the grounds and it might help if a bin could be placed near the entrance to the graveyard. The old RIC barracks in the village is in need of some repair and perhaps the owner might be persuaded to camouflage the building by painting it or hanging flower baskets until such a time as it will be fully redeveloped. The Maxol sign pole and sign at Goughs needs to be repainted.

LITTER CONTROL

In general litter control in the village is good. However, there were locations where incidental litter was present e.g. the green open space and graveyard. A few of the older litter bins need to be replaced. Encouraging anti-litter awareness among the residents of the village is important and each resident should take responsibility for their immediate area as well as becoming involved in the regular clean-ups.

TIDINESS

The control of weed growth at kerbs and at the base of buildings and walls is important. Particular

attention needs to be paid to footpaths on approach roads and in the village itself. Overall general tidiness is good.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The cottages on the Naul Road are very pretty and the gardens of some of the other houses on this road must be complimented. There have been great improvements in the Ballygarra Estate and the flower pots and beds at the entrance are very attractive. There is still some development underway at the rear of the estate and we look forward to its completion. There were some weeds and grass present in the kerbs which need to be removed and the litter bins should be repainted. The residential houses on the village main street must be commended on their appearance, the thatched cottage on the Dublin Road was very attractive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Dublin approach road the hedgerows need to be trimmed and the long grass cleared away from the Garristown sign. The water pump is surrounded by flowers and looks very well, however, the signposts could be cleared. The primary school grounds were clean and tidy but there was a small bit of weed growth in the grounds of the parking area beside the school. Hedgerows on the Ardcaith approach road also need to be trimmed. Once the funding is available the installation of Welcome to Garristown signs will be very advantageous. There is a need to improve the presentation of side laneways and back areas. The general car parking area in the village is clean and tidy.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee have helped to improve the presentation of the village and we would encourage a continuation of this good work.