

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ladysbridge**

Ref: **736**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **214**

Category: **B**

Date: **14/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	31
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	33	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	15	18
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	214	218

Overall Developmental Approach:

We were disappointed with the brevity of the application and the absence of any village sketch map or details of any plan you are working to. The absence of information on your activities leaves the adjudicator at a disadvantage and is a missed opportunity for yourselves. Perhaps next year you might let us know all about your efforts in the competition.

The Built Environment:

You have worked hard on maintaining so many stone walls and the praise of last year is well deserved again. The thatched house is unique and well presented: well done on the sash windows. The church is really bright and the traditional features within are so appropriate and well maintained. Its location with two entrances is a major part of the village. We were surprised at the absence of a national school and the old school is now deteriorating: the rear of the school is now a black spot and needs attention. Some business premises have been freshly painted and this is commendable. The parish hall is good but the boundary walls need improvement.

Landscaping:

This is one of your strong points and the work of previous years continues to pay dividend. The roses on the side entrance to the church are eye catching. Well done to all who embark on

landscaping and many individuals have gone to great trouble to make their gardens bright and attractive. The monument would benefit from a clean-up and the inscription should be painted. We also acknowledge the new shrubbery at the bridge. You have done well down through the years and this will serve you favourably in the coming years. We would discourage residents from dumping grass cuttings in the road side ditches.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You have potential here to raise your marks in this section and we await news of your plans for the development of a riverbank walk. Such a development would create opportunity for promoting wildlife and you should pursue this.

Litter Control:

We were saddened to find litter in the stream by the picnic tables and also in the car park in front of the cemetery entrance. The picnic table by the river needs replacing: alternatively if it is not being used it should be removed. Litter bins seemed adequate in the village. The Bring Bank centre is well located but the waste skip was overflowing: that said we did meet the waste collection truck coming into the village as we left!!

Tidiness:

Long term you should lobby for having the overhead wires placed underground: this would have a beneficial effect on the appearance of the village. You have untidy spots behind some premises: e.g., the old school, the back of Motherways.

Residential Areas:

Housing in general is very good and some excellent individual effort at Rathcallan Wood. The two small houses with corrugated roofs opposite the car park would be much improved if brightly painted, to include the chimneys: they are quite unique. This is a good scoring category for you and we commend the various residents for their efforts.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Signage is poor in places and some of the finger signs in the village need cleaning. If the Council won't clean them you should do so yourselves. You should also consider two Fáilte signs as these would give greater identity to the village boundaries. However, don't discard the old cast aluminium signs that are now so rare. You should also arrange the erection of a sign at the bridge in Castlemartyr.

General Impression:

It was an enjoyable first time visit to Ladysbridge/ Droichead na Scuab: an appropriate name for a Tidy Towns competitor. You have potential to be a high scorer in the competition but we urge you to formulate a phased plan that will have the support and commitment of the community. Good luck in your endeavours.

Second Round Adjudication: