

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNMANWAY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	18	19
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	193	191

Dunmanway, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator understands that a new Tidy Towns Committee has been elected, and he would like to wish the new Officers well in the future. 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. It might be most useful for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook. 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 you 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. As you are aware Dunmanway is a former winner of the Tidy Towns Competition. Take encouragement from this, there is a long way to go, but total community involvement will bring the desired results as it did in the past.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The adjudicator notes that the upgrading of Market Square is agreed with the Local Authority. Hopefully this includes the removal of Car Parking from the Square. This has been done most successfully in Bantry. The Pitch & Putt Club was very well presented as was the Leisure Centre area. Good landscaping was noted here also. The Model School of 1848 must provide some restoration potential and hopefully this will be addressed in your Action Plan. In the town centre the yellow and black kerbing needs re-painting. The Catholic Church and grounds looked well, as did the Parkway Hotel that uses a very bright colour in an excellent way to highlight this large building. M & P O'Sullivan was another premises that pleased the adjudicator as did the industrial area on the Clonakilty road.

LANDSCAPING

Good landscaping was noted on the Glengarriff approach road, and in Chapel Street. There are many areas of small landscaping in Dunmanway which contribute in a positive way to the atmosphere of the town. At the Esso Service Station

excellent landscaping was noted – not always easy at a garage. At the Molnlycke premises the landscaping again was pleasing but the post and rail fencing needs to be re-painted. Remember that hanging baskets and flower tubs should not be overdone. However the hanging baskets that you have provided on high metal supports look really well, and should be continued next year.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The lake amenity area is difficult to find as the sign-posting is incomplete. This is now a sad area and says little for the hard work of a former County Council Engineer who worked so hard with the community to develop the area in the 1980s. On adjudication day the area was very untidy – building materials, trailer, slurry tank, oil / water tank, reel of cable in the bushes, empty cable reel in the lake, and a lot of litter. If this asset is not appreciated then perhaps it should be closed. However the adjudicator is firmly of the view that you must make the restoration and control of this area a firm priority in your work programme. As a start the barrier preventing the entrance of high vehicles should be put back in place. Wildlife are using the area and it has great potential for the future. Have a look at the section in the Tidy Towns Handbook on wildlife and it will give you a number of ideas for this area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was not good on adjudication day and litter was noted in a number of areas throughout the town. Litter was again seen near the Hospital turn, at the lake, and in Sackville Street. Have you considered running an anti-litter campaign which would involve the local schools.

TIDINESS

An untidy garage near Dun Mhuire House was noted, and further incidental untidy areas were noted further out on the same road. At the Graveyard the boundary wall is in need of re-painting, and the O'Leary old Bakery premises needs attention. At the town centre end of Sackville street the pile of bark chippings in the small car parking area on the left should be removed. Perhaps the wall of this parking area should be painted ?

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses and gardens in the majority of cases were very well presented and the landscaping was pleasing as well. Watch out for road boundary walls that can get discoloured from traffic. In some cases these boundary walls need to be painted. Weed growth at the foot of walls is another point to watch in residential areas. The estate of single storey terraced houses on the Castle Road approach to the town has an

overgrown untidy area to the side and this needs attention. The newly planted trees at this estate were noted and these will look really well in years to come. A lot of new housing development was noted in Dunmanway. Do try and make sure that these developers include appropriate landscaping, and that they use strong colours for external painting.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally approach roads were well presented, and perhaps the Macroom approach road was most pleasing. The banks have been carefully cut and ferns are now coming through. Another approach road that pleased is the route from Clonakilty. Sackville street uses very strong colours on buildings most successfully. On the Coolkelure approach the very long grey looking concrete wall might be painted an appropriate colour.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The adjudicator would like to wish the new Committee every possible success in their efforts in the year ahead. Dunmanway is a large town to handle from the point of view of Tidy Towns. You will need total community co-operation with your work and plans which hopefully will be available to you.