

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Howth** Ref: **158**
County: **Dublin (Fingal)** Mark: **257**
Category: **D** Date(s): **08/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	41
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	257

Overall Development Approach:

Howth is very welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included interesting and helpful enclosures, of particular help to the adjudication process was your executive summary. We appreciate the difficulties by ongoing development within the village and harbour areas in particular and these have been taken into consideration in adjudication. It is good to note your ongoing support from a variety of statutory bodies and of course your links with Scoil Mhuire Green School in addition to the Howth community. Well done also on your association with the Howth Sutton Community Council Ltd Group.

The Built Environment:

New developments in Howth are impressive and have been considered for the Architectural Award. The 'Ella' wine bar premises has been considered for a Shopfront Award. Well done on work completed for the Church of the Assumption, Your list of Howth's important buildings is impressive and most are presented to a high standard. The curtilage area to the commercial premises located beside the railway station could be improved a little. Wright's Findlaters Bar and Restaurant enjoyed an excellent presentation. We wish you every success in bringing your future projects to completion.

Landscaping:

seventy steps from the top of Main Street to Dungriffin Road is a most attractive feature of Howth and the work being carried out here is worthwhile. Well done also on work accomplished for the green area on Harbour Road and the children's play area. The Rhododendron Gardens of the Deerpark Hotel are rightly described as exotic. Some under-planting and greater ground cover is necessary at a number of sites. Landscaping appeared to be being rehabilitated on the East Pier on the day of adjudication. Your trees of

many ages throughout the village and harbour together with colourful flowerbeds are a characteristic feature of Howth.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to note that you are committed to the ongoing existence of the Special Area Amenity Order. Now that the existence of wildlife habitats at Deerpark have been identified perhaps an interpretive panel might be placed in situ. The same point can be made for the wildlife corridor along the tramline. We do acknowledge however the existence of wildlife boards at other points around the village. Well done on the publication of the Guide Book Map of the Peninsula.

Litter Control:

Congratulations are due to the students of Scoil Mhuire National School for the achievement of Green Flag status. The overall aspect of Howth was one of being litter free however outbreaks of litter were noted at a few points most notably bus stops; well done to the Community Enterprise workers for their part in keeping good litter control. Your vigilance regarding inspection of dumped materials is no doubt responsible to a certain extent to the high standard of litter control. Congratulations on your inclusion in the IBAL Anti-Litter League and on your placement in Dublin and Fingal.

Waste Minimisation:

Again Scoil Mhuire can be noted under this heading for their achievement of Green Flag status. The committee might consider hosting a number of composting seminars for households and circulating households with leaflets on composting and other forms of waste minimisation. Businesses might be approached to participate in a waste audit in order to identify how much waste is being generated and to devise strategies to reduce this. Do try to keep the recycling points free of dumping and boxes, one in the car park was a little unsightly.

Tidiness:

Try to have out of scale advertisement hoardings eliminated from the village. Graffiti is a problem that Howth shares with many other towns and villages in the country. Congratulations on the acquisition of the Super-Loo for Clarmont beach.

Residential Areas:

The new apartment buildings located beside Wrights and Findlaters Bar and Restaurant is an attractive development and has been considered for the Architectural Award. Your liaison with Residents Associations is no doubt effective in the presentation of green areas, roads and paths throughout residential areas being presented to a high standard. Well done also on the organisation of Tidy Districts Competition.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road and footpaths are presented to a good standard throughout Howth and lanes and pathways are being well maintained also. Some road and street signs are in need of refurbishment. Improvements have been noted over last year's presentation and name plates/stone looked well.

General Impression:

The overall impression of Howth is one of a very attractive village with wonderful natural amenities and a host of social activities. Thank you for an excellent submission and good luck in your future plans.