

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Banteer**

Ref: **612**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **221**

Category: **B**

Date: **22/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	41
The Built Environment	40	33	31
Landscaping	40	29	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	21
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	221	213

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission and details of work on hand. Your map needs improvement and is quite cluttered with details. We are unsure if you are working to a development plan and if so we would like to learn about it. Such a plan provides great discipline for committees and gives the community an opportunity to have their say. It is obvious from past developments that you have an active committee and your ability to maintain these developments is commendable.

The Built Environment:

Your village is well laid out and your close association with IRD Duhallow is proving beneficial. The church continues to dominate and its environs provide a pleasant feature in the village. The Community Centre is one of the best in the area and its environs reflect great care and maintenance, together with the adjacent school. The new garage has potential to finish to a high standard and the replacement of the current boundary fence should reflect the traditional features of the village. A visit to the Glen Theatre was rewarding and we commend you on your great commitment to drama. You have worked hard on this development and we hope the results will be rewarding. We would have welcomed timber sash windows which would be very much in keeping with the era of this old school. When finance permits you should landscape the car park, to include appropriate surface and tree planting, and perhaps a landscaped water feature in the centre. This would further enhance the appearance and concept of Glen Theatre. Also, you should add the mileage distance to the finger post sign in the village, as it took two attempts from a first time

visitor to locate you.

Landscaping:

This is your strong point and the plethora of flowering shrubs, flower displays, window boxes and hanging baskets combine to give a great degree of colour throughout the village. The efforts of previous years continues to benefit your markings. The new landscaping opposite the school, at the Railway Station and at other areas is praiseworthy. The railway area is vast and will need further clean-ups but we commend you on your efforts to date. Could you paint the gate on the left side for next year: it is quite unsightly on this prominent location. Your hidden treasure at the Pondfield is unique. This is one of the most attractive encountered by this adjudicator and is indicative of a caring community, offering a wonderful amenity for locals and visitors alike. Be careful not to overdo the signs of restriction. What is the problem in walking your dog if kept on a leash?

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We were not surprised to be reminded of your 2001 Wildlife Award as this is a wonderful development. The fountain added animation to the lake, so well done. More than most centres you have great opportunity to promote wildlife. Have you considered erecting display boards illustrating the local flora and fauna, or did I miss it?.

Litter Control:

Your have raised your marks in this section as the village appeared litter free on adjudication day. This is most commendable and obviously the community is cooperating with you in your efforts.

Tidiness:

Your problems here related to some unattended open spaces and some untidy back yards. The small overgrown space beside the garage is now a black spot and needs to be tackled. New housing developments are often untidy until complete. You should encourage developers to finish well and landscaped sites before leaving.

Residential Areas:

There is evidence of some excellent individual effort in all housing estates and we compliment residents for their interest. The estate at Eagle View is attractive, with a few exceptions. We suggest you erect an appropriate bilingual identity sign here. Glenwood Housing Estate is excellent. We very much welcome the new infill housing development on the Railway approach, and we particularly welcome the absence of pvc windows and doors. New houses should reflect the traditional ethos of the village in their design and presentation.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The village sign on the Kanturk approach needs cleaning. The Macroom approach is very good with some nice stone wall, tree planting an grass area. You might consider an illustrated fáilte sign here located before the bridge. The road structure here is very good.

General Impression:

It was a great pleasure to visit Banteer on a fine June day and witness the excellent work on hand, and the great efforts of former years. You have raised your marks again this year and your are now entering a higher level, where marks will be harder to attain. You now need to tackle the problem areas and give greater attention to detail. We wish you well in your endeavours.

Second Round Adjudication: