

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Schull** Ref: **833**
County: **Cork (West)** Mark: **194**
Category: **B** Date(s): **26/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	22
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	20
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	24
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	194

Overall Development Approach:

Schull is most welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition and we hope your involvement will continue through the years. Your entry form and supporting map were of great assistance to the adjudicator. It is clear that you co-operate with Schull Development Association with regard to highlighting litter, composting and recycling and this is commendable. A committee of three is very small for a town of Schull's size – how many volunteers do you engage with? Perhaps you could consider setting up a junior committee to take on a particular project? There are also quite a lot of events throughout the year in the town and therefore an influx of visitors so the work of the Tidy Towns committee becomes all the more important at these times.

The Built Environment:

The Bunnratty Inn had a spectacular display of window boxes that was greatly admired. The Black Sheep, The Waterside Restaurant and an interesting 'Select Electrical' mural all looked well. Other premises that were commendable in their appearance included Harbour View Hotel, the National School, Garda Station, Community Hospital, the Community School and Pazzazz. The Holy Trinity Church was admired for its colourful display of hanging baskets. The use of the Irish Language was noted at An Tigin and An Mhaighdean Mhara.

Landscaping:

It is important that you indicate on your enclosed map where all improvements will be located as it makes it much easier to allocate additional marks! The Park in Schull is a wonderful amenity and was well presented on the day of adjudication. The grass and hedgerows here were well maintained and it is clear that the park is very busy indeed. Incidental areas of bedding plants were noted and admired at various locations throughout the town and its environs adding a welcome splash of colour.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your plans for this section are commendable. Given the coastal location of Schull there must be an abundance of seabirds in the area. You should consider conducting a survey of flora and fauna in the area and perhaps one of the schools could be of assistance here?

Litter Control:

The urban core of Schull was practically litter free on the day of adjudication with the exception of the presence of cigarette butts outside some public houses – it is clear that your litter patrols are paying dividends. Unfortunately the park had a series of litter blackspots adjacent mainly to public seating, which is a shame as it is otherwise beautifully presented. Your major clean-up of the beach is laudable however, monthly litter pick-ups in a town as large and as busy as Schull needs to be increased considerably and a rota established. Is the local council involved in litter control? Could your committee participate in a local Anti-Litter League in order to increase awareness?

Waste Minimisation:

You are commended on your ongoing co-operation with the schools and the guides. Is there a recycling facility in Schull, if so please indicate its location in next years application. You should also consider segregating waste from your litter pick-up and recycle it. Please refer to your Tidy Towns Handbook for additional pointers for this section.

Tidiness:

There is quite an amount of public seating throughout Schull and most of it requires repainting to freshen its appearance. The derelict petrol pumps outside McCarthy's garage really detract from an otherwise well presented street. The area around the Basketball and Tennis courts looked quite unkempt on the day of adjudication.

Residential Areas:

The Moorings and Celtic Cottages were crisp in their presentation. The colourful terraced row on the Goleen Road was greatly admired. Glencairn B&B was commended for its colourful roses and various planted pots. Most residences on the Ardmanagh Road were well presented and many had neat stonewall boundaries. The walled garden at Riverside was stunning and the Cobblers was greatly admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general, these areas were quite well presented. As with all urban centres vacant and derelict premises blights the streetscape on occasion but of course, this is out of the control of the Tidy Towns Committee!!

General Impression:

Schull is a vibrant coastal town with many amenities. There is undoubtedly huge potential and the provision of more detailed information in next years competition will see a considerable increase in marks. Keep up the good work!