

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ardattin**

Ref: **483**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **260**

Category: **A**

Date: **11/08/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	37	37
Landscaping	40	36	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	37	37
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	27	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	35	34
General Impression	10	9	8
TOTAL MARK	300	260	256

Overall Developmental Approach:

Ardattin Tidy Village Group certainly has sufficient members given the size of the village - six on the committee seems quite big. Do be sure to include a work programme with next year's submission. None was submitted this year, last year or the year before. This document need only be a couple of pages long, outlining your objectives for the village's future and setting a timeframe against the implementation of these improvements. It will prove to be a valuable document as years go by, in that both yourselves and the adjudicators can monitor your progress. Many thanks for the neat and concise map which was very useful on the day.

The Built Environment:

Both public and commercial premises in the village were presented to a reasonable standard on the day. However, some staining was evident to the hall. The rendered church was mentioned in last year's second adjudication. Perhaps consult with a local expert in the field to establish the most appropriate means of improving the situation i.e. whether painting it would be appropriate from a conservation point of view. The historical information board opposite the school made very interesting reading. The National School itself and boundary wall appeared to have been freshly painted but the wildlife board had yet to be erected. Hopefully this will be in place for second adjudication. Coach House Crafts was very simply presented and looked quite charming.

Landscaping:

The refurbished picnic areas at the ball alley was simply presented and the adjacent planting alongside was admired. Indeed, the stone beds throughout were greatly admired particularly that with lupins and the attractive permanent and seasonal planting, such as the french lavender at the t-junction. Do ensure that your proposed green area development is designed and maintained to the same high standards.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Pupils' Garden in the National School was greatly admired and bird tables were evident. However, the information board had yet to be erected as previously mentioned. Perhaps a wildflower area could also be considered in this location. The wildlife area at Beechwood is looked forward to eager anticipation.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was good - merely a single paper on the roadway and an abandoned coke bottle at the picnic area were evident. However, even one or two items are all the more prominent, given the size and nature of a village such as Ardattin, with its extremely high standards. The attractive rustic timber litter bins were admired.

Tidiness:

The standard in this category of the competition was also good although graffiti was evident within the ball alley itself. The green roof of the shed beside the phone box should be painted up in its traditional colour before next year's competition.

Residential Areas:

A high standard has been achieved in the existing stock of housing throughout the village. Beechwood, in particular, is attractively maintained with its simple presentation of the Bullaun Stone. It is to be hoped that the new houses will be presented and finished to the same high standards, from both a materials and landscaping point of view.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Generally, approach roads on the day were extremely well maintained - to as high a standard as ever. In terms of street furniture, the post box, in its recessed location on the stone wall,, should be painted up as should the top of the pump opposite the school. The attractive welcome sign on the Tullow Road was greatly admired.

General Impression:

Ardattin is an attractive and charming village which continues to perform well in the competition. Keep up the good work.

Second Round Adjudication:

Ardattin certainly looks better year by year. Your effort is commendably extended well out the approach roads with well trimmed verges and hedges and stone walls to be seen. Some field gates would benefit from painting – perhaps they might all be painted the same colour. Great planting is evident throughout to such an extent that much of the village resembles a garden. The buildings were by and large neatly presented – XL Stop and Shop, the school, the church, etc. The toilet was reasonably clean. The open field opposite the church with a view to distant hills makes a beautiful

picture. We look forward to returning next year.