

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cornelscourt**

Ref: **1332**

County: **Dublin (Dun
Laoghaire-Rathdown)**

Mark: **200**

Category: **D**

Date(s): **17/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	27
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	21
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	200

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Cornelscourt to the 2007 Tidy Towns Competition. Our entry is important to the Competition and we wish you every possible success in the future. It is suggested that at an early date that your Tidy Towns Committee considers the preparation of a simple 3 Year Tidy Towns Action Plan that would detail year by year the projects that you wish to undertake for Tidy Towns. When preparing the Plan it would be helpful to talk to any local organisations or agencies that may have an interest in the Competition. The definition of the boundaries for the Cornelscourt entry will be another important consideration and this should reflect the area officially covered by the Cornelscourt area.

The Built Environment:

The Cornelscourt Shopping Centre is the main focus for the built environment in the area. At the entrance area off the old Bray Road the landscaping was very impressive with excellently presented grass areas and well maintained plants and shrubs. The smaller Shopping Centre opposite Texaco was well presented as was the Texaco garage just across the road. Improvements in overall presentation are necessary to the smaller area of shops close to the start of Mart Lane.

Landscaping:

Landscaping is one of the strong aspects of Cornelscourt from a Tidy Towns point of view. Good landscaping was noted in front of the Shopping Centre opposite Texaco and the low mound with the attractive grove of mature trees at the junction of the old Bray Road and the duel carriageway also caught the adjudicator's attention. Kerry Mount Green is an attractive very large open space with good grass and trees that was very well presented. The excellent landscaping at the Cornelscourt Shopping Centre has been referred to above and this represents a standard for others to follow in the future.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The fine trees in the Cornelscourt area already provide important shelter and feeding for wildlife. This is now an important part of Tidy Towns and your Committee might consider how best to promote the wildlife aspect of the area to the many residents and children living in the area. The Tidy Towns Handbook available from the Tidy Towns Unit will be helpful in this regard. Glen Lawn would appear to have excellent wildlife potential where the trees run along the bottom of the grassy slopes.

Litter Control:

Litter control based on observations on adjudication day appears to be an area that needs attention. In the Cornelscourt Shopping Centre a surprising amount of litter was noted on the well maintained grass areas and in the grove of trees beside the dual carriageway referred to above. Litter was also noted on Kerrymount Green and along Mart Lane. Much litter featured along the short road joining the old Bray Road to the bye-pass. It is very important that your Tidy Towns Committee develops a litter control plan for your area as part of your overall Tidy Towns Plan. The issue of litter control is not an issue just for the Local Authority. All citizens and especially your Tidy Towns Committee have a key role to play. Your plan should include such issues as surveying the litter bins that you have in your community and their adequacy, clean up days and the role of your local schools.

Waste Minimisation:

This is a new category in the Tidy Towns Competition first introduced in 2006. The purpose of this new category is to encourage Tidy Towns Committees and the local community to get involved in projects that will reduce waste and encourage recycling. Marks can be gained by Cornelscourt for the promotion of best practice. This can include community guidance on methods of reducing waste such as segregating litter during clean up events. The organising of a Workshop on waste minimisation in the Cornelscourt area is another initiative that you might seriously consider. This could be held on a waste minimisation community awareness day as part of a series of local initiatives. Your local schools should also be involved with their own waste minimisation projects. You could also consider a partnership with local firms and businesses to encourage them to reduce unnecessary waste. In regard to waste minimisation it is important to remember that quite small actions can sometimes have a significant waste reduction impact.

Tidiness:

Graffiti especially on litter bins was noted in a number of areas and also in the area of the shops near the start of Mart Lane. It also appeared on various signs in the area. This is a problem in many areas and if possible it is important that there is a system in place to remove graffiti within a few days of it appearing. Otherwise the problem can quickly multiply.

Residential Areas:

Some uncut roadside verge areas were noted in St. Brigid's Park but the very long linear grass park like area was well presented. Be careful with the use of weed killer in this estate as some over-use was noted. A very attractive area of grass and trees is an important part of the overall presentation of Glen Lawn and Glen Lawn Drive though some litter was noted here. There is excellent wildlife potential where the two grassy slopes meet near the trees along by the small stream. Beech Park Road stands out for the good landscaping and tall mature trees and some of the landscaped areas are quite large. In some areas here grass needed to be cut at the base of the trees. Houses along the old Bray Road also have some good private landscaping.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Some of the road markings in the area need to be repainted especially along the old Bray Road. Along roads with roadside banks these will need to be trimmed outside of bird nesting months and roadside verges will need to be cut on a regular basis. Any stone walls in need of repair should receive early attention. The committee might discuss with the Local Authority the possible provision of name signs for Cornelscourt on the main approach roads where they do not presently exist.

General Impression:

The adjudicator would like to wish the new Cornelscourt Tidy Towns Committee every possible success in their plans for Tidy Towns in 2008.