

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dunbeacon**

Ref: **578**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **170**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	25
The Built Environment	40	21	19
Landscaping	40	20	18
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	12
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	20	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	19
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	170	153

Overall Developmental Approach:

Dunbeacon is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included a summary of your three year plan. All of your objectives are realistic and will enhance the visual and recreational amenity status of Dunbeacon when implemented, we wish you well in implementation. It is good to note that you liaise with the County Council and have quite a lot of support from the community. We suggest that the nameplate be relocated to incorporate the Antique Shop and Dunbeacon Pottery into the village area as these are most attractive developments.

The Built Environment:

The church and its boundary walls have been meticulously painted and a new shrubbery has been noted to the boundary wall. Well done on the installation of the light and kerbing at the base of the church wall. We wish you well in establishing ownership of the old school and the old creamery stand so that these can be developed for use by the community. The presentation of both the Antique Shop and Dunbeacon Pottery is excellent, however as noted above as these are located approximately two kilometres from the village if they are to be considered part of Dunbeacon the nameplates should be moved out to incorporate them.

Landscaping:

The shrubbery at the boundary wall has already been noted. Young trees on a grass verge located before the Antique Shop are establishing themselves well and it will be a fine feature as they mature. In further landscaping try to choose native species rather than exotics as these are supportive of wildlife and will increase the diversity of wildlife habitats; choose plants with a high salt and wind tolerance. The path to the seashore had been recently cleared of excess vegetation which increased accessibility here, well done.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The woodland area opposite the church might be surveyed for wildlife present, perhaps a nature trail could be developed if appropriate. Wild flowers in the hedgerow which included dogrose, fuschia, ferns etc., are an attractive element of approach roads. Consult your Tidy Towns Handbook for ideas on how to get started and a list of useful contacts. Your local wildlife officer can be of assistance also.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent on the day of adjudication. We note from your submission that you organise a rota of people for litter picking. Do you engage in any other daily or weekly litter control activities? If so submit details with next years application. We are also interested to know of your overall litter management strategy. These types of details could earn additional marks under this heading.

Tidiness:

The village was extremely tidy on the day of adjudication in most respects. Is there a need for a recycling point? Is there a sufficiently large population for such a facility? if so then this might be considered. Does the community engage in the national spring clean week? These are the type of details that advance you to further levels in the Competition.

Residential Areas:

The two storey house which is beautifully painted in yellow and which features an excellent curtilage area and well paved roadside area to its boundary was admired by the adjudicator. A second dwelling (Samui) together with two others nearby were admired for the presentation of their boundary walls and gardens. The attractive two storey double fronted house at the church could have its entrance improved. Well done on gaining the cooperation of householders for maintaining the immediate environs of their own properties.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roadside verges were beautifully trimmed and nameplates and finger post signs were clear, legible and presented to a high standard, road surfaces were good also. Verges along the side road to the burial grounds were being neatly maintained. It was good to note that hedges on the main road and on the road to the sea had been recently trimmed. The water pump and its surrounding walls had been repainted. Well done on an excellent performance under this heading.

General Impression:

Dunbeacon is a tiny village where a standard of excellence has been achieved for its small elements. We look forward to further visits and to charting your progress in the competition.

Second Round Adjudication:

