

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Garristown**

Ref: **654**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **196**

Category: **B**

Date: **01/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	27	27
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	23	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	196	193

Overall Developmental Approach:

Garristown is welcome to the 2005 Tidy Towns Competition. The village enjoys a wonderful setting in lush North County Dublin pastureland. Thank you for your submission together with three year plan. your stated objectives are achievable and we look forward to developments over the nest few years. It is good to note the committee has the support of the local community and various statutory bodies; work achieved for this year is commendable.

The Built Environment:

Buildings are presented to a high standard in general and the school looked quite well, however a number of drab, grey premises would benefit from flower boxes or cleaning and painting. The curtilage area of commercial premises near the junction with the Navan road was admired. We are indebted to Glanbia for improvements to their premises and to the church (priest) as well as those responsible for enclosure to containers.

Landscaping:

Your stand of mature trees together with green open spaces in the village centre is a characteristic feature of Garristown and one that would be the envy of many villages. The young trees have established themselves well and will serve future generations equally. the wire and post fencing

near the school could be planted for greater enclosure, this forms the boundary of Garristown GFC. The boundary of the commercial premises opposite the latter boundary could receive similar treatment together with the boundary of Glanbia (however we note their contribution above). Container planting in the forecourt of the W. Kinsella premises would add some welcome colour here. The hard landscaped site at the corner with the Navan road was quite weedy on the day of adjudication.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The burial grounds are neatly presented, however the access road here is underdeveloped. We note with interest new houses in the course of construction nearby, no doubt this road will be finished to a high standard. New trees have been noted, the bird boxes initiative is good, choose native species of trees and shrubs where possible. The nature trail project with the school sounds exciting.

Litter Control:

Litter control was good during adjudication and the number of bins appear to be more than adequate and doing their job quite well. Thanks is due to the young people of the area for their assistance in clean-ups. your negotiations with Fingal Co. Co. have been noted, good luck.

Tidiness:

The recycling point is tidy, well done on this. Some vacant and perhaps derelict premises could be kept in good order as an interim measure whilst awaiting redevelopment. the committee is aware of problems under this heading and is proactive in dealing with these.

Residential Areas:

The thatched cottage beside the Ashbourne / Old town junction was especially admired. Belgarra housing development boasts excellent green open spaces and stands of mature trees. Work in progress has already been noted to the residential development at the burial grounds. A site on the Naul road behind the high stone wall has been noted for future residential development; invite new residents to get into the spirit of the Tidy Towns Competition.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

A verge inside the nameplate to the junction with the Naul road looked particularly bad on the day of adjudication. Other verges of other approach roads were reasonably well presented. Some road signs, together with the nameplate, are in need of refurbishment. An old water pump out the Naul road could be refurbished and highlighted as a feature of this approach road. Hopefully the service pole on the green area looking down the Naul road will be removed and its overhead cables ducted as it looks particularly bad with the service cables radiating out in several directions.

General Impression:

Garristown is a pleasure to adjudicate, we look forward to repeat visits.