

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Salthill** Ref: **768**
County: **Galway** Mark: **213**
Category: **D** Date(s): **27/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	13
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	213

Overall Development Approach:

Salthill is very welcome to Tidy Towns 2007 and thanks to you and Galway City Council for ensuring that this lovely area could enter the competition for what appears to be the very first time. I am aware that Salthill has picked up many awards in various other competitions and initiatives over the years and I have no doubt that your participation in Tidy Towns will bring further success to the area in the future. The very best of luck in your endeavours!

The Built Environment:

Salthill is a busy seaside resort and also a heavily populated residential town. The Building Environment of Salthill reflects both. The Church on mainstreet is tastefully maintained and joyously landscaped. Hotels present a picture of opulence and high class accommodation. In general schools look very well. The entrance to Salerno enhances Threadneedle Road. Dereliction possibly reflects the precarious nature of business in a weather threatened seaside resort. In other cases the painted front reflects the ravages of the sea and needs constant renewal. Some of the shop fronts bring cheer to the expectant throngs, for instance, Killorans. The Galeon looks very well also. Overall the buildings along the promenade present a colourful, joyful picture.

Landscaping:

At times the landscaping is breathtaking. Estates are very well catered for. The shining example is Oaklands. Quincentennial Park and Salthill Park are first class amenities and are beautifully maintained. Along the seafront the landscaping again is colourful and attractive. Some of the buildings present a colourful picture with the tubs and baskets of colour. More informal landscaping would bring life and summer cheer to the seafront

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is difficult to comment on this section without a description of the measures your Committee are taking to provide information on wildlife, and what wildlife amenities you provide for your community. Salthill is fortunate in having a coastline teeming with wildlife. The many hedges and wall also create habitats. This is a section with great potential for you.

Litter Control:

What a challenge. In your submission for next year detail the measures you take to control litter. For such a busy place the litter was not too noticeable but bins were full to capacity in places.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on the Bring Banks which are neat and well maintained. In order to make further progress in this section it may help to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. This booklet may help you to focus on projects that would be suitable for you. It would also help differentiate between waste management and waste minimisation.

Tidiness:

Despite all that is happening in summertime Salthill, the whole town presents as being tidy. The kerbside weeds, the graffiti are problems that can be tackled. The grassy islands on mainstreet have a haggard enough appearance, the flower boxes being a mere token. Many road signs and estate signs need to be freshened as at Whitestrand Road.

Residential Areas:

Salthill is blessed with fine private residences and beautifully maintained estates. It also has houses built in traditional seaside style and these help create the seaside image as along Daly's Fort Road. The residences offering Bed and Breakfast present an inviting front and high standard of maintenance. There are two blots on the housing landscape. Firstly the kerbside weeds. Secondly the graffiti. Possibly the most beautiful residential estate in Ireland is at Oaklands. Neither of the foregoing problems assault the maintenance here.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads into Salthill present picturesque approaches to this seaside resort. The most spectacular being down Threadneedle Road with a panoramic view of the Salthill, of Galway Bay and the Burren as a backdrop. The houses, schools and the Lawn Tennis entrance compliment the image of beauty. The only approach to disappoint was the road above the golf course which was spoiled by weeds. The fine wall there threatened by the growing ivy.

General Impression:

A lovely place. Despite the traffic flow and the hustle and bustle, despite the blaring music, there is a feeling of contentment when ambling along the main street. Maybe it comes from the wide promenade and the easy, unimpeded accessibility to the sea at all times.