

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Culdaff**

Ref: **521**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **192**

Category: **B**

Date: **29/06/2005**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2005 | Mark Awarded 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 21 | 20 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 30 | 29 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 26 | 26 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 17 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 31 | 30 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 20 | 19 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 25 | 24 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 192 | 187 |

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your completed application form and map although a more detailed town map would be much appreciated. Your three year plan must be commended, however, it is equally important when setting goals to outline how and by whom these should be achieved. The proposals as outlined will require a sustained effort on the part of all to ensure completion.

You now have a clear focus as to what direction you should take and a coordinated campaign should improve significantly your future status in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

The Built Environment:

In your work programme for next year give a priority rating to promoting an enhancements programme for the streetscape.

However, the village green looked well on adjudication day - the renovation which has taken place at the hall is finished to high standard with a nice color scheme in place. The derelict building beside the hall would require some attention . The Church of Ireland is nicely maintained as is the small white washed cottage opposite the green which had a nice floral display.

Ardmore Graveyard is a lovely secluded area which has been nicely maintained. There is still considerable building work in progress on the outskirts of the village, when completed should

enhance the overall appeal of the village.

Landscaping:

Colorful hanging baskets , window boxes and flower tubes are needed to impact extensively on the streetscape. The village pump is nicely maintained but care should be taken to ensure the white paint remains clean and vibrant.

The committee are to be commended on the floral displays outside the whitewashed cottage opposite the green and the area beside the grotto in Ardmore Graveyard.

Encourage local business to become more involved in the presentation of their business within the village. Mc Grory's had a nice display of flower tubs and the carpark opposite the Garda barracks is nicely landscaped with well maintained borders.

A lot done- more to do!

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As mentioned in last years report the riverside walk is a lovely amenity which could be of benefit to the committee under this heading. You can develop this further by identifying wildlife habitat and erecting sign posted information, displaying same. Do seek as already suggested to engage the schools and seek the advice and guidance of a local wildlife expert. This is an area that Culdaff could gain points, due to great natural amenities on its doorstep.

The life - Integrated Coastal Zone Management Beach & Dune System in conjunction with University of Ulster is highly commended - this would be an ideal location for additional information boards on the flora and fauna of the area.

Congratulations on the Blue Flag award for Culdaff Beach.

Litter Control:

Excellent on adjudication day expect for incidental litter on the Merville road. It was nice to see County Council workers at work - picking up litter and brushing kerb sides - a job well done.

Tidiness:

The village green the focal point of the village is presented and maintained

As commented in last years report the area outside both shops is still untidy and the committee need to liaise with shop owners also the derelict building adjacent to the hall is a problem under this heading. Attention to detail is now required.

Residential Areas:

St. Bodens Terrace presents well although lacks floral displays. The private houses in general were presented to satisfaction of adjudicator.

The new housing development at Cara Bay is an excellent example of how landscaping should be completed in all new developments, this estate has given landscaping great consideration with ample tree planting and good use of year round foliage. The new development on the Merville road although 2nd phase not yet completed the 1st phase poses challenges on the finishing of landscaped areas. The committee should ensure that this housing estate will be completed in line with the requirements of the planning authority and to a high standard of landscaping.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads are nicely maintained and the sycamore trees on the Merville approach road are a lovely feature. The stone walls are nicely maintained through the town and it is nice to see this being carried on in new housing developments.

The footpath outside the Church in the centre of the village requires some attention. The footpath on the Merville approach road while the surfacing was excellent the verges required some attention, again as mentioned in last years report the beach car park is in desperate need of attention - what a poor entrance to such an outstanding beach.

General Impression:

You are progressing steadily, attention to detail is now required with emphasis on a major enhancement programme for the main street a priority.

Your 3 year plan will benefit the town but will require the full backing of the local authority and the community if it is to be productive.