

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glenamaddy** Ref: **197**
County: **Galway** Mark: **200**
Category: **B** Date(s): **08/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	28
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	27
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	10
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	200

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your submission and giving details of work done and future work planned. Your application does not mention a development plan, and we wonder has one been developed for the village? The adjudicator is at a loss to the mention of the John Yates Plan that in last years adjudication report. We suggest you prepare a development plan (if one does not exist) in consultation with the villagers to chart the way forward in the future and ensure you are moving in the right direction. We are pleased to see that you communicate well with your community through the newsletter and local papers and we acknowledge the volunteers in the Glenamaddy Town Enhancement Committee that hand deliver notices to each household in the village and visit the school to encourage co-operation.

The Built Environment:

The establishment of the picnic area is an excellent facility for villages and passers by. We agree with the comments on last years adjudication report regarding the Community School: it is somewhat dreary. You have potential for colourful planting around the tennis and basketball courts to brighten up the appearance. We liked the St Brigids Hall which houses the library and museum, it is a nice building. Furthermore, the Credit Union, Garveys Pharmacy, Meehans Londis and Supervalu were all well presented. We noted that the old Bank of Ireland building has been sold and hopefully next year this building will be occupied and well presented.

Landscaping:

We acknowledge the planting the car park across from the Londis store and the maintenance of flowers beds and trees on Creggs road which are attractive. You have been busy tree planting in O'Keefe Park. Keep the momentum up for next year.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We visited the picnic area located at the layby on the banks of the Turlough. This is an area rich in plant life, flora, and a haven for migrating birds. Three picnic tables are in place and we liked the informative signs detailing in both Irish and English about the waterfowl that come to the Glenamaddy Turlough for food and safety each winter. We also learned that this area is part of the Lurgeen Bog Special Area of Conservation. Your application states that you liaised with Duchas on this project, well done, your efforts have paid off and you should be pleased with your success. You have a wealth of diverse habitats on your doorstep so continue with similar projects over the coming years.

Litter Control:

We visited the Bring Bank facility and these were well maintained. No litter was evident during our adjudication – well done.

Waste Minimisation:

We are glad that the local national school has embarked on the green flag programme as it has elements that fulfil the concept of waste minimisation. You have started to develop your work programme to include segregation of recyclables from the litter clean ups and you state you have held public meetings and sent notices to all businesses. You have enormous potential to increase your marks in this section. It may be helpful for you to consult the guidance document produced by the Department entitled “How to win the Race against Waste in your Community” to allow you to gain more marks in this section next year. The Waste Awareness Officer of Galway County Council may also be a good starting point. Consider engaging with the local schools and businesses, how about holding a waste awareness day or adopting the local Bring Bank? May be for next year you could work with the local school on a waste minimisation project? The schools involvement would give them “hands on” involvement in the competition and also contribute to the Green Flag Programme.

Tidiness:

As detailed last year your problems relate to derelict buildings, poor open spaces and poorly presented boundary walls. For example, the petrol station beside the Health Centre is an eyesore. We thought that the signage on the Moving Pint would benefit from painting/refurbishment.

Residential Areas:

The new developments on the Lakeside housing estate gives you scope to recruit new members. The developers should be encouraged to landscape and finish the green area at the entrance to this development. In general the housing in and around the village is well maintained and well presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The entrance (pillars and signage) and car parking facilities to the GAA pitch could be improved however the Clubhouse and pitches themselves are good amenities for the community. Work is on-going on the pavement from Supervalu to the main village junction we look forward to seeing this next year when it is completed.

General Impression:

You have raised your marks this year in a number of categories due to your efforts and we hope that this will act as a stimulus for further action and securing further involvement from the local community. Overall you should be pleased with your efforts – congratulations and best wishes for next year.