

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballycullane**

Ref: **394**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **239**

Category: **A**

Date: **27/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	37	36
Tidiness	20	18	17
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>235</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for all the information sent with the entry form which was most useful on adjudication day. Your Tidy Village Plan also makes interesting reading. However for next year – and indeed for other years – you might try to identify projects to be undertaken in that particular year. Future progress in the Tidy Towns Competition will call for careful planning and attention to detail and it has been found in other centres that projects should be identified and work allocated on a year to year basis within physical and financial resources. In that event, please send the adjudicator a copy of the plan together with a map identifying where specific projects have been carried out for 2005 which will make it easy for the said adjudicator to have sight of them. You received an in-depth report from the adjudicator last year. The following therefore is by way of comment on perceived further progress this year and should be read in tandem with last year's report.

### The Built Environment:

Many of the comments made in last years report under this heading are still applicable. Nevertheless your main buildings – Church, School, Post Office, Parish Hall, Garda Station all looked well. The Church in particular is outstanding and the new cemetery and its surrounding stone walls is a lovely achievement. Commercial premises, in general, look well and reflect great credit on their owners. The bridge and its continuation fencing looks extremely well as did the simple pump display at the cemetery.

## **Landscaping:**

This is obviously a very strong point in your Tidy Town effort and this year is no exception. Open spaces at housing estates are being very well looked after and existing planting is being exceptionally well maintained. The new hedging at the graveyard has been noted. For the future try to identify further areas for the planting of trees and shrubs. Trees are planted for the future and posterity will thank you for them.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your comments under this heading are noted. However, in this respect you might refer to the comments by the adjudicator last year regarding the involvement of your school children with also, if you have not already done so, the possible provision of nesting boxes and feeding tables for birds which would be a nice addition to your landscaped areas.

## **Litter Control:**

The village was practically litter free on adjudication day and this reflects great credit on your residents and the school children and all are to be congratulated on it.

## **Tidiness:**

The village was again presented in a very neat and tidy manner which reflects greatly the interest of your residents and the owners of commercial premises in the preservation of their environment. Well done to all concerned.

## **Residential Areas:**

Houses, new and old are being very well maintained. The new housing estate at Somers Way is coming along nicely and should be completed by next year. Many houses had gardens in full bloom which created a lovely atmosphere in the village and reflect greatly on their owners. If you have not already done so, and with the advent of new housing estates, do try to form Residents Associations and incorporate a member on to your committee.

## **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

In general, road surfaces are quite good and approach roads are being well maintained with verges being well presented. The appearance of approach roads is very important as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village.

## **General Impression:**

Ballycullane is a lovely village and reflects greatly the interest which its residents and commercial operators alike have in the preservation of their environment. Your committee is doing excellent work. Continue to plan for the future, but at the same time it is vital that you maintain what already exists and try to obtain even higher standards than you have already.

## **Second Round Adjudication:**

The village was bright, clean and freshly painted on the second adjudication day. New housing estates now have an opportunity to contribute significantly to the spirit of Tidy Towns. The bridge is worthy of improved presentation and the concrete post and wire railing should be removed and replaced with a suitable hedge or perhaps a stone wall in keeping with the bridge. You have a litter/abuse problem at the former waiting room in the railway station which is quite unsightly. The

station area itself is an important link with the traditions of the village and should be respected. We liked the two principle stained glass windows in the church and the local surrounding names on loose stones is novel and interesting. The school and village walls were being painted on adjudication day and we compliment the workers. Just one small point; we found it difficult to find the village listed on any of the available maps; you need to correct this omission. Well done on a fine performance.