

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Minane Bridge** Ref: **185**
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **207**
Category: **A** Date(s): **12/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	26
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	9
Tidiness	30	13
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	24
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	207

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form together with the most useful map. You are fortunate to have secured the ongoing, voluntary commitment of 10 people in such a small community. You are encouraged during the off season to develop a three year programme or plan for your activities. This should be a simple document, outlining the targets and objectives you hope to achieve, establishing a timetable for their completion and identifying what agencies will be able to assist you in this regard. Wherever possible it is always highly desirable that this plan would be the result of widespread consultation so that all sections of the community can feel, justifiably that they have ownership and a stake in the successful implementation of the programme. An element of the plan might be to encourage the use of current underdeveloped sites within the village. The present layout seems to give a disjointed feel. In this regard we welcome the three bedroom houses currently being developed.

The Built Environment:

The entrance to the Sports Grounds looked well as did De Bhuiteair's Pub. The Church looked excellent with the light blue paint scheme offset by the tall gothic like windows picked out in white. O'Murchu's Pub was vibrantly painted.

Landscaping:

The amenity area by the bridge leading to the Millennium Walk was most inviting and very well presented. However you should try to arrange for the grass to be cut twice weekly between May and August for best effect and in the process strengthen the lawn like surface. The wooden planters on the bridge were an attractive element.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The river itself and your marvellously well maintained Millennium Walk gives you ample scope to develop wildlife and natural amenity habitats. Considerable additional interests can be generated by the erection of simple information plaques, perhaps at the edge of the amenity area or shortly after entering the Millennium Walk. Consult a local wildlife or bird expert or have discussions with the Wildlife Officer attached to The Local Authority or the Office of Public Works.

Litter Control:

Only modest amounts of litter were noted on the day of adjudication. Please try to secure one or more litter bins, for positioning in the amenity area and near the bridge. But this recommendation is conditional on being able to put in position a suitable arrangements for their servicing.

Waste Minimisation:

The provision of the Bring or Recycling Centre within the amenity area was excellent. It was very well maintained and the fresh sign will hopefully encourage its wide utilisation. However the concept behind waste management is in equal measure to facilitate the recycling of material while also encouraging the creation of a mindset whereby extensive use of these facilities will be made by all. Discuss a program that will embrace all elements of the community in encouraging the greater use of waste reduction, through reusing and recycling of different materials.

Tidiness:

The village is scarred by a number of abandoned houses. Where possible their return to gainful occupation is to be encouraged. The large scale Dairygold General Store was more than a little untidy and ought to be encouraged to improve matters. The notice at the school looks somewhat tired and the front facing wall does need repainting.

Residential Areas:

There is a splendid new house opposite Dempsey's and it is welcomed. The terraced of houses at Spruce Grove were well presented. There are a number of excellent individual houses and gardens which contribute greatly. On Laharran Road there are three excellent large houses all of which are very well maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The centre has splendid welcoming signs in stone which really looked inviting. There is good walling and a pathways funnelling people into the Sports Grounds from your new pavement. The village nameplate sign pole needs repainting. The road surface at Dempsey's Shop was poor while the speed limit signs at Spruce Grove were well presented.

General Impression:

Your centre is tiny but blessed with its share of natural characteristics and man built structures which make it possible to see a substantially improved position in the Tidy Town's competition. All involved with this entry are applauded for their efforts and encouraged to continue which will no doubt give rise to an upward march for Minane Bridge in the Tidy Town's movement.