

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glanworth**

Ref: **6**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **180**

Category: **B**

Date: **28/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	23
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	12
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	180	172

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission and details of work on hand and work intended. The village is quite widespread and offers great challenges in coping with the various dispersed areas needing attention. We would have welcomed reading the Ryan plan drawn up for improvement. This plan should be adhered to and updated each year as developments come on stream. Each year you should decide a work programme, achievable and feasible. Commencing with the village square is advisable and will represent a good start. You have many traditional features worthy of improved presentation and you should also highlight the mill, castle and abbey by improved interpretation.

The Built Environment:

Your great plethora of building of various periods offer great challenges for improvement. Traversing the stone steps to the summit of the castle proved worthwhile and gives a great view of the area. It also offers a great insight into medieval architecture. You should request the OPW to erect an information plaque: it is disappointing not to find any information available about the history of the castle. This also applies to the attractive mill house and water wheel in such a beautiful setting. Such mills are unique and give an insight into 19th century industrial archaeology. McDonnells complex, commanding such a prominent part the village centre is disappointing and needs improved presentation. The area here is quite untidy and signage is inappropriate. The Community/Old Church is now an black spot and needs attention.

Landscaping:

Tree planting in the village is excellent and illustrates the advantage of sustainable development. Many individuals have gone to great trouble to present their gardens to a high standard and the colourful display of tubs, window boxes, hanging baskets and flower beds throughout combine to give great brightness. Some cars are parking on green areas and this is unacceptable. The cemetery was well presented but you should cut the grass on the undeveloped area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You have wonderful opportunity to raise your marks in this section. The river is a superb asset and offers potential for the promotion of wildlife. You should embark on a project of display boards and do a survey of the wildlife species in the area. You might consider getting the school to do a project on local wildlife and publish some of the findings. The river has a host of interesting wildlife.

Litter Control:

Again this year litter control was good and the village streets were litter free. The Bring Bank containers are poorly located although a new base seems to be prepared for their removal. These facilities are quite common and proving very beneficial to recycling. However, they need to be well disciplined and suitably located.

Tidiness:

You have problems with poorly presented open spaces causing untidiness. Some scrap metal is being stored in an open space and is very unsightly. Although the grass around the green was being cut, the signage here was in need of cleaning. Your efforts in Tidy Towns should be sustainable and good maintenance is necessary for raising your marks.

Residential Areas:

Housing estates were well presented and some individuals have excellent gardens. New houses have potential to raise your standards and developers should be encouraged to finish well and landscape before leaving the site. Housing estates should also respect the traditional features of the village and use materials and design appropriate to the rural surrounds of Glanworth. The new housing scheme beside the Cemetery should be finished to a high standard and project a good image for the village from this approach.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

You have many streets, back and side areas to cater for and these need good care and maintenance. The narrow multi-arched bridge is unique and deserves a plaque giving the history of this important area. In general, approach roads are good, and many have attractive tree planting. As mentioned above you need to highlight the heritage and history of the area and make the village more interesting for visitors. You have much to be proud of and your challenge is to blend the old with the new. You might also consider erecting some Fáilte signs at the principal approach roads.

General Impression:

It was a great pleasure to visit Glanworth for the first time. The village is full of surprises and provides an impressive link with various historic eras. We suggest you continue with your plan and pursue its aims in a methodical way. Your challenge is to bring the community with you and develop close association with various relevant agencies as you progress. Good luck for the future.

