

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Midleton** Ref: **1019**  
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **228**  
Category: **D** Date(s): **08/08/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	31
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>228</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

An important part of Tidy Towns is to unite all the community together to undertake pride in their town and actively participate in projects. Whilst there may be a committee for the project it is very important to establish good working relationships with local schools, councils, businesses and residents. Successful Tidy Towns committees are generally quite active in their work towards creating a better community. This might include having a weekly walk where they collect litter, adopting and maintaining a Bring Bank or park area, organising working bees for a project such as repainting a community building or cleaning out a riverbed. The projects improve the appearance of the town but also work towards building a stronger community. Midleton is a growing town with many new residents. Over the next few years ensuring strength in the "community" element of Midleton will be very important if it is to retain its village character. Bringing in different groups and individuals to work on projects under the Tidy Towns banner can assist this. These might be diverse projects suited to different tastes such as wildlife projects, renovating community buildings or participating in a one day litter clean up. We wish you the best in your future developments and we would be delighted to see you participate in the 2008 competition.

### The Built Environment:

Kellys Chemist was well maintained. St John the Baptist School was clean and tidy but the building would look brighter if painted. The front wall was well painted. McDaid's was well maintained. Generally most shops on the main street were well looked after. On the Ballycotton Road St Marys Church and grave yard were well kept. The High School was tidy and very well painted. The Christian Brothers School was well presented and the grass had been recently cut on the day of adjudication. Across St Bridges school was also clean and tidy, however the grass had been allowed to grow a bit long here. Between St Marys and CBS there is a large building that was perhaps an old convent. This has been painted but moss and dirt have accumulated on the outside and the windows are dusty. A wash here would really assist with the appearance of the building. The

building is also quite a dull grey colour so perhaps a community art project that would paint some colourful murals on the outside would improve the appeal of the area until the building was developed. The entrance to the Midleton Urban Council and the Pitch and Putt course is very appealing and well landscaped. There didn't appear to be anywhere to put cigarettes before entering the building and this could lead to people having to dispose of them on the ground. A wall mounted cigarette disposal bin would greatly assist in reducing this likelihood. St Colmans Community College grounds were of an excellent standard and well landscaped. The building itself was well painted and maintained. The Community Centre was a bit difficult to locate due to lack of signage. It was well maintained. St Bridgets School on Aswlin Road was well landscaped but the building itself would come up well with a fresh paint. The new shopping area comprising Tesco and 4Home among others was very tidy. This area is still under development with shops still being filled and we look forward to its creation. Its proximity to the town will hopefully encourage people to walk to this area rather than drive.

### **Landscaping:**

The Youghal Road and the road leading to the N25 were very well landscaped. When coming off the N25 and taking the road into Midleton, the landscaping on the right as you turn in the centre island is very well done. However, on the left hand side the wall has become a bit run down the area at the bottom of the wall is a bit overgrown. A bit of a clean and weeding would soon fix this up so both sides of the entry into Midleton would look impressive. The road into Midleton has seen a lot of new development recently and most of the buildings are highly maintained. However, there are a few exceptions that would benefit from some weeding and/or painting. Landscaping in the new shopping area is underway and we look forward to seeing the results of this in future submissions. The landscaping on the large roundabout near Supervalu was admired, particularly for its trees and usage of stone.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The creation of a nature walk with bird boxes and description of birds in the area would be a great addition to the riverfront. Further information on the work that is being undertaken to improve and retain wildlife and natural amenities in the town would assist with this mark.

### **Litter Control:**

There was a fair amount of litter out the front of the kitchen and doors shop next to Sangams Indian Restaurant. Little Angels creche also appeared to have a bit of litter out the front. There was some light litter in the main street but most areas of the town were relatively litter free.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

All recycling bins were well maintained at the shopping centre and we were very happy to see there were facilities for recycling plastic bottles. The recycling bins near the river require some tidying up. A community compost project may also be an option and you could use the composting on community landscaping. Further information on the work that is being undertaken to promote reducing and recycling general waste would assist with this mark.

### **Tidiness:**

The Lidl car park clean and tidy with good landscaping. On Broderick St, the Defence Force wall looks a bit run down and requires painting. The flower beds opposite in front of Tiny Tots and the drycleaners, are overgrown and there is a fair amount of litter around here. In Connelly St there is quite a bit of litter around and there are no bins. A couple of the premises require painting but most are in good condition. The hockey field is well maintained and the log cabin crche was admired. There was a very good usage of stone pillars in the entry to these grounds. The stone wall alongside the car park was also appreciated. The area behind the carpet and furniture store is a bit untidy and there was graffiti on the wall. The lot opposite Sangam Indian Restaurant looks like it may be under development. If this is not the case or if the project is on hold, cutting the grass and tidying up the area would assist in the appeal. Generally Midleton is quite tidy.

### **Residential Areas:**

Rock Grove Estate and Beech Court were neat and tidy. Mill House is a wonderful development and the stone work with the red trim with shingles give a very unique and appealing look. McSweeneys Terrace is a delightful development. The Avenue was neat and tidy and it was good to see a lot of green space for children to play. It was great to see the playground and park facilities available near Roches Terrace. The grotto here was very well maintained as well.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The new surfaces on Broderick St look well. The footpath into town were well maintained and we particularly admired the stone wall sections on the road from the N25. It is also appreciated that the council have extended the footpath out to the edges of the town to encourage walking. Well done on this.

**General Impression:**

Midleton is a town undergoing an increase in population and also retail facilities. Most new developments have been tastefully done and are an asset to the town. Landscaping on the approach roads and on the roundabout help brighten the town. Ensuring public green spaces are available in new developments will be important. We look forward to seeing your towns development over the next few years.