

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ardclough**

Ref: **581**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **185**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	185	183

Overall Developmental Approach:

Many thanks for your application and map which makes judging a lot easier. Your submission should have included a schedule of work completed this year and a brief three to five year Development Plan. The plan will help you identify what can be done to improve the village over the next few years and the resources you will require. In addition, the works completed schedule will allow you to monitor your achievements on a regular basis. It is good to see that the Ardclough Tidy Towns committee is strong in numbers and works in cooperation with local community groups, the local authority and other agencies.

The Built Environment:

This attractive village is located close to the banks of the Grand Canal. The church overlooking the Village Triangle is nicely landscaped with trees, shrubs and flowers. However, as previously mentioned it could benefit from repainting.

Landscaping:

The village is splendidly landscaped with well trimmed verges, hedges and trees. The stone walls are nicely maintained. The school looked attractive with nice arrangement of flower boxes and the newly planted shrubs in the Triangle are to be commended.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The adjudicator looks forward to the development of the Wildlife Sanctuary and Amenity area. As previously pointed out, the environment around the village is ideal for such a project.

Litter Control:

Litter control in the village was generally good with only scatterings of litter noted outside the GAA Clubhouse. The planned local school programme on litter awareness will prove very beneficial to the community.

Tidiness:

The village was generally tidy, clean and attractive. However weed maintenance could be improved. The area beside the canal was nicely managed and this is reflected in an increase in marks.

Residential Areas:

The residential areas were bright and well maintained with attractive well presented gardens. Wheatfield Upper Estate looked particularly well with nicely managed open spaces, public seating, shrubs and stone walling.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The village road and approach roads were generally attractive, with well maintained hedges, stone walls and trimmed verges. However, on the day of adjudication, the verges on the Kill approach road were quite high and perhaps could benefit from marginal mowing. The road surface on the bridge over the canal was quite poor.

General Impression:

This attractive village was a pleasure to visit due to the hard work of the association and the local community.