

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ardattin** Ref: **31**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **264**
Category: **A** Date(s): **14/06/2006**
11/08/2006

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2006 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Overall Development Approach | 50 | 39 |
| The Built Environment | 50 | 37 |
| Landscaping | 50 | 36 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 50 | 23 |
| Litter Control | 50 | 38 |
| Waste Minimisation | 20 | 0 |
| Tidiness | 30 | 17 |
| Residential Areas | 40 | 30 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 50 | 35 |
| General Impression | 10 | 9 |
| TOTAL MARK | 400 | 264 |

Overall Development Approach:

Ardattin is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns competition. The village continues to impress and the standard achieved for this year has become the norm and the adjudicator was not disappointed. Ardattin is a tiny hamlet situated in scenic countryside and the presentation of the village complements its wonderful setting of gentle rolling hills. We note that from your submission that new waste treatment facility is being installed to accommodate the planned new houses by the Council and that you feel you are at a standstill until this has been accomplished. You have however managed to retain you standards and this is commendable and good luck with any new initiatives after the water treatment facilities are extended.

The Built Environment:

Ardattin has a handsome stock of stone buildings, all of which are nicely presented including those for community use well done on your creativity in this respect. The ???? 61 is presented to a high standard, as is the Public house. The church looks wonderful, as does the school; no doubt the children are proud of themselves as they have every right to be.

Landscaping:

You appear to have achieved a successful mix of permanent planting and bedding plants; a variety of shrubs and hedgerows throughout the village have been noted together with perennial flowering plants and of course bedding plants; trees at all stages of maturation have been noted and this of course provides wonderful wildlife habitat in addition to your stretches of hedgerow.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your stretch of hedgerow looks really healthy and is an important habitat well done we note from your

submission you have plans to develop a wildlife garden and a peace garden but you cannot take these initiatives any further until the completion of the waste water treatment this is perfectly understandable. Well done on the wildlife panel at the school its informative and attractive perhaps the wildlife survey can be taken a stage further.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent no litter was to be seen anywhere in the village this is a grand achievement for a village your size particularly when there are ongoing construction works and people in the village on a daily basis who do not live here. Do keep us informed of your litter management activities as these can be a source of extra marks and help us to help others by passing on your strategy.

Waste Minimisation:

You are encouraged to get involved in recycling and waste minimisation even though you are a small community. You can inform residents of how they can make a difference to minimise waste and through a newsletter or leaflets and perhaps promote household composting facilities. You should also liaise with the business community and of course the school. The Race Against Waste booklet that was included in this year's TidyTowns pack contains even more ideas.

Tidiness:

Ardattin was perfectly tidy on the day of our visit. Grass verges were neatly maintained and sign posting is legible and well located. We note there is still some wirescape in the village centre which hopefully will be removed in the not to distant future the current street lighting and service poles replaced by attractive lampstandards. Do keep us informed of your activities under this heading.

Residential Areas:

Both housing developments are presented to a standard of excellence well done. We note from your submission six new units are planned for Beachwood and hope that these will be extra hands on board for the Tidy Towns initiative. Encourage residents to be vigilant regarding their garden side areas and boundary walls.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road surfaces and footpath surfaces are quiet good throughout the village and on entrances. As previously stated, your sign posting is good, well located and also nicely painted. Your timber welcome to Ardattin signs are particularly attractive features. The grass verges look well and in many instances are lined with stone wall and/or hedgerow and backed by stands of mature trees - well done.

General Impression:

Ardattin has achieved a standard of excellence of which it can be proud we look forward to many repeat visits and charting your progress over the coming years.

Second Round Adjudication:

Ardattin is always a pleasure to visit and this year was no exception! Congratulations on the church's golden jubilee. It looked well on the day, but the boundary wall to the car park area opposite will need painting before next year's competition. Incidental landscaping throughout was attractive and colourful. Of note was the area in front of the handball alley, to the pub and at the crossroads. Perhaps additional landscaping to the Stop and Shop could be considered, as at the moment the forecourt area appears a little bare in comparison to other areas of the village? The national school was fresh and well presented.