

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLELYONS-BRIDESBRIDGE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	--
The Built Environment	40	28	--
Landscaping	40	31	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	--
Litter Control	40	32	--
Tidiness	20	10	--
Residential Areas	30	21	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	--
General Impression	10	8	--
TOTAL MARK	300	214	--

Castlelyons-Bridesbridge, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your application form, map and five year plan. The five year plan is a very comprehensive approach and a useful checklist at the end of the year to measure your progress. Keep up your working relationship with the County Council, FÁS, LEADER. Your participation in the school litter competitions is a vital component. The promotion of the Irish language in the limestone signage is applauded. Keep an even handed approach across all categories of the Tidy Towns Competition, because a high mark in one category can be diluted by a low mark in another.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Glanbia Co-op building work, which was in progress during last year's adjudication is now complete and this area looks much better now. The main strategic buildings in the village continue to look well. The Church and its grounds look very well. The National School and its vicinity continue to get great attention. The Community Centre looks well but the building adjacent to it may need some attention. The Castle is an impressive building, but is somewhat obscured by the farm machinery building. The Abbey along with the Castle give the area a great historic ambience and depth of character. The flood lighting of the Abbey and Church give a very good aspect to the village also. McNamara's shop looks well. The Public Houses as outlined in last year's report would look far better with the removal of plastic signs. The building on the grounds of the Church looks well, but its roof is corrugated iron and is rusting. This is very visible from the Kent Terrace approach, the roof may need attention. The Committee should familiarise themselves with the Derelict Sites and Buildings Section of the 'Tidy Towns Handbook' on page 46, as this gives details of the Derelict Sites Act 1990, which maybe a useful tool, in tackling problematic derelict buildings.

LANDSCAPING

There are lovely pockets of landscaping throughout Castlelyons/Bridesbridge, these are nicely positioned at various locations around the villages. The area on the right above Kearney Bros. Farm machinery is nicely done. The area around the perimeter of the school continues to impress. The landscaped area adjacent to the church is most appealing and has a very appropriate poem about Trees by Joyce Kilmer in a display stand. The area around the corner from the Church towards the Bride River was

nicely maintained particularly the grass margins. The railings at the Bride Park continue to need attention and this area looks neglected because of the railings poor condition. The Riverside Park looks good but again some fencing here needs repair and painting. The weed growth in the river at the base of the bridge also needs attention. The adjudicator is aware from your 5 year plan that some of these works are scheduled for attention this year, and may be completed before the end of the year. The Pitch and Putt Course is a fine amenity. The landscaping in the Riverside on the Rathcormac approach on the 'Seanabhain River' is very tasteful. The River is very clean here.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Given that there are two rivers in the vicinity of the village and Bride Park and the Village Park, this area could be a wildlife haven. This is a relatively new category of the Tidy Town Competition. The Committee may like to enlist the help of the senior classes of the primary school, who may relish doing a project on this category. Action sheet 6 of the 'Tidy Towns Handbook' gives a 5 step approach, namely, Habitat Survey, Developing a Management Plan, Access and Community Involvement, Interpretation and Carry out the Work.

LITTER CONTROL

The continued campaign of anti-litter awareness at the school is a good idea. The new bins look clean and smart. There was virtually no litter in to be seen on the day of adjudication, well done. This is a considerable achievement given the size of the two villages, Keep up your general anti- litter campaign and give details of any promotions/initiatives you are doing on your Tidy Town Application Form.

TIDINESS

The recycling facilities are an excellent environmental step and should help to create awareness locally. Keep an eye to weed growth on walls particularly along the Grand Avenue and opposite the school. The graffiti on the low wall opposite the Centra/Glanbia building should be removed.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The quality of private housing is very high, with gardens, shrubs and hedging being well tended. The 'Brothers Kent Terrace' looks well but could do with a more prominent sign. There is a good level of rejuvenation of housing with new houses being built.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The limestone walls from the Castle to the villages 'the Grand Avenue' are most impressive, and are a major feature for the two villages. The approach from Coona would need to be trimmed as would the approach to Church St. near the Pitch and Putt Course. The 30 mile speed limit signs need attention on the Coona, Bride river Bridge and Abbey Road approach. The finger posts at the junction near the school would need to be washed and the sign for Dungourney/Bridesbridge at the Coona junction needs repair. The limestone entrance village signs and those throughout the villages are very nice and appropriate given the association of limestone with the Castle. The Fermoy approach is good. The plans for the decoration at the foreground of the co-op will greatly enhance this area. The Rathcormac approach is most impressive.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Castlelyons – Bridesbridge has some very fine historic buildings and walls, which give it an historic depth absent from many other towns.