

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Labasheeda** Ref: **79**
County: **Clare** Mark: **259**
Category: **A** Date(s): **16/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	43
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	16
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	259

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your excellent application, sketch map and supplementary information to support your entry. The Committee deserve great credit for motivating the local community. Your involvement with Clare County Council, FAS and the ESB and together with other local voluntary bodies has helped to ensure that proposed work actions to date and contentious issues have been attended to promptly. Keep up this very beneficial partnership approach.

The Built Environment:

Each village has its own uniqueness that sets it apart from its neighbours. Labasheeda has its own history that makes it special. To retain this uniqueness in an area of accelerated infrastructural change and indeed to embrace that change for the benefit of the community is the key to the future. Labasheeda has been successful in doing this and this success is reflected throughout the village. Public, private and commercial premises which took the eye of the adjudicator were the Church, St. Kierans Community Centre, The Old School, The Garda Station and the National School – all were extremely well presented. The Old Creamery building will need to be addressed.

Landscaping:

The landscaping and planting arrangements; hanging baskets and window boxes were a delight. The choice of trees, low maintenance shrubs and other various colourful planting was admired. You have chosen well to suit the surroundings, particularly in terms of contrast of greenery and colour. Labasheeda Quay is a very fine example of good landscaping, whilst development here is not over beautified. Also of course to be mentioned has to be Mountshannon Park- all the hard work has paid off hugely in this area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Again you really are spoilt for choice under this category. The Heritage Council will help you identify wildlife pockets in the immediate area. This will ensure hedgerows and grass margins are managed in accordance with what is recommended. The committee should consider appealing to the local school principal to look at the possibility of getting children involved. Identifying a project that would record the various types of wildlife that are associated to the immediate area could be a start. The Wildlife Ranger from Clare County Council should also help you with this project.

Litter Control:

Once again one has to admire your commitment to good litter control, it is obvious that this message is getting through to the local community.

Waste Minimisation:

No Green Flag was in place outside the school, even though it has been achieved according to your documentation. This is a reasonably new area which has to be addressed under the National Tidy Towns Competition. The Race Against Waste is a campaign in raising awareness of better waste management practices. It is incumbent to embrace this in light of our past record among the wider European community. Please refer to the Race Against Waste publications.

Tidiness:

The centre of the village was mostly in a pristine condition. However, the back areas visible from the quay needed attention. Again the Committee has some excellent action items planned to keep on top of problems.

Residential Areas:

Most of the residential properties in Labasheeda are contributing to the Tidy Towns effort

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main entrances were very well presented – planting, etc. Unfortunately the standard of road surfaces through the village was quite poor, especially in the Mountshannon Estate.

General Impression:

Labasheeda is a very pleasant village to visit especially on a nice summer evening. As mentioned this is a special place on the Shannon Estuary. The interest of the community in developing the village and its hinterland is commendable. Keep up the good work.