

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballinadee** Ref: **275**
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **245**
Category: **A** Date(s): **11/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	37
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	12
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	245

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form together with the most useful map which proved very helpful on adjudication day. The river bridge excellently and clearly defined the entry point into the village. The area looked most attractive on the day of adjudication. This is a village which clearly makes the most of its self and is the source of justifiable pride to many of the residents. The use of the river side park as a centre piece is appropriate. Good use was made of simple white wash to camouflage the derelict site. Please try to involve the school, they should become part of a simple three year program in which you set out your objectives, targets and time scale. Such an exercise has been found to be extremely useful both as a means of identify and focussing on your objectives while equally, facilitating the task of securing more widespread community involvement.

The Built Environment:

Its centre position and elevated setting makes the church the single, most significant visual building and it was extremely well presented. The repairs to the wall opposite the church were extremely good. O'Driscoll's Pub was very attractive both the gates and the house itself. The guest house was very well presented and the old dairy was very attractive also. The Church of Ireland was very well maintained and suitable presented. Ryan's store was bright, inviting neat and orderly. The dry faced stone wall on the school road caught the eye and was an attractive feature.

Landscaping:

The church grounds, the significance of which have been stressed above were very well presented. The small picnic area at the bridge was a delight, a real joy. Your millennium project celebrating Bob Hayes and Bill Nolan added interest to this area. Also worthwhile was the Olympic memorial and we welcomed the directional sign pointing to the exploits of Patsy O'Flynn. The grotto was very well presented but one might

question the scale of it as it is slightly overpowering within the context of a very small village. The school grounds although very well presented were a little overgrown on the day of adjudication.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Clearly the river offers excellent opportunity for the introduction of birds and wildlife. We welcome your plan to reintroduce ducks to this area. Take advice from the wildlife officer of the Office of Public Works as to their security against badgers and other animals. You may also get advice as to the best practices involved in the establishment of a wildlife sanctuary within the school grounds. This is doubly valuable because of the life long interest it can often engender among young students

Litter Control:

The litter management apparent on the day of adjudication was splendid; we welcomed the litter bins their number and their design. It is good that you are participating in the Litter League, the National Spring Clean Month and also undertaking litter patrols. Indeed we suspect we saw such a patrol in action during our adjudication.

Waste Minimisation:

The intention under this heading is to both promote best practices so as to reduce, reuse and recycle and attention to this, by way of discussion and example are to be welcomed. We very much applaud your practice of recycling the litter from your litter patrols. The bring site for recycling was extremely well presented and we applaud your efforts here also. No litter or overflow were apparent on the site on the day of adjudication.

Tidiness:

Ballinadee Engineering Ltd secure full marks for their splendid presentation. Corcoran's Pub itself was very well presented but the backyard, which can be seen from the road, need a little attention. Some roadside spoil was seen at the new red brick houses off the Bandon Road. A most significant site already referred to is the car park picnic area by the bridge. The overall effect of this was diminished by the boat ramp remaining unfinished, the extent of trucks being parked in the area and road material and spoil being stored there. Where possible these factors could with advantage receive attention. In the same area the pipes stored outside the churchyard might benefit from a more appropriate storage location.

Residential Areas:

Many individual houses on the school road were excellent with delightful gardens. The new red brick houses, off the Bandon Road, are settling in pleasantly while the brick are currently weathering. Of particular delight was the house beside O'Driscoll's and the thatched cottage area also looked very well.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In a small village the significances of approach roads are enhanced. In your case the efforts to create a clear cut divide between the surrounding, rural countryside and the village itself is facilitated by the location of the bridge. A particular delight in your case as in many villages in Cork is the canopy of tree branches on approach roads. Speed limits and village name plates were excellent on all approach roads, with just the minor proviso that the road sign on the Killbrittain Road would benefit from washing.

General Impression:

Your village has more than its fair share of significant buildings and locations. Clearly your community have been very active in instilling a sense of community involvement and pride in your centre. Your success in encouraging community involvement is apparent. But we stress again the value following a full and widespread consultation of developing a three year program of specific objectives and work programme. Please keep up your excellent efforts.