

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Ballineen - Enniskeane** Ref: **439**  
County: **Cork (West)** Mark: **226**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **21/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	35
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>226</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for your comprehensive application for Ballineen-Enniskeane it was most helpful on the day of adjudication. Please ensure to include a map with next years entry indicating recent developments and improvement works as this makes it much easier to allocate additional marks! Given that you are essentially representing two towns, that have merged, there is quite a large area for your committee of 20 to cover - no doubt assistance from Bandon and Dunmanway Town Councils is very welcome! Your efforts to include the community in general and the involvement of local schools is commendable and ongoing local publicity is a great way to sustain interest and indeed pride in the locality. You should consider a three year development plan for Ballineen-Enniskeane as this would set a series of realistic goals and formalise intentions for future developments.

### **The Built Environment:**

The twin towns of Ballineen Enniskeane looked bright and well presented on the day of adjudication. Both Centra and Tom Brady's displayed colourful hanging baskets that were greatly admired. Dessy's Bar and Nursery Fayre looked extremely well. The Church, graveyard and National School were all well presented. An interesting building with a gothic arch was spotted behind the public toilets at the bus stop are there any plans to develop this or research its history? The Corner House could do with a fresh coat of paint before next years competition as was mentioned by last years adjudicator.

### **Landscaping:**

The landscaping at the Bridge was most impressive and the three standing stones make a striking feature. The cart with overflowing milk cans was greatly admired and this theme was noted at other locations. This idea of continuity is excellent, and should be developed further, if the two towns are being presented as one as it adds a sense of unity throughout the villages.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your policy of no spraying by the waters edge is commendable. However, an assessment of existing flora and fauna is a good place to start and Ballineen-Enniskeane has no doubt, an abundance of wildlife throughout the hedgerows and riverbanks.

**Litter Control:**

You mention the strategy adopted by the school with the assistance of the Tidy Towns committee and this is commendable. However it is not clear how the committee organise litter collections throughout the two towns – is there one or two evenings per week where you blitz the area or is it left solely to those who happen to come across litter whilst out walking? Is there a local Litter League that you could participate in?

**Waste Minimisation:**

St. Mary's National School are doing trojan work with regard to recycling and its promotion. Linking in with An Taisce is also a good way to sustain interest.

**Tidiness:**

Ballineen-Enniskeane for the most part is well presented but there is always room for improvement!! The New Holland Garage had an untidy appearance and this detracts from the overall impression. Please ensure that verges approaching the towns are maintained as overgrowth can give an untidy appearance. Finally, kerbside weeds in Derrigra Crescent should be removed.

**Residential Areas:**

The colourful terraced cottages were well painted and fresh in appearance. Gort Mhuire was pristine on the day of adjudication and Derrigra Crescent also looked well. The completion of Harolds Court will certainly further enhance the towns' appearance, as will the many other residences currently being developed.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

In general, these areas are well maintained but as mentioned earlier grass verges require regular cutting back particularly on approach roads.

**General Impression:**

Ballineen-Enniskeane could be entered as two separate villages as combined they cover quite a substantial area! However it is good to see that a consistent approach is maintained throughout the two and your continued progress is laudable.