

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrigaline** Ref: **111**
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **252**
Category: **F** Date(s): **12/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	11
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	252

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for a splendid effort in this year's competition. Thank you also for the completed entry form, the extremely comprehensive booklet of your activities in pictorial format and the innovative Carrigaline Tidy Towns Calender/Planner, drawing attention to the various aspects that need to be seen to throughout the year. This is an innovation that might with advantage be copied by other centres.

As first impressions are most important it is necessary to tidy up and clean the entrance on the Crosshaven Road. The Library with its small murals caught the eye, while parking, toilet facilities and the Citizens Advice facility at the bridge were very well presented. Complements on the manner, extent and tenacity with which you are tackling the various tasks arising from the increase in building throughout the centre.

The Built Environment:

The major housing development at Carrigcourt with its extensive grassed areas was excellent and this is the standard which should be applied for new building in such a sensitive centre as Carrigaline. There are a number of derelict shops that do require attention and it is hoped that early remedial action can be taken to solve this ongoing problem. Where it appears that the ideal solution - demolish and rebuild- is likely to be materially delayed, short-term treatment should be applied to reduce the impact. We welcomed particularly the new Infill houses above the Health Centre. The Fire Station was splendidly well presented with an excellent entrance area and front facing garden. The two banks, Bank of Ireland and AIB were well presented as was the SuperValu Supermarkets. Other buildings that caught the eye were The Celtic Bar, The Carrigaline Bookshop and Tig Acúinne Bar and The Health Centre. The large Catholic Church with its weathering red brick was impressive.

Landscaping:

Congratulation to all concerned in the major project of the Crosshaven to Carrigaline Riverside Walk. We liked particularly the light vertical bar railings which did not in anyway obscure the view of the river. This a major project embracing ecology, history and providing a splendid walk and cycle path as well. The mature trees on Kilmoney Road Upper and the Cork Road are an important asset to be cared for and valued. The Ashgrove area had a positive boulevard feel about it while the very fine monument on the Cork Ringaskiddy Road was imposing. The three roundabouts with their very suitable, permanent planting were a delight. We had a slight concern that, with time, the height of the floral and shrub display might intrude into necessary traffic sight lines.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The work you have maintained on the Riverside Walk is particularly meritorious. Plans to engage the attention of transition year students of the Community School, with the provision of bird boxes is worthwhile and we look forward to its success over time. Wildlife generally has become a more significant element within the Tidy Towns philosophy. Perhaps you could consider discussion a structured wildlife programme with a local bird or wildlife enthusiast. Alternately discuss the options -which are many- with the Wildlife Officer attached to the Office of Public Works.

Litter Control:

There was a discernible advance in the level of litter management apparent on the day of adjudication. There was still a significant fall from grace sadly around the Fire Station road which was a pity as it detracted from the splendid floral display centred at the Fire Station itself. Litter bins were noticed in many locations especially at the SuperValu Supermarket and on approach roads. Additional litter bins are always welcomed but it is essential that a suitable and timely programme is in position for their on going servicing. The much travelled Main Street was well presented and very largely, having regard to the volume of pedestrian traffic, free of litter. Your efforts to secure the services of a Litter Warden, who arrival is long delayed, are wished success in the near future.

Waste Minimisation:

The bring site at the Post Office building car park was well positioned and clearly its utilization was extensive. In many ways efforts under this category require the encouragement and dissemination of information in addition to practical efforts on the ground. Might we suggest that the Tidy Towns Calendar/Planner, your excellent innovation, might devote some of its space to this category next year. Read the recommendations and suggestions in the Tidy Towns Book which you have, together with the Race against Waste for additional ideas and suggestions.

Tidiness:

Pleasant to report modest advances under this category also. We would echo your representations to the County Council for a programmed improvement of all signs and especially sign posts. A number of these are far past their sell-by-date and ought to be wire brushed and painted as a minimum and, in a few cases, replaced. Individual commercial premises, Permanent TSB need repainting. The retention of the large sign, which appears to be redundant, Eamon Casey in the car park by the bridge ought to be reassessed.

Residential Areas:

Carrigaline has a range of established, maturing housing estates together with new build as on Kilmoney Road Upper and Castlelands. Both of these are achieving a high standard. Orchard Rise was equally very well presented on the day of adjudication. Sadly Ard Carrig a winner in 1995, 1997 and 1998 has slipped from their previous high standard. The Fertea Estate was excellent. Excellent modern house, well presented, many with excellent gardens were noted on Ferney Road. The mature Carraig na Curra was equally well presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Cork approach road is a major joy, very fine, extensive grassed areas gave a delightful feel and raised expectations of a very pleasant centre ahead. We liked the original milestone, "Cork 7 miles". Within, there is some serious street subsidence problems to be dealt with, difficulties which are not cheap or easy to resolve. Similarly some roads don't appear to be finished as at Lidl for example. A real joy was the excellent sign on the Crosshaven Road, sponsored by SuperValu.

General Impression:

Facing massive development in common with many towns and villages in Cork, Carrigaline is adjusting well

and accommodating the new build. A feature of the centre are the delightful approach roads, extensive roundabouts and of course its truly magnificent riverside liner park. Some derelict site problems remain and efforts should be maintained, indeed increased, to secure an early remedy. All in all Carrigaline is blessed with an energetic and imaginative Tidy Towns Committee who's efforts are applauded. All are encouraged to continue their upward march in the Tidy Towns Competition and thanked for their fine efforts this year.