

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballycotton**

Ref: **174**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **212**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	212	208

Overall Developmental Approach:

The difficulty which you are experiencing with ongoing building and development work is noted. However the community maintains quite a good level of tidiness overall, particularly in that area of the centre of the village. It has been suggested previously that a plan of action for future development be drawn up. This would be a good idea as problems could then be tackled on a priority according as the committee would decide. Over the years a very considerable amount of work has been done for Tidy Towns by the Ballycotton Development Co. Ltd. It is noted that you work in cooperation with the Local Authority and so if the local community were to draw up a three year Tidy Towns plan and pursue that with the Local Authority more tangible results may be obtained.

The Built Environment:

There is generally a good standard in buildings throughout the village. The small but important building of the Marine Coast Cliff Service is very well maintained. Ballycotton is renowned for its heroic Lifeboat services and it is good to see that the premises of the Ballycotton Lifeboat are excellently presented; the use of natural stone on the building looks particularly well. The Ballycotton Pitch and Putt Club premises are also nicely presented. The Catholic church is a fine building, prominently located in the village and excellently maintained. The lovely old Church of Ireland building seems to be under some renovation. Business premises throughout the village were generally well presented. The school building and the entrance to it are very well maintained. It

would be desirable if owners of premises in and around the village which are need of repainting would cooperate with those working for a tidier town.

Landscaping:

The landscaping work in the area of the Tennis Courts and the nearby car park continues to be well maintained. The planting in the area of the grotto looks impressive and is well maintained. Also the planting at the rear of the Catholic church is well attended to. Throughout the village there are many examples of very colourful flowerbeds and these add a lot of colour. In addition there are many instances where very colourful window boxes and hanging baskets provide much colour. Tree planting carried out earlier in the vicinity of the car park for the Cliff Walk looks well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Display Boards which provide information on the "Birds of Ballycotton" are very informative and provide considerable information on the area's wildlife. The Cliff Walk is a spectacular amenity in the vicinity. The nearby area of the car park could be tidied up. The area generally provides extensive suitable habitat for many species of wildlife and the the area is very fortunate in this regard.

Litter Control:

The centre of the village was very clean and free of litter. The area in the vicinity of the school was also free of litter. The area in the vicinity of the Lifeboat premises was free of litter too. Unfortunately there was some litter in the vicinity of the pier; perhaps there should be additional litter containers in this area. There was also some litter in the car park near the commencement of the Cliff Walk. There should be a container here for litter.

Tidiness:

Many areas of the village were quite tidy - the centre of the village was very tidy. Also the area along the street where there is a number of business premises, this area was quite tidy too. The area in the vicinity of the Garda Station and the nearby telephone kiosk was also tidy. The immediate area of the Bring Bank was quite tidy. The area in the vicinity of the Ballyardeen junction was very clean and tidy. The entrance to the Bayview Hotel was very tidy as was the nearby car park.

Residential Areas:

The standard of residential areas in the vicinity of the village is generally very good. The residential area of Seaview Park is well maintained. Houses and gardens at Island View Place are also nicely presented. Also the houses and gardens at Beach View Heights were well presented. In and around the village there are several examples of excellently maintained and presented houses and gardens and all these combine to enhance considerably the overall visual aspect of the village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach road from Midleton was good. The area at the Ballyandreen junction was particularly good with very colourful flower beds in place. The road to the pier was quite tidy. The large wooden seat positioned neat the beautifully white-washed wall in the centre of the village was in need of repainting. Many of the seats in the car park near the Cliff Walk are in a very poor neglected state. Some are in need of repainting and others are so dilapidated that they should be removed altogether. Old type water pumps in the village here have been wisely retained but some are in need of repainting. The whitewashed wall at the junction of the Garda Station looked well.

General Impression:

This village has had a long tradition in Tidy Towns activity. A very good foundation is therefore in place on which to build further progress. If the community works on a plan of action and works with the Local Authority and other relevant bodies, considerable progress can be made. The village has a magnificent location overlooking the sea and this from an environmental viewpoint is a big advantage. It is hoped that this centre will make further progress in the future. Though a committee of fifteen is considerable for a relatively small community, the committee does need the support of the greater community. If the committee gets strong support from your community, it will have the direct effect of strengthening any approach to the Local Authority.

Second Round Adjudication: