

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballydehob** Ref: **664**
County: **Cork (West)** Mark: **274**
Category: **B** Date(s): **28/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	44
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	29
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	12
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	274

Overall Development Approach:

Ballydehob is very welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2007. Thank you for your comprehensive entry form and supporting map and photographic material, which were of great assistance on the day of adjudication. It is good to note that your committee is still maintaining high numbers and that you continue to work with FÁS and Cork County Council. You appear to have a good working relationship with the local schools and this is commended. It is also good to note that the competition is viewed in a positive and helps enhance pride in Ballydehob.

The Built Environment:

The Church of Ireland was neat in its presentation and the Primary School was admired for its fox and hare. The Playschool was most colourful and we look forward to the completion of the building works at the National School. The Catholic Church and grounds were well maintained but staining on the façade should be touched up. It was refreshing to note that 'My Beautiful Laundrette' took the advice from last year adjudicator - it was crisp in appearance. Levi's, Mc Sweeney's, Annes and Rosies all looked well. The Book of Kells inspired mural at the gable at Whizzer Scissors was most attractive.

Landscaping:

Effective landscaping on the Cork road was greatly admired. The grass was well trimmed and certainly adds to the approach to Ballydehob. A welcome splash of colour was noted in the flowerbed behind the Danno monument. There was a good mix of permanent and bedding plants in the village with marigolds in full bloom. The landscaped area at Cleden Cap Sizun was admired with the 12 arch bridge in the background. Your ongoing plans to plant native trees are laudable and we look forward to this in the years to come.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Ballydehob is in the luck position of being located on an estuary that is teeming with wildlife and it and its environs provide a wonderful natural amenity. It states in the completed entry that you undertook a wildlife survey of flora and fauna this year and the display board was noted. It would be helpful if a copy of the survey were included with your application. Your plans to develop a nature trail are commended, as there is ample space and opportunity in Ballydehob for such an amenity.

Litter Control:

Generally speaking litter control is not a problem in Ballydehob although a few pieces were evident on the day of adjudication. A disposable coffee cup was noted on the seat in the playground and a silver bun case was spotted on the main street! A few pieces of paper were evident on the approach to the Playschool and National School.

Waste Minimisation:

The recycling point was neat and tidy and was in use on the day of adjudication. The Green Flag was flying high at the school and the teachers and students are commended on their achievement. It was suggested in last year's report that there is ample opportunity to introduce a composting facility in Ballydehob and you should consider this for Tidy Towns 2008.

Tidiness:

The brambles and whitethorn bushes at the carpark were well cut back and the surface was freshly tarmaced. You mention in your entry that graffiti is an ongoing problem and there was evidence of this on the day of adjudication in the playground, at the Community Hall and at the Forge. It is imperative that all signage be kept clean – the town sign on the Bantry approach displayed a considerable amount of algae. As identified by your committee derelict sites detract from Ballydehob – in particular the Esso Station was noted. Picnic seats towards the 12 arch bridge were admired however the public seating requires repainting before next year's competition.

Residential Areas:

The majority of residences in Ballydehob are well presented - however it is important to encourage the community to paint gable walls and maintain boundary walls to a high standard. The two cream residences opposite the carpark were greatly admired. The tiny front garden at the front of the lemon house in the village was charming and goes to show that landscaping can enhance even the smallest spaces! The residence opposite Whizzer Scissors was admired for its colourful display of petunias and pansies. The cream and green house with sash windows and a bamboo garden was most attractive. The new housing development on the Schull road looks well and we look forward to the completion of The Laurels.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general these areas are well maintained, neat and tidy in presentation. Please ensure that the minor approach roads are being cut back regularly as overgrowth can detract from the overall impression.

General Impression:

Ballydehob is improving steadily in the Tidy Towns Competition and it seems that your committee have a realistic approach to current and future developments. Keep up the good work.