

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dunbeacon**

Ref: **336**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **153**

Category: **A**

Date: **03/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	24
The Built Environment	40	19	17
Landscaping	40	18	17
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	24	23
Tidiness	20	12	10
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	18
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	153	143

Overall Developmental Approach:

Dunbeacon Action Group continues to do good work with Cork County Council and Durrus and Goleen Community Council. Many thanks for your extremely helpful map which was most useful on adjudication day. Your three year plan made interesting reading. However, you should put together a timeframe for achieving your aims and set a date against each of these good intentions!

The Built Environment:

The Antique Shop and its garden looked extremely well, as did the Dunbeacon Pottery and its attractive grounds. The church looked very fresh apart from slight rust staining to the façade which had been caused by the bell chain. This should be attended to before next year's competition. The camping grounds and its entrance area looked well although its sign will need painting up before next year's competition.

Landscaping:

There is scope for further development of this aspect of the competition. Centres similar to Dunbeacon have successfully used a method whereby they create incidental landscaped spaces at strategic points in the village. Is the ruined castle accessible? Perhaps, as mentioned by last year's adjudicator, an information board could be erected at a strategic location in order to give the visitor

some idea of the history of the castle. The adjudicator was pleased to hear of the high level of financial support and voluntary labour you received for your work at the graveyard area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Plans for a survey of the wild flowers and animals of the area is to be commended. Do consult the Tidy Towns Handbook for clues for developing this aspect of the competition further. This will give you ideas in relation to habitat surveys, developing a management plan, creating wildlife areas and the different types of wildlife areas that can be formed. There must be many local wildlife experts who could be useful to your work!

Litter Control:

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

Tidiness:

Dunbeacon gives a very neat and ordered appearance. Do ensure that you look at rear areas, gable walls, boundary walls and outbuildings when considering this aspect of the competition.

Residential Areas:

Houses throughout the roads of Dunbeacon were generally well presented. Some have extended their attentions to the roadsides to the front of their gardens, creating attractive spaces at the roadsides, which is highly commendable.

The magnificent garden to a modern single storey stone house with bay window and curved stone entrance wall was greatly admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roadsides around Dunbeacon were generally attractive, with magnificent displays of wild flowers such as ferns, fuchsia, foxgloves and blackberry blossom. The main road affords the visitor a magnificent view to the mussel beds in the water beyond.

General Impression:

Dunbeacon is an attractive centre and has succeeded in doing even better this year. Well done to all concerned!