

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **GLENGARRIFF**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	26
The Built Environment	40	34	27
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	20	23
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	25	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	20
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	182	174

Glengarriff, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had yet to draw up a three or five year work programme. This is essential at this stage of the competition in order to give yourselves achievable objectives / goals and target dates for their implementation. It would also be a valuable aid to the adjudicators in their assessment of the town. You did not submit a map either and this would have been most useful on adjudication day. It was disappointing to note the lack of support you feel that you have from the local community. Perhaps for next year's competition you could consider a more complete submission. Your work programme need only be a one or two page document and your map can be A4 and hand drawn.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The adjudicator was very pleased to note the vast improvement in this category of the competition since last visiting the town. The attractive grassy landscaped area to the front of the Golf Links Hotel was admired – its entrance area could follow suit with some planting. The Eccles Hotel and grounds looked magnificent with its jaunty blue hydrangeas to the front. The Coffee House in the old church set on top of the hill with its magnificent garden of wild daisies etc. looked quite charming. The Garda Station looked magnificent with its hanging baskets and window boxes galore! In terms of other premises of note was Quills, Casey's Hotel, Bernard Harrington's, John Barry's and the Maple Leaf. The Black Cat is an attractive traditional shop front and would benefit from sensitive and accurate restoration of its traditional mirrored sign. There were one or two neglected fronts which did not compare favourably with the generally high standard in this regard.

LANDSCAPING

The grounds to the Golf Club are extremely well maintained behind their stone walling on the Bantry Road and give a very cheerful impression on this approach to the town. Some landscaping could be considered at the town nameplate on the Castletownbere approach, at the moment it appears to be sitting on a pile of gravel and looks most unwelcoming! The attractive landscaping of roses on the Castletownbere junction was most impressive. There is obviously scope for further development in this aspect of the competition. Ensure that you do not confine your concerns with merely the amenity area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Glengarriff is indeed fortunate in this regard with its wealth of varied wildlife habitats due to its close proximity to the

mountains, the sea, the riversides and woodlands. You could consider developing wildlife nature trails with incorporated maps indicating areas of wildlife interest.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day could have been much better. Much litter was evident on both major approach roads from Bantry and Castletownbere and created an extremely bad impression for the visitor to the town.

TIDINESS

Piles of construction material appeared to have been dumped at various locations – a pile of stones and gravel were evident on the Bantry Road. Further in, concrete pipes were evident and broken plastic containers were scattered. These created an extremely bad impression on this approach. Do discourage advertising hoardings as they can give approaches to the town a very cluttered appearance. A rusty post – possibly missing its sign - on the Bantry Road created a bad impression. Weed control was a problem on the day – to kerbsides along both major approach roads and dead weeds, which obviously had been sprayed and yet to be removed created a bad impression on the Castletownbere Road. Weedy entrance areas were also a problem. Out buildings should not be neglected in your presentation. Abandoned buildings on the Castletownbere Road created a bad impression including a shabby house with timber facings. Rusty tin roofs to out buildings and cottages on this road should be freshly painted in their cheerful traditional red.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Both private houses and B&B's created a very good impression in this regard. The many B&B's on approach roads looked marvelously maintained with magnificent gardens. Of particular note were Bay View B&B, Ocean Star B&B on the Bantry Road and the Cottage B&B and Maureen's in the town centre. Some charming cottages on the Bantry Road were admired and an attractive bungalow on the Glengarriff Road with marvellous gardens filled with easter lilies leading up to the house. Charming cottages with recessed porches and easter lilies were also admired on this road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard in this category could have been better. The Bantry Road forms an attractive entrance to the town with its overhanging trees. However weed control was a problem to boundary walls and kerbs. The town nameplate sign was quite faded as were directional signs. The standard of the road was higher as one approached the town. The Castletownbere Road appeared quite overgrown with weed control also a problem both to the front boundary wall and behind. This road affords the visitor magnificent views to the waters edge and Garnish Island beyond. Road surfaces were in extremely bad condition and the adjudicator was pleased to

hear that the Local Authority had plans for same. Perhaps in their appraisal of the streetscapes they could consider the replacement of the old concrete benches as they appear quite dated in style and could be maintained to a higher standard.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Glengarrif is a very busy tourist centre set in some magnificent natural amenities. It was much improved in its appearance and standard of maintenance since the adjudicator last visited.