

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Minane Bridge**

Ref: **514**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **182**

Category: **A**

Date: **17/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	182	177

Overall Developmental Approach:

The community's plan for this year which was submitted with the entry form is noted. It is encouraging to see a number of improvement works being carried out in the village. It is advised that the community undertakes work on a priority basis rather than try to take on a number of projects together. If the targets set out in the plan for 2005 are reached, this will give encouragement for future work. The important thing is that the community is moving in the right direction.

The Built Environment:

The main buildings in the village are quite well presented. The school premises and surrounding walls are well maintained. The Sports Hall in the GAA field is also very well maintained. The shop and the other business premises in the village are also quite well maintained. The Catholic church is a lovely building and is excellently presented with adjoining grounds well attended to. The problem of the derelict building in the village is noted; also the derelict building on the Cul de Sac road between the shop and the nearby premises. The Dairygold building complex looks quite dilapidated and the committee should make the necessary approach to that company with a view to having the situation rectified as in its present state it is detracting considerably from that area of the village.

Landscaping:

The flower-bed planted at the new sign at the Kinsale end of the village looks well. The colourful flower tubs which are in place in the village centre improves this area. Several very colourful flower boxes which have been put in position on the bridge enhance this area considerably. The tree planting in the car park looks very well. Also the planting in the Millennium Walk area improves this area. The flowers which have been positioned along the boundary wall of the church are tasteful and colourful. Planting work has also been commenced at the junction of the Carrigaline road beyond the Sports field.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The village is situated in a fine rural setting and there are therefore several natural wildlife habitats in the vicinity. It would of course be an asset if there was to be a designated wildlife area, such as a specified wetland area. The river is a valuable natural asset for the community and this too provides suitable habitat for some species of wildlife. The Millennium Walk area is one that has good potential as a wildlife habitat since it is a quiet tranquil area.

Litter Control:

From your submission it is noted that the committee is involving school children in litter projects. This is an excellent idea as it helps to create at an early age an awareness of the litter problem. At the time of adjudication the litter situation throughout the village was quite good. In particular it was noted that the area in the vicinity of the Bring Bank in the car park was exceptionally clean and tidy and do keep up this effort.

Tidiness:

Many areas of the village were quite tidy especially the car park, the church area and in the general vicinity of the school. The open space between the village store and behind the wire fence was quite untidy. In general areas in the vicinity of business premises were tidy. The immediate area of the telephone kiosk was also tidy. The bridge area was very clean and tidy.

Residential Areas:

The presentation of residential areas in and around the village was generally good. The houses and gardens at Spruce Grove are obviously well attended to by the owners and the entrance to this residential area is very neatly maintained. The new residential area at Laharran Road also looked well. The use of natural stone at the entrance here is particularly impressive. Individual houses and gardens in the vicinity of the village are also well maintained. The new housing development project which is in progress off the village centre area is noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The new "Welcome to Minane Bridge" sign set in stone on the Kinsale approach road to the village is impressive and already enhances this area. The Kinsale approach road was reasonably good and in further reference to this approach a finger-post sign for Minane Bridge at Ballyfeard would not go amiss. Road works were in progress at the junction for Carrigaline. In accordance with your plan new footpaths were noted in the vicinity of the Sports Field, in the school area and on the Roberts Cove road. The latter approach road to the village was quite tidy. A section of the old stone wall across for the car park was broken and in need of repair. The two old style water pumps in the village, one near the church and the other in the village centre are being nicely maintained. The picnic furniture and seating in the car park and in the Millennium Walk are being well maintained.

General Impression:

It is encouraging to note the progress which is being made in this very pleasantly located rural

village. The larger community should give every support possible the efforts being made by the Tidy Towns Committee as continual progress cannot be made without such help and cooperation. Nevertheless the community is moving in the right direction and the progress made so far is an indication of what can be achieved in the future. So do keep up the good work which has been started.

Second Round Adjudication: