

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MINANE BRIDGE**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	24
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	21	21
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	18
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	163	159

Minane Bridge, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for forwarding Tracton Tidy Towns Three Year plan, together with map of the area. The aims outlined in this plan are realistic and if these are achieved, this would result in a considerable uplift for the village. Also you are correct in identifying work, which is the responsibility of the Local Authority and it would be important that you have the cooperation of this with your efforts.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are a variety of buildings in and around the village and the standard of these also varies. It would be important as a primary step, if the derelict building in the centre of the village close to the licensed premises be attended to; the latter, De Bhuitleir is quite well presented. The licensed premises of O Murchu Tabairne is also well maintained. The village shop and Post Office were also quite well maintained. The entire Dairygold trading premises in the village was in need of repainting. The village school, Scoil Cnoc na Manac – Scoil Naisiunta was very neatly presented and grass in the adjoining green area was also neatly trimmed. The Tracton GAA Club premises were excellently and colourfully presented and a credit to the local GAA Club. The church in the village was being refurbished at the time of adjudication.

LANDSCAPING

As outlined in your plan, some initial planting has been carried out near the river bank in the car park near the church. The mature trees in the immediate vicinity of this area and the church are a good asset for the community. Tree planting already carried out in this area will in time blend in well with the already mature trees in this area. The grass in the church grounds was well maintained. Some colourful hanging baskets are also used effectively in the village centre; also some flower tubs are also in place here.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The benefit of the river as a wildlife habitat was referred to in last year's report. At the time of adjudication this year a pair of swans together with five cygnets were happily swimming close to the river bank at the perimeter of the car park. Such attractive wildlife inhabitants should be an encouragement to the local community to bring about much greater improvement in the river adjoining the village area. That area of the river at the bridge junction across from the GAA field was extremely untidy and very much in need of attention. It is noted in your plan that you intend to erect an information board, giving information on the flora and fauna of the area.

LITTER CONTROL

The community will need to be on the look out for litter as it was visible in a few areas of the village and also on some approach roads to the village. There was some litter in the large enclosed area where some disused cars and machinery were in place. The problem of litter can be overcome if the entire community makes the effort. There was some litter along the road across from the GAA Field. It would also be advisable to involve the pupils of the local school in some aspect of your Tidy Towns plan.

TIDINESS

There is a need for a greater degree of tidiness throughout the village. In the car park where a considerable amount of work has been done, there would need to be a tidying up. For example disused pieces of wood etc. would need to be removed. That area of the village near the junction for Carrigaline was quite untidy. The Tennis Courts were also untidy with a lot of grass/weed growth etc. The areas around the Dairygold premises, the Post Office and the school were quite tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Generally residents in the village and its vicinity present their premises well. Where gardens are attached, these were cheerful and colourful. Also the hanging baskets, which were used in the village were quite colourful. The Spruce Grove residential area was again well presented this year; the entrance was neatly maintained and the planting/shrubbery at the entrance was well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

In general there is a lot of scope for improvement in this area. Firstly almost all poles for traffic signs in and around the village are rusted and in need of cleaning and repainting. Some weed growth in the car park would need to be attended to. The old water pump near the car park was well maintained and the positioning of a litter bin here is a good idea. There was very high grass and weed growth inside the bridge wall across from the car park. In this area also the Notice Board for Tracton GAA is becoming dilapidated and in need of attention. The work, which has been carried out in cleaning the walls, bridge etc. in the area of the village improves these areas considerably. The approach road from Roberts Cove and Kinsale were reasonably maintained but the road from Carrigaline and some minor approach roads need to be better maintained, grass verges etc., to be more carefully trimmed. The public lighting which has been put in place in the vicinity of the car park is a necessary development.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A considerable amount of work needs to be carried out in the village. However the community has outlined a plan and if local support for this is forthcoming combined with the cooperation of the public bodies, progress can be made. The Community Council has commenced a programme of work

and is entitled to support for its implementation.