

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballineen-Enniskeane**

Ref: **140**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **203**

Category: **B**

Date: **07/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	199

Overall Developmental Approach:

Many thanks for your three year plan which made interesting reading. It was noted that you perceive problems with vandalism and dereliction. It is to be hoped that these issues will resolve themselves in the not too distant future. Be sure to contact the local Gardai and Cork County Council respectively, in regard to these matters. Perhaps for next year's competition you could put together a more detailed map as that submitted was rather basic for such a large twin town entry! Your comments in relation to your problems in relation to the large area you have to cover were noted. Is there any reason why Ballineen and Enniskeane don't or can't enter separately? The other option is to increase your committee in order to spread the work load.

The Built Environment:

In Enniskeane the post office should be painted up before next year's competition. The Centra looked quite fresh with attractive hanging baskets. The adjacent mural was admired but looked quite flaky and should be freshened up before next year's competition. O'Mahony's was quite fresh, as was O'Mahony's petrol station. The church on its grassy banks looked well and sported attractively maintained grounds with its stone boundary wall and graveyard. The mono-pitched modern school looked well but its pebble-dashed boundary wall will need painting before next year's competition, although the coping appeared to have been painted. Its attractive landscaping was admired. Shorten's garage and its associated outbuildings appeared somewhat neglected and could be painted up before next year's competition. In Ballineen, Liam O'Foghlú's should be painted up before next

year as should the Garda Station. Do discourage projecting plastic signs. The corner house is an attractive traditional front which should be restored to its former glory. Both Dessy's Bar and Nursery Fayre were quite fresh.

Landscaping:

Do ensure that you don't rely too much on the cosmetic approach of floral displays and hanging baskets. Perhaps you could strike a balance between the displays seen in each of the twin centres. It is important to consider permanent planting and trees for year round effect. The carts filled with geraniums at entry points to the twin villages were admired. The car parking area with its stone wall to the front incorporating recessed seating was admired as was the permanent planting on the Dunmanway side of the villages in Ballineen. Your work in relation to the planting of forty new trees during tree week is to be commended

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your initiative in relation to chemical free weed control is to be commended. Do consult your Tidy Town s Handbook for further ideas for developing this aspect of the competition. You could also involve local schoolchildren and wildlife experts in order to draw up projects on the wildlife habitats in their locality.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good.

Tidiness:

Perhaps some screening could be considered at the lumber yard. A tatty advertising hoarding in a prominent location to a building on the corner of the Clonakilty Road into Enniskeen created a bad impression. The derelict cottages in this location should be painted up before next year's competition. A broken stone wall in Ballineen should be repaired. There are indeed a number of derelict and dilapidated properties. It is to be hoped that these can be restored to their former glory in the not too distant future.

Residential Areas:

The very brightly painted new houses on the Clonakilty Road into Enniskeane were admired as were the charming colourful cottages on the main street in Enniskeane. Lilac Court Estate was admired and attractively maintained in this location and Derrigra Crescent was also admired. A derelict property with a site notice displayed was evident between the two villages and the gothic - style house in this location was greatly admired. More colourful houses were noted in Ballineen. A charming house with window reveals to its pointed arched windows painted in a contrasting colour to the main facade treatment, was admired and St. Mary's Villas looked most attractive.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The hedgerows on the Clonakilty Road into Enniskeane had been cut. Although the hanging baskets to the narrow bridge were admired the walls of the bridge would benefit from painting. The road surface on the Bandon Road was in bad condition and verges had not been cut. It was noted that pipe laying was in progress on the da, and this was taken into account when marking. The twin village nameplates with displays of geraniums were admired and new trees on the Bandon Road were coming along well. Grassy banks in Ballineen at the entry from Dunmanway appeared a little rough although the recessed stone beds with permanent planting and roses were admired.

General Impression:

Ballineen- Enniskeane is a very busy centre on the main Bandon to Dunmanway / Bantry Road with a lot of heavy traffic evident. It still has problems with dereliction and hopefully, as development appears to be taking place in the twin villages, this will be resolved in the not too distant future.