

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RATHBARRY**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-08-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	47	46
The Built Environment	40	36	35
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	35	35
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	35
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	261	257

Rathbarry, Co.Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Rathbarry Tidy Towns Committee has, as ever, formulated an extremely thorough presentation. The map clearly indicates areas of interest in the village and these, due to good signposting, are quite simple to find "on the ground"!

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All public and commercial premises of the town were well maintained on adjudication day. The pub was fine, the Post Office well presented and the restoration of the Sprigging School a valuable asset as indeed are the many areas incorporated in your walk of historical interest in the area. Stone walling throughout the village was extremely well maintained. The church was well presented – perhaps you could consider painting the plaster extension to the original building. The tubs outside the entrance looked extremely cheerful.

LANDSCAPING

All landscaped areas looked as perfectly maintained as ever. Perhaps you could consider, as mentioned in previous adjudications, developing a more natural appearance to these areas. The main green space incorporating many agricultural artefacts including the winnowing machine looked well, as did the area at the crossroads incorporating directional signage within the sculptural wheat sheaf. The wild daisies and montbretia on the road to the Sprigging School were greatly admired. The map on the Clonakilty Road indicating areas of interest is a good idea for visitors to the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The information boards in the village give the visitor a clear idea of areas of local wildlife interest. The new woodland walk is a marvelous asset. The adjudicator was pleased to note your contact and discussions with Coillte in relation to the same. The riverside walk entrance area is well maintained and this is an area which has progressed well and will be a valuable contribution to Rathbarry for both resident and visitor alike.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good. However even one or two papers in a village the size and high standard of Rathbarry are all the more evident. A single can below the hedge opposite the green space with the agricultural machinery display looked unfortunate, as did a single paper on the Rosscarbery Road.

TIDINESS

Perhaps the yard area of the pub could be screened more successfully from public view from the road above. Rubbish

bags filled with broken bottles etc. created a bad impression to the area behind the stone wall at the entrance the woodland walk.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Houses throughout the village were as well maintained as ever, in particular the charming Gate Lodge. It was noted that a new house is under construction and it is to be hoped that it will maintain the character of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

These were as well maintained as ever. The Ardfield Road had immaculate verges and hedgerows. A single paper, as mentioned before, on the Roscarbery Road took from its overall presentation. The honeysuckle, ferns and wild rhododendrons and hedgerows were admired. This is an attractive entrance to the village with its overhanging mature trees - this is also a feature of the Clonakilty Road. The reference previously made in the report to trying to develop a more natural appearance to landscaped areas is also appropriate in this category.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Rathbarry looked as immaculate as ever and is always a pleasure to visit. The high level of enthusiasm maintained by the local community is positively palpable!

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/01)

The approach by the Church looked so much better having been resurfaced in recent times. Indeed, the entire village with neat road markings as well as the customary well presented buildings and landscaped open spaces had a very neat and tidy appearance. The mown verge with profuse flowering montbretia together with the Sprigging School creates a wonderful composition. In fact it is becoming increasingly difficult to find fault with the village. Congratulations to all concerned! We wish you well with your future endeavours!