

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Garristown**

Ref: **712**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **193**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	193	187

Overall Developmental Approach:

Garristown are once again thanked for their application form along with all other material supplied for this year's Tidy Towns competition. The tidy towns committee is quite a strong committee for the area; all 15 members should be congratulated on their approach and work. The Garristown Tidy Towns Committee 3 year development plan included outlined future / proposed developments for the area is a real credit. Next year's application should give a more detailed explanation of proposed projects with schools, residents and local businesses. Keep up the good work! There was also good markings on the map which was very useful on the day of adjudication. It is wonderful to see the work of your committee and the support and enthusiasm you have for the enhancement and improvement of your village.

The Built Environment:

Garristown is an attractive rural village. The committee's ongoing efforts to encourage local businesses to improve the facades of their premises is obviously been taken seriously. Continue to work with community groups and the county council to ensure that the development of the village is in line with the three year plan. There is a well maintained graveyard on the approach from the N2. Gough's Store looked well with some nice planters, hanging baskets and flower beds giving it a splash of colour. Kish hair design, D&A Betting, Garristown School, Seamus McGraths, HTE Garristown Inn, Gormleys and the Garda Station all looked particularly well with hanging baskets and well maintained facades. Keep up the good work. The adjudicator also noted the new cobbled

area on the N2 approach which will be really lovely when landscaped. There are two main derelict sites in and around the main street which when developed will add to the rural ambience. The Church looked well. There is some maintenance need on the railings of the library.

Landscaping:

Garristown boasts a impressive green area that runs along the Main Street. This was in very good condition on the day of adjudication. There was also a wonderful floral display of planters, hanging baskets and flower beds which really complimented the village. There was some litter at the entrance to the soccer pitch which would benefit from some tree planting. The committee could involve local school children with this. It is also important to plant native tree species. The new GAA pitch will be a welcome addition to the area and should follow the good example of local landscaping. Clever use of shrubs and hedging could also assist in upgrading the presentation of the more industrial properties, such as Glan Bia. The Farm yard at the 30 mile zone on the N2 approach your efforts are noted.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The continued planting of new trees in the village is to be commended however this is not the only area in Garristown that could be developed for Wild life. It is important to include an explanation of wildlife projects as part of your plan so that the local community can appreciate and identify the local wildlife. One way to do this is to erect nature boards in prominent places in the village. The committee could also involve the local schools in nature and heritage trails in the area. The graveyard would be great for wildlife conservation and could be managed and planted with native plants to encourage habitation. The Heritage Council produce a good source booklet for conserving and enhancing wildlife in towns and villages, a guide for local community groups.

Litter Control:

In the village, litter control on the day of adjudication was very good with only incidental pieces to be seen around the bins on the main street. The Bring Centre across from the village butchers Seamus McGrath was neat and tidy on the day of adjudication. Your tidy towns committee and the local community is to be congratulated for its efforts in this area. The National Spring Clean which takes place in April is a good way to involve all sectors of the community to contribute to the upkeep of the area.

Tidiness:

Garristown was overall well presented on the day. The involvement of community groups, cubs and scouts in the general up keep of the area will encourage a sense of pride in the locality. Garristown is well sign posted from the 30mile zone with clear bilingual signs this adds to the whole cohesiveness of the area. The Welcome Stone outside Ballygarra park looked well as did the Millennium stone beside the bring centre.

Residential Areas:

Ballygarra Terrace looked well however hedging is covering the area sign. There is a new stone house beside the Emo station which is appropriate to its location. Ballygarra Park and Close are nicely maintained residential area's. Community should be commended for the upkeep of front gardens and kerb maintenance of their estate.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Garristown approach from the N2 is a nicely kept country road. There was no obvious litter on any of the approach roads. The Duleek road was tidy with some nice residential front gardens. The Naul road has some well preserved stone walls. The newly resurfaced footpath looked well. The

back area of the Garristown Inn is well kept and the proprietor should be congratulated on their good work.

General Impression:

Garristown is a very nice village and it is important that you concentrate your efforts and plans in future in order to retain its rural uniqueness. Black spots have been identified and the committee have outlined steps to deal with these issues. Your committee have worked very hard and have had some wonderful ideas put into action over the last year - congratulations.