

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Baltimore** Ref: **1074**  
County: **Cork (West)** Mark: **223**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **19/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	35
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>223</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Well, after an absence of many years from the Tidy Towns competition a hearty 'Welcome Back' is extended to your committee of six and indeed the 230 residents!! Despite a considerable lapse in time you are to be highly commended on your comprehensive application form and map, which was of great assistance to the adjudication process. The information provided was clear, concise and most importantly relevant. You have done very well in sourcing financial assistance both publicly and privately and linking in with agencies that may be of assistance in other ways. I suggest you draw up a three-year development plan for improvement works in Baltimore detailing a realistic series of objectives and how you envisage achieving them. This will give you a focus into the future that can be amended on an annual basis and incorporate new developments as necessary.

### **The Built Environment:**

Baltimore comprises a mix of residential and commercial premises most of which are well maintained and painted. Chez Youens, Bushes and Casey's looked well on the day of adjudication. However, the public toilets on the pier looked quite unkempt and are presumably used by the many thousands of visitors to Baltimore annually – perhaps this area could be tackled for next year's competition. Your committee are commended on the refurbishment of the HSE building, however, please include photographs of 'before' and 'after' pictures for such projects as the extent of the work undertaken can be illustrated and appreciated by the adjudicator. You mention that you will continue to work towards safety in all boatyard please give details of continuous lobbying etc and the effect it will have on the community.

### **Landscaping:**

It appears that there has been a huge push in the last twelve months in Baltimore to improve landscaping throughout public areas and your scope and planning could be used as a benchmark by many other villages in the competition. Many of the premises had colourful displays in window boxes, planted tubs and hanging baskets. This was further enhanced by permanent plantings at a variety of locations throughout the village – it is important to get a good balance for impact throughout the year and not just when the Tidy Towns competition is on and you seem to be well on the way to achieving this!

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

Coastal locations are lucky in that they have a natural habitat on their doorstep where residents live side by side with those of a feathered nature! Your plans for the development of a leaflet and walking route highlighting areas of historical, archaeological and wildlife have been noted and we look forward to this in the years to come.

#### **Litter Control:**

There was very little evidence of littering in Baltimore on the day of adjudication. Some cigarette butts were noted. Yet again you have taken on a large-scale project in the cleaning up of not one but two beaches and hopefully this will be the only time it will have to be done!

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

Your work to date on waste minimisation is commendable and indeed it is great to see your co-operation with the school in this regard. Hopefully this will filter through to householdstoo. Have you considered composting as another way of recycling?

#### **Tidiness:**

There is a considerable amount of construction and refurbishment work taking place in Baltimore at present and not doubt these will further enhance the appearance of the village in the coming years. The many new housing developments are being well finished and hopefully will be maintained to a high standard. The small car park beside the Village Moorings was disappointing as was the derelict building opposite particularly as this is the main approach to the village. Permanent shrubby planting should be considered here and it is amazing what a lick of paint could do across the road! Kerbside weeds were noted in Carbery Park.

#### **Residential Areas:**

There is a clear impression of pride of place in Baltimore when driving (because of torrential rain!!) around the residential areas. Carbery Terrace was well presented with regard to individual premises and public landscaping. The jaunty colours of the Village Moorings were greatly admired as well as a number of individual older residences

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

Generally speaking Baltimore is well maintained and there are no serious issues in this area. However the public seating and bollards in the Cove area require some attention and provide a potentially wonderful amenity – perhaps this would be a suitable location for a wildlife information board?

#### **General Impression:**

Amazing! Considering the absence of the Village from the Tidy Towns for many years you are well on the way to performing strongly in the competition in years to come. You have a strategic view in all areas and have set realistic goals. If you can sustain this momentum Baltimore will be a force to be reckoned with sooner rather than later!!