

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	--
The Built Environment	40	29	--
Landscaping	40	32	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	--
Litter Control	40	33	--
Tidiness	20	11	--
Residential Areas	30	22	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	--
General Impression	10	8	--
TOTAL MARK	300	223	--

Castlelyons/Bridesbridge, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your Tidy Towns Committee is obviously working to the five year plan, which you have drawn up for the community's involvement in the Tidy Towns Competition. Also working with the relevant public bodies will also prove worthwhile and should strengthen the efforts of your own community.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The buildings in Castlelyons/Bridesbridge were generally very nicely presented. The Castlelyons Community Centre premises was attractive with very colourful window boxes in place. The commercial premises of McNamara's shop and the Centra Foodmarket were both very well presented as were the commercial premises of Barry's shop, Master McGraths and the Abbey Bar. The church building at Bridesbridge and the adjoining grounds were well maintained. Scoil Naisiunta Chaislean Ui Liathain was excellently maintained. The restored Abbey Wall is a gem and a wonderful asset to the community. Also the ruins of the old castle look imposing in the distance.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaping work, which has been carried out throughout the village is quite impressive. The colourful flower boxes tastefully arranged in the vicinity of old Abbey building looked very well. Landscaping in the village Park is tastefully carried out and obviously respected by the community. The tree/shrub planting in the vicinity of the Pitch and Putt Club is also carefully attended to. The landscaping at the school on the road between the two villages is excellent. The flower tubs near the church are tastefully arranged and well planted.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The immediate area in the vicinity of the villages is one, which is ideal for wildlife. Due to the proximity to rivers and streams, there is probably quite a considerable number of wildlife species in the vicinity already. However having a designated bird sanctuary is an obvious development for the area. Those areas of the river, which were visible, were very clean and free of any refuse. The community should however examine other means with perhaps Duchas advice on how this aspect of your programme might be further developed for the enjoyment of the local community and the benefit of visitors also.

LITTER CONTROL

Measures to control litter feature in your general Tidy Towns plan and generally throughout the villages. It is clear that the efforts, which are being made in this regard, are proving satisfactory. Streets were clean, the village Park, the Pitch and Putt Club area, the areas around the church and school

were all good. This effort should be maintained for the future.

TIDINESS

In this category too, it was clear that in all areas throughout the villages – with one exception – a co-ordinated effort was made to achieve a high level of tidiness throughout. In the vicinity of the church, shops and other commercial premises, that level of tidiness prevailed. The one exception, referred to was of all places close to the Abbey Walls, where there was a huge mound of refuse of every possible description from disused television set, cast off furniture to cans etc. This was a most unsightly spectacle especially where a community has gone to such lengths to achieve an otherwise very satisfactory presentation of the locality. For whatever purpose the materials were placed there, some site other than close to the lovely Abbey Walls should be found.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Householders in the vicinity play their part and a very high standard was evident in this category. Houses in and around the village were beautifully presented; where gardens were attached, these were colourful and well maintained. In many instances, flower-tubs, window boxes and hanging baskets were very effectively used. Houses and gardens at Brother Kent Terrace were nicely presented and the stone wall near the residential area looked well. The large green area near the houses here was well maintained. The new housing development taking place is noted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads to the villages were generally quite good. On the Fermoy approach the place name sign for Castlelyons on the large stone was particularly attractive. Here the stone walls were well cleaned and looked impressive. Another minor approach road was overgrown to the extent where a traffic sign was almost concealed by the overgrowth. In the vicinity of the village, traffic signs and poles were clean and brightly painted. The old water pump near the Abbey was brightly painted and looked attractive. Barrack St. and Rathcormac Lane were both very clean and tidy. Also the area of Church Lane was very clean. The Committee and community are to be congratulated on the tasteful and effective signs for streets, lanes etc. The explanatory plaques at both the Abbey and Castle are very informative. Also the plaque depicting the old milk churn is particularly appropriate for an area such as this.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

These are lovely pleasant villages and the community obviously take a pride in their historic inheritance. The Abbey and Castle are fine landmarks in the vicinity and both are acknowledged by way of plaques, signs etc. The community should continue to work along the lines outlined in the plan with which you are wished continued success.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

There is great scope to enhance the characteristic stone walls and entrances on the Fermoy approach. Virtually no litter was to be seen in the village which is a commendable achievement. The bright paintwork was most effective on a sunny morning; however it did draw attention to other drab premises and walls. The expansive landscaped grass verges were admired. The roadside opposite Glanbia would be enhanced with a row of trees. It is essential that expansive yards are kept as tidy as possible. Hopefully the new carparking arrangement at the Church at Bridesbridge will incorporate tree planting. We wish you well with your future endeavours!