

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEW ROSS**
County : **WEXFORD**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	25
Litter Control	40	22
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	171

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It was good to see the number involved in your Committee. All Tidy Towns Committees are now being encouraged to provide a simple Work Programme or Plan which will guide their Tidy Towns activities for that period. It is important that you have an evenness in your presentation. It is necessary to involve housing estates, factories and business premises both in planning and carrying out your activities. Do liaise with FAS, NRB, Telecom, ESB and the Regional Tourism Organisation who will have advice to give and are only too willing to help in whatever way they can.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It was good to see that you are in the process of preserving wildlife habitats throughout the town - it was not indicated where on your entry form or map. Tidy Towns Committees have an important role to play in protecting and increasing wildlife throughout their area. Do invite in a local environmental expert to advise you and provide you with the specialist information you require.

LANDSCAPING

The Quay area near the Cruising Restaurant is a lovely development - some delightful tree and shrub planting here. The planting of trees on an open space on the Wexford road was excellent. Trees are a very important plant in the urban landscape. The planting in the boat on both approach roads was an excellent idea and looked stunning. There was some delightful planting on the right going to Wexford - well done. The Town Park is well landscaped - a marvellous amenity for the New Ross Community. The trees there had some stunning planting at their base. All shrubs and trees were very well maintained.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

It was good that you intend to implement a programme in relation to the built environment - well done. The Garda Station was well presented. The Court House next door looks dull and would need landscaping and flower treatment. Some lovely shrubs in Swimming Pool car park - but also some litter. The Library - an unusual building - again had a nice shrub area but the weeds needed attention. The Bank area in the car park needs landscaping - very untidy. There are some excellent shopfronts and well presented business premises in South Street, North Street, Mary Street and on the Quay. Do not forget over the shopfronts. The business premises who have not made the effort to up-grade their shopfronts and removed their plastic signage should be encouraged to do so. No doubt they will do this sooner rather than later. Derelict sites will need attention. Some properties have lovely flower displays with "John V's" being outstanding. All shops along the Quay have made a great effort to have flower displays. It was also great to see flower baskets hanging from street lamps. The Church and its grounds were kept beautifully.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite good - pieces were evident in the Swimming Pool car park, Library car park, Town Park and in the Wexford road picnic area. Litter is now a big issue countrywide. It was great to see that you have plans being formalised to get Community support for litter control - congratulations.

TIDINESS

The overall appearance was quite good and there were great efforts to present the town in a neat and tidy fashion. Weed control at kerbs needs attention in some areas and shrub beds need to be kept weed-free.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

It was great to see that the Committee is liaising with Resident Associations to get their support in helping to improve the place where they live. Older housing developments are clean and tidy, but have a cement-coloured finish which looks dull - a window box programme would help to cheer up the exterior walls. Riverview estate was well presented and the open spaces were excellently maintained. Watch out for weeds at the kerbs. Park Field estate again was well presented and some shrubs planted at the entrance with a nice name-sign. South Knock estate had some nice new signs - it was litter-free. There are different styles of houses and all are well presented - a few walls need painting. New housing developments off the top of Mary Street are very well presented. Other town houses throughout would need flowers on windows, etc. to brighten up the appearance.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The car parks on the Quayside are well presented. They are almost litter-free and have some lovely planting bays on them. They also have parking spaces reserved for disabled drivers. The approach road from Wexford is very well maintained and magnificent work has been done to have it presented so well. A big improvement has taken place on the Waterford road. Continue and keep up the work there. The toilet block in the Park is clean and tidy on the outside but signs need to be painted or renewed - inside walls need painting. Other approach roads are tidy, but cut as often as possible from the 40/30 mph speed limit signs. Some signs would need to be cleaned.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall you are making tremendous efforts to bring about improvements in New Ross' appearance and succeeding. You have very innovative plans for the built environment and for the streets and back areas. This is commendable - well done.