

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Greenore** Ref: **496**
County: **Louth** Mark: **251**
Category: **A** Date(s): **05/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	44
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	251

Overall Development Approach:

Your five-year plan is most impressive, especially as you set dates for the completion of certain projects. You will probably find that not all will be finished in the time expected, but others will take a shorter time. Having specific years named as objectives has proved very effective elsewhere where it has been found that the yearly deadlines create a wholesome sense of urgency, but more importantly ensure that all projects do not go ahead simultaneously which can lead to confusion and exhaustion. The history of the village as set out in the Plan makes fascinating reading. It is encouraging to read that you are having continued discussions with the port authority and it is hoped that difficulties may be overcome or at least a compromise reached; it would be a real pity if there were to be a stand-off between village and port. The fact has to be borne in mind that the port is the reason for Greenore being there at all, and presumably the port authority has the right to make its own decisions, dependant upon proper planning procedures.

The Built Environment:

It is very sad that the former Great Northern Hotel has been demolished. There have been no significant new buildings in the village or immediate surroundings built in the last year so maintenance of the existing ones has been the theme. The Co-Op was seen to be most attractively presented as usual; the same may be said for the pub in the former National School. It is important that the original signage on these buildings continues to be preserved as evidence of their history. The golf club's clubhouse was immaculate on the date of the visit. The factories are reasonably well presented and are nicely screened. The Beach Cafe, in its superb setting, has been mentioned as a problem from year to year; it has certainly become an eyesore with its dirty paintwork and broken down walls at the end of the well-kept promenade.

Landscaping:

Maintenance of the existing areas of planting rather than new initiatives has also been the theme under this

heading. This clearly involves a great deal of work. Father Keegan Park continues as a delightful recreational area. The herbaceous bed on the approach to the village houses was already looking splendid in early June; the shelter afforded by the fine stone wall is a major help. Window-boxes and hanging baskets formed points of care and colour throughout the village. Planting opposite Andlesey Terrace was favourably noted. Residents of this terrace have the advantage of looking out on the beautifully kept surroundings to the golf club.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Someone with a fine sense of imagination a hundred or so years ago must have planted the conifers which today's generation enjoys and which have become a Greenore landmark. Mature deciduous trees also contribute to the wild life inventory, as does the golf course boundary hedging. It is good to read that you are taking advice on the replacement of trees which should survive the winter storms on the exposed promenade. The designation of the extensive shore line marked in yellow on your map as a wild life area has been an almost equally imaginative decision; the list of fish, fowl and animals given in the documentation is probably not exhaustive and will no doubt be added to after further observation.

Litter Control:

New bins, and the regular cleaning of the beach, undoubtedly contributed to the diminution of visible litter on the date of adjudication. It was unfortunate that one of the promenade bins was overflowing at that particular time. Congratulations on the overall effectiveness of your anti-litter campaign – further progress is anticipated once the Development Plan comes into full operation.

Waste Minimisation:

You should study the documentation supplied on this topic as it will become increasingly important in the future. The first step must be to site a bring-bank in an inconspicuous but convenient place. The mark given is nominal in the first year of this category; it will increase (or decrease) depending on the action taken.

Tidiness:

The long white wall opposite the Promenade certainly needs drastic attention and it is hoped that your discussions will bear fruit. The lane behind Euston Street contained much weed that had been poisoned – but the dead weed looks as bad as the living! Part of the cement fencing across the main road from the golf course was in need of repair at the times of the visit and the rest looked as if it might deteriorate quite soon. However, those points having been made, Greenore does appear as a tidy village.

Residential Areas:

As we have come to expect, the 'working class housing' that is now so sought after is very well maintained. Perhaps colour might be introduced on the houses which are not constructed of brick. The chalets never cease to cause admiration – especially as they have survived for so long.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Poor road surfacing in some spots on Andlesey Terrace was noticed. Good paving was especially prominent in the housing area. Lamp standards and street furniture are well designed and appropriate to the era in which the houses were erected. Paving of sidewalks, signposting and parking bays were a distinct improvement.

General Impression:

You are progressing well in spite of the difficulties encountered. Once the components of the Development Plan are implemented there should be quicker progress and a commensurate increase in marking. This Plan should be the making of Greenore. Every good wish for the work.