

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballybunion** Ref: **323**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **237**
Category: **C** Date(s): **09/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	37
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	237

Overall Development Approach:

Ballybunion is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission. It is good to hear you are working with your environmental officer to promote waste minimisation and also undertaking some unique approaches to encourage recycling.

The Built Environment:

It is noted that you worked to review inappropriate signage. Some derelict sites have been landscaped and maintained since the last adjudication. The new leisure centre is a welcome addition to the town and was being heavily utilised on the day of adjudication. The church is well kept as is the Garda station. The sculpture of Bill Clinton is a unique monument and in keeping with the golf culture of the town. The street displays some fine examples of traditional shop fronts and the majority of retail and business outlets were well maintained. St Johns graveyard is reasonable well kept though some weeding is required.

Landscaping:

New plantings at the sandhill park area of hillview crescent were admired. The landscaping at the gold course is very well done.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The cliff walk provides dramatic scenery and signage along the route is informative. The raw beauty of the natural environment is made easily accessible via several paths and roads leading to seaside areas.

Litter Control:

Litter control was generally good with a few exceptions. The area behind the wall at the new leisure centre had litter thrown behind it. You are commended for your approach to fast food outlets to encourage them to have their employees clean up their customers litter. The beach clean up is a great exercise and the effort has resulted in a pristine beach at the time of adjudication. Your request for extra recycling bins will be useful either to put on an outlying area with new developments into increase the current bins available in town to cope with the influx of tourists. The recycling competition is a unique way to encourage recycling and a very good idea.

Waste Minimisation:

It is good to hear that your Environmental officer is educating on waste minimisation. The extra recycle bins are a good addition. Further strategies such as reducing waste by composting could be undertaken.

Tidiness:

The old petrol pumps in front of the hostel need to be removed as they are quite untidy. It is noted that you are meeting with golf course over issue of weedy posts and wire fence. On the day of adjudication the wire fence was down in part and there was a fair bit of litter in this area.

Residential Areas:

New residential areas were well landscaped and the creation of small groups of houses helps retain the village atmosphere. Further planting in estates is welcome and will help newer areas integrate to the current village more quickly.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

It is noted that all roundabouts will be reviewed moving forward. Most road surfaces and footpaths are good with the notable exception being the area around the afore mentioned petrol pumps. The repaved road areas have been noted.

General Impression:

Ballybunion is an attract seaside town in a beautiful setting. It is very popular with seaside visitors. However, it does have to ensure that it does not over run its tradional shop fronts and historic appeal by allowing large or gaudy signs or derelict buildings to dominate certain areas