

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BLACKWATER**
County : **WEXFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	35
Litter Control	40	29
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	300	226

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It was great to see that you have developed a very good working relationship with all the agencies. No doubt they were of some help to the Committee from time to time. Do liaise with the NRB in Wexford regarding making the village more user friendly for persons with disabilities. All Tidy Towns Committees are now being encouraged to produce a simple Work Programme or Plan which will guide your activities. It should cover a 3 to 5 year period and should set out your objectives for each year covered. You have a large enough number involved in your Committee but it is not satisfactory that just the Committee should be doing all the work. All the Community must be involved if they are already not.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

On the day of adjudication the ducks were having the time of their lives with the children feeding them bread, etc. The water was clean and clear and you certainly have made efforts to develop the wildlife aspect of the Competition this year. As a Tidy Towns Committee you have an important role to play in protecting, enhancing and increasing the wildlife value of the Community. Do include it in your Plan. Also it would be a good idea to invite a local environmental expert to get involved and provide you with the specialist information which you will require. Do not forget woodlands, hedgerows, etc.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping was wonderful throughout. The area in the village at the signs was beautifully presented. The area outside the telephone booth was a delightful place with lovely trees and the sounds of the river contributing to the general peace there. The planters throughout had a lovely selection of plants. Opposite Fox's garden - another lovely landscaped area and maturing at a nice rate. The planting of the trees at the Cemetery was noted as was the growth behind the pond. At the Mill Race, the river was clean, clear, neat and tidy.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church was presented to the highest standard. The Community Hall looked well but the back doors needed painting. The old graveyard was in pristine condition and some nice planting was noted near the fir tree hedge. Just a few weeds at the kerbs. The car park at the new graveyard did have some weed growth at one corner opposite the gate. There was a tree cut and it looked a little bit untidy there. All the business premises are now almost completed to a high standard. Work was in progress at Sutton's Shop/Filling Station on the day of adjudication. No doubt it will be completed to a high standard. A few properties do need to be freshened up. The new wall at the School was work of the highest standard - lovely stone work, planters and seat.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is excellent overall - just two pieces. Litter is now a big issue countrywide. You have achieved an excellent standard. Do not let up on your very successful programme and campaign for litter control.

TIDINESS

The kerbs throughout the village were weed-free except for the car park near the Church. The overall appearance of the village is one of neatness and tidiness with litter and weed control well taken care of.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The overall presentation of all residences was extremely good. The house across from the Church

needs to be freshened up as does the house across the road from the School. Almost all householders have put in tremendous work and the community spirit appears to be second to none. Well done. Do ensure that the holiday home development is properly completed at the entrance and any open spaces properly landscaped. The Bracken Hill housing development was completed to a high standard and was well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were neat and tidy. When the holiday homes development is completed it should enhance the road to Ballyconegar Strand. The bridge was again presented excellently - just remove dead branches from bank. Do encourage the owner of the field to replace the gate on the road to Abhann Dubh C&C Park. The Mill Race was neat and clean. Do, if you can, something about the open space near the building with the felt roof. The Toilets were in good condition; but the wooden fascia should be repainted and the bin should be replaced. Tidy up inside the fencing and carry out necessary repairs. All the signs were clean and the grass was cut around them with one or two exceptions.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The effort of the Tidy Towns Committee is tremendous and the presentation is extremely good overall. We do look forward to seeing you going from strength to strength in this new-look Competition. Hopefully with more hard work, attention to detail that you will continue to progress in this new Competition and be in the Winners Enclosure at some date in the near future.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (05/08/96)

The second adjudicator endorses the comments of the first. It was good to see so many visitors in Blackwater on second adjudication day - obviously a tribute to the community. If the single house completed in the new housing development is anything to go by, this should be an excellent scheme, from which example could be taken in other centres. Congratulations to this Committee and its helpers for their wonderful work.