

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GLENEALY**
County : **WICKLOW**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	27	28
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	191	189

Glenealy, County Wicklow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your detailed entry form and map which was very helpful during the course of adjudication. Thank you also for the details on the proposed development on the new park area. In relation to your 3 year plan, you have outlined a number of areas for improvement and good luck in this regard. It is obvious that there is good local support for the Tidy Towns Group through the list of fund raising and support of FAS.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are both good and bad examples of presentation in the built environment throughout the village of Glenealy. Well done in the development of your IT Centre. The Church is very well presented, as was the Graveyard. The entrance into Ballyfree (???), by the Gate Lodge could be better presented; this might be tackled for next year. The grass outside Kelly's Garden Sheds has been well maintained. Glenealy Garage was neat and tidy. The top garage was litter free; try to screen off the premises to the left of the top garage. The school was very well presented, as was its grounds. Kerry Foods reception building was also neat and tidy, and the building opposite had been screened off. Sprinklings of litter were also noted outside the Post Office and some weeds were noted at the front of Glenealy Lodge. Good to see several stone walls throughout the town as well.

LANDSCAPING

Nice presentation of bedding plants was noted at the sign/area around the bridge on the approach road from Rathdrum. Along the main road the hedge had been cut and the grass was neat and tidy, well done. Nice planting was also noted at the triangular bedding plant area at the junction near Glenealy Lodge. Perhaps try to build a proper low level wall feature here for a tidier appearance. The grotto is well maintained; try to perhaps avoid the use of weed killer, there was evidence of dead weeds here; otherwise good effort.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Glenealy is surrounded by the rural countryside. Presence of hedgerows, mature trees, open spaces, etc., provide opportunities for you to encourage natural amenities and wildlife habitats. School children have a key role to play in this regard; good luck also in the development of your town park and again you might allow for appropriate wildlife and

natural amenities habitats. Be careful with changing the stream as it is obviously going to have impact on the wildlife habitat of this area. Well done also in relation to the consultation with Coillte on the woodland area. Try to ensure appropriate accessibility for visitors to appreciate wildlife. Good luck with your development of walks throughout the woods. You are to be commended in tackling the problem of dumping.

LITTER CONTROL

It was good to see in your comments that you were including the schools in litter patrol campaigns, well done in this regard. The school children have a key role to play in litter control. Overall litter was not too bad. However, litter was evident opposite the park/main estate on the road. Also sprinklings of litter were noted on the Rathdrum road, near the rail over pass; some sprinklings were also noted on Chapel lane and the road leading up towards the Graveyard/Hall. Try to work on this for next year. It took from the adjudicators overall impression which was not helped either by litter evident at the carpark of the GAA club and also quite bad to the left of the GAA Club building despite the presence of a litter bin!!!

TIDINESS

It's good to see you've replaced and relocated the telephone kiosk. In general, some of the yellow litter bins could be painted or replaced. Weeds were also noted by kerbing and certain areas for example, the path leading up to the Post Office. Signs also need cleaning, and the Dublin road sign needs to be replaced. Re-cycling scheme in the carpark was noted, well done in this regard. Maintain vigilance here to ensure litter does not become a problem. Gravel around the triangular landscaped area in front of the Glenealy Lodge takes from the tidy appearance and perhaps this may be a long term project also.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Name plates are needed in several areas. Within one estate, weeds were evident along by kerbing. On the Rathdrum road some very good individual efforts were noted beyond the railway over pass bridge. Some however would benefit from painting of their boundary walls. Great effort noted at Gleann Cill with good planting and presence of chairs, creating very relaxing open spaces for the houses. Good individual effort was noted within these houses as well. Carrig View, is well maintained, great effort was noted at the Yellow house near the railway for its season flowers, well done.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The adjudicator noted the presence of rumble strips and new footpaths, well done. On the approach road from Rathdrum the Glenealy sign was dirty and should probably be replaced. The sign at Deputys Pass was also crooked. Grass verges had been cut creating a neat and tidy appearance; however, the presence of gravel along by the road side tends to detract from this. Approaching from Rathnew the sign is obscured by shrubbery, probably nullifying it's actual intended purpose. The 40 mile an hour sign on the right hand side needs to be replaced. It was good to see the verges had been cut on this approach. The area opposite the Post Office could perhaps be improved over time. Otherwise the main road of the village is well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Continue to make improvements in the presentation of the roads as well as the residential areas. It's obvious that there is a co-ordinated committee working hard to overcome any problems. The outbreak of litter noted on the Chapel Lane was one area which demonstrates that vigilance must be maintained at all times. The adjudicator looks forward to seeing your village park on further visits in years to come.