

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GOLEEN**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	183	180

Goleen, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good to have Goleen in the Tidy Towns Competition for the second year. The notes which you provided with your Entry Form were useful for the adjudicator in that it identified your aims for the future. Goleen attracts many visitors and your Committee is doing valuable work to improve the presentation of the village. 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. 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.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The new Playground is a really excellent development that is being well maintained. On the Barleycove road a derelict Church was noted. Does this building have potential for conversion to community or other appropriate use ? At the National School the railing needs to be painted a bright colour and the road boundary wall also needs painting. The Catholic Church just down the road from the National School looked well and the white road boundary wall looked well. The Health Centre building, built in a good location, is being well maintained and is a key community use building. There is a strong use of good bright colours in Goleen and The Green Kettle is an excellent example of how impressive a strong brave colour can be in a rural setting. A few advertising and retail signs were noted on pavements and this is an unwelcome development. Above all it can cause problems for the disabled. Richies Take Away is a good example of a simple but effective shop-front. The corner building opposite The Green Kettle is in need of restoration. The telephone boxes were neat and tidy and your objective of having all ESB and Telecom Eireann cables under-grounded is excellent.

LANDSCAPING

Good use is made of flower tubs and window boxes – do not over do this aspect of village presentation. At least one large flower tub was seen in the middle of a path. This can be dangerous and can cause unnecessary problems for the disabled.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As part of your Tidy Towns Plan mentioned earlier in this Report try and develop wildlife as an attraction of your village. Above all this means being aware of what wildlife are in your area, and extending this awareness to the local and visiting public. The Handbook referred to earlier in this Report has good suggestions on the wildlife issue.

LITTER CONTROL

Some litter was noted near the Health Centre but generally litter control was quite good on adjudication day.

TIDINESS

The small parking area by the old Church on the Barleycove road has potential and could be cleaned up and landscaped. Above the National School a badly damaged concrete post and rail fence was noted. An untidy open area was noted between the National School and the Catholic Church. There was a large number of timber pallets stored here – perhaps screening is the answer here. The recycling unit at the playground was neat and tidy. The approach to the Pier and the Pier itself is very poorly presented and perhaps this should be one of your priority areas for immediate action.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

In general private houses were well presented and many had very good landscaped gardens. The Mizen Head road is a good example of this. Older properties painted white opposite the Catholic Church looked well. However some definition is required for the road boundary in front of these houses. The Goleen Holiday Cottages are nicely designed and fit well on their site. Good use has been made of natural rock in the landscaping programme. The timber fencing at the road boundary should be painted matt black.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Durrus approach road was well presented and has much colourful planting just as the village is entered. On the Barleycove approach road the narrow grass margin should be cut. The stone road boundary walls on this road are impressive. Do remember that cut grass should be raked immediately and taken away. On the Mizen Head road the

banks have been very tightly cut and the grass on the banks should be left a little higher with wildlife in mind. Reference has already been made to the Pier road and the approach to the village from this area needs urgent attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Goleen is a very attractive village and your Committee has started to do good work. Well done !