

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BELGOOLY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	--
The Built Environment	40	22	--
Landscaping	40	20	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	--
Litter Control	40	22	--
Tidiness	20	11	--
Residential Areas	30	20	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	5	--
TOTAL MARK	300	158	--

Belgooly, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to welcome Belgooly back into the Tidy Towns Competition. Progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you should prepare a "3 /5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community, local groups other agencies and the County Council. It would therefore guide your Tidy Towns actions for the next three to five years. The Work Programme will detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan that is updated annually is now an important aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition. The new Tidy towns Handbook has been issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to all Tidy towns Committees. This is a highly useful document which will be a great help both to established Tidy Towns Committees and to all new entrants. It is divided into a series of seven Action Sheets that together cover all aspects of the Competition. Especially for new entrants it might be most useful for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook. No documentation was submitted with the Entry Form apart from a useful map.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

At the Church, the grassed area between the railing and the low stone wall below needed to be trimmed, however the grounds themselves were very well presented. At the large red painted premises some attractive old brick buildings were noted. The old distillery building still awaits a new use. Perhaps there is potential to restore this building for accommodation purposes? However the entrance area needs to be tidied up – remove weeds, paint gate and white wash the wall. The Campus Garage and Post office looked very well on adjudication day, as did the imaginative painting on the front of

the Community Hall. However the painting on the sides of this building needs to be freshened up. The two large public houses were well presented and strong colours here are important. At the GAA property the battered entrance gates need attention, and the newly completed Club House needs to be painted. The grounds need a general tidying up.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped area opposite the Church is attractive, and the landscaped area on the Kinsale side of the Campus Garage is being very well maintained. The area of the stream by the telephone box has unrealised potential as an amenity area. Weeds are growing in the stream and it will become choked up in time. The planting on the Kinsale side of Belgooly will look good in a few years time.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Committee heading has taken no obvious actions under this heading. As indicated above the river has potential and could be an area that would attract wildlife. You will first of all need to conduct a simple local survey to see what wildlife lives in your area. The provision of some information boards based on the survey findings would be another possibility.

LITTER CONTROL

On adjudication day litter control was quite good, and small amounts of litter were noted in various locations. The provision of additional litter bins is noted.

TIDINESS

A number of signs need to have new poles or existing poles painted. On the Cork approach, weeds and briars are coming through the chain link fencing on the left-hand side of the road. In the centre of the village piles of timber pallets were noted inside the low stone wall. A very untidy area

was noted on the Minane Bridge approach to Belgooley, and there is a large pile of steel at this point.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing estate on the left-hand side on the Cork approach uses colour in a most imaginative and successful way. The mature trees and landscaping here add much to the overall appearance of the approach road from Cork. On the Minane Bridge approach the new housing uses very strong colours and the effect is most impressive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Cork approach road the banks had not been cut, but an attractive grassed area was noted on the right-hand side of the road. On the Minane Bridge side the banks were uncut and extremely untidy and overgrown. Some planting has been done on the Kinsale approach but the area here was quite overgrown, though in one place some cutting had been done. Verges were very roughly cut on the Browne's Mills approach road.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Belgooley has improved a lot in presentation terms in recent years. There is a lot of further potential that can be realised by your Committee working with the total community towards the implementation of an agreed plan.