

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Malahide** Ref: **159**
County: **Dublin (Fingal)** Mark: **281**
Category: **G** Date(s): **09/06/2007**
08/08/2007

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	45
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	11
Tidiness	30	19
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	35
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	400	281

Overall Development Approach:

Malahide is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, we note the absence of a planned work programme covering at least the next 3 years and urge you to forward one with next year's competition. Thank you for the enclosures on your festival and on the new community school, both were useful. It is good to note from the entry form that you work as a network selecting and passing on jobs to various bodies. Your partnership approach with schools, residents associations, statutory bodies and other agencies is noted, well done.

The Built Environment:

Gibneys, Stepz and Nuo have all been considered for a shop front award, they are beautifully presented. The majority of business practices were presented to a high standard. Well done on the refurbished curtilage area of the library. Townyard Lane is a beautiful side street. Schools and churches are nicely presented and congratulations on the new Community College, which will be eligible to be considered for either the Sustainable Development Award or the Architectural Award in next year's competition. Well done on the projects undertaken for this year under this heading and we wish you every success in planned projects.

Landscaping:

On the day of adjudication the landscaped area on the Village Green was in need of greater ground cover plants as the bare earth was showing through. The Castle grounds continue to look as magnificent as they usually do. Mature trees on many roads in the town centre and lining and gracing your approach roads are splendid. It is good to note your work with residents associations regarding the improvements of their estates by landscaping. Your flower displays in containers were admired for their colour and profuseness, well done on this. It will be interesting to see the result of the removal of shrubs and bushes from the beach thereby opening up magnificent natural views of the sea. We look forward to the development of the new 96-acre

park, this will provide wonderful additional recreational amenity facilities for the community. Keep us abreast of work accomplished on the continued development of the estuary and coastal walkways.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your beaches are wonderful natural amenities and are always clean. Congratulations on the designation of Malahide estuary as a leading bird sanctuary in Europe, the community are to be congratulated in keeping the estuary clean and free from rubbish on a year round basis; it would be nice to have more information on the very rare Malahide orcarid, so if this is available submit it with next year's competition. It is good to know that you have a high level of awareness regarding walkers through wildlife habitats, again we urge you to keep us abreast of the development of the coastal walkway.

Litter Control:

On the day of adjudication the Village Green was spoilt yet again by pizza boxes, drinks cans, cigarette ends and other food related litter; we note from your submission that you have ordered €100,000 worth of new larger bins which are capable of taking pizza boxes, however these had not been installed at the time of inspection. A litter patrol around the main eating times might be the answer to resolving this difficulty. At the bank machine on Church Road bags of empty takeaway drinks cans had been dumped against the Gable wall of the premises. We note your activities under this heading ranging from the litter warden to the new cleaning machines and the input from schools as regards litter collection together with sea scouts and cubs with responsibility for the beach not to mention your regular weekly work parties, however you may need to revise your litter control activities to include some daily picking around lunchtimes.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done to the students of the four schools that have Green Flag status, this is a fine achievement; it is good to note that the segregation of litter has become the norm not only during major cleanups but on a day-to-day basis also. The involvement of businesses in waste management is important and well done in this regard. Your recycling points were neatly presented and we note your use of the facility at the Estuary Recycling Centre. Do let us know how you get on with the long life energy efficient light bulbs and better water management now that your meters are in place, we would like to hear more about this.

Tidiness:

A number of building projects have come to completion in time for this year's competition which has resulted in a more tidy appearance for the town, well done. Reference has already been made for the work accomplished for the Carnegie Library and the new Malahide Community College is now complete, however the hoarding had yet to be removed on the day of inspection. It is good to note your proactive approach with developers and that you have a sponsor to paint the ornamental lighting in the town. Keep up your efforts regarding graffiti as it sends out a very important message.

Residential Areas:

Residential estates are presented to the highest standard and those that were especially admired included the Rise, Seapark, Biscayne, the Mall and many others, in fact no estates were found to have any major problems. The Marina Village is a fine development also. The involvement of residents associations in the Tidy Towns Competition appears to be most fruitful.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

It is good to note the continued upgrading of footpaths and road surfaces throughout the town, well done. The new Welcome to Malahide signs are an exciting initiative given that they have been designed by the schools. Keep us informed on the outcome of your gum busting initiative. We are also interested to find out how you have gotten on with the experts coming from Holland to talk to you on the management of graffiti. Street furniture looks well and again we note the proposed painting of ornamental lighting in the village and the installation of the new litterbins.

General Impression:

Malahide is an attractive town with much to offer the community and visitors in respect of natural amenities.

Second Round Adjudication:

Malahide had considerably improved with regard litter on the day of the second adjudication. However the areas around the recycling point in the car park at Malahide Castle and to a lesser extent the Glass and Can bank at the coastal car park had outbreaks. The beach too was virtually litter free. Public amenity areas were pristine with bins, seats and bollards maintained to a high standard. Public and commercial premises looked fresh and vibrant and in particular Island View Hotel, Duffy's, Mace, McCabes Pharmacy and the Garda Station were noted. Malahide is in the enviable position of having an abundance of mature tree throughout - however, as a result much of the public signage displayed substantial algae growth and these should be cleaned regularly. Graffiti was evident at a variety of locations and your ongoing work to combat it is highly commended. Paths, back areas and roads throughout Malahide were neat and tidy. Similarly residential areas are exceptional and your continued work in assisting and encouraging residential associations is paying dividends. Malahide is continuing to progress well in the Tidy Towns Competition it is truly a wonderful place to visit.