

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bunclody**

Ref: **17**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **208**

Category: **C**

Date: **12/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	23	24
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	208	206

Overall Developmental Approach:

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, it is important, at this stage in the competition, to draw up a three to five year work programme, outlining your objectives for the town's future. This document need only be two or three pages outlining these plans, and setting a timeframe in which they can be achieved. You will find it most useful in terms of keeping a record of your progress and this would also be useful to adjudicators. A map of the town would also have been helpful on adjudication day. The adjudicator was pleased to note the high level of both financial and practical support from the local community. The committee has rather a large area to cover as, although the town centre is quite compact, the rest of the town extends over quite a large area.

The Built Environment:

Your work in relation to the cleaning of stonework in the town environs is to be commended. The modern Catholic church, in its prominent location, looked well, as did the Church of Ireland church at the opposite end of the town, set above its magnificent green space with purple rhododendrons in full bloom. There are still a number of horizontal and projecting plastic signs above shops. These should be removed and replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety. In terms of commercial premises, both Centra and Spar looked extremely fresh, the latter with an abundance of flags. The Chantry Restaurant looked most charming. The Garda Station was well maintained as was the Health Centre. Bunclody GAA, tucked away behind the terrace of houses on Church Road, looked well.

Landscaping:

The large park area on Market Square looked well. Most commercial premises had a abundance of window boxes. The Mall area, with its flowing water and adjacent lime trees, along the main street is a most attractive feature. There is scope for further landscaping to commercial premises, such as the filling station on the Enniscorthy Road.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, you should draw up a feasibility plan for the maintenance and enhancement of wildlife habitats in the area. The Slaney River is a quite magnificent natural facility to have so close to the town - as indeed is the mall area, previously mentioned, with its flowing water and trees.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day could have been better. The numerous litter bins were noted and admired. However a light scattering of litter was apparent along the streets of the town - particularly at the car parking area by the square. More litter was evident on the Enniscorthy Road.

Tidiness:

An overgrown wasteland area, with an abundance of litter, behind the public lavatories on the main square created a bad impression. Along the Enniscorthy Road, there are a number of premises with wire fencing which should be replaced with more natural barriers of, perhaps, indigenous hedging such as beech or hawthorn, or stone walling. Weed control was a problem at the kerbsides on the Dublin side of the town near the nameplate.

Residential Areas:

The adjudicator was pleased to note your work in relation to organised residence committees. The houses along the Enniscorthy Road looked fine. Meadowside B&B, in its prominent location on the bend, has a most attractive garden and contributes well to this category of the competition. A marvelous housing estate on the Dublin Road created a good impression with its magnificently maintained open space at its entrance. There were a number of attractive individual houses on this road too. The houses in the town centre were fine. New houses were noted, being built along the Borris Road. Hopefully these will be in keeping with the town's character.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The streets in the centre of the town were fine. Along the Enniscorthy Road, the verges had been neatly cut back on one side of the road, but appeared rather overgrown in comparison on the other. The town nameplate on this side of the town appeared rather grubby and should be washed down. The Dublin Road is an attractive approach being, as it is, tree lined and was maintained to a higher standard than the others, on the day.

General Impression:

Bunclody is a busy town with much to offer the visitor. The mall area with its trees along the main street is a wonderful feature to have in the centre of the town. The abundance of flags to welcome participants from the Special Olympics made an extremely cheerful impression.

