

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Derrinturn** Ref: **1209**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **186**
Category: **B** Date(s): **18/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	22
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	11
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	400	186

Overall Development Approach:

Derrinturn is welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition. It is a pleasure to have you on board, thank you for your well thought out submission including a map which were most helpful to the adjudication process. We look forward to receiving your planned work programme next year and to charting your progress over the coming years. It is good to note your partnership approach to the management of your lovely village liaising as you do with all community groups. We wish you every success in the future.

The Built Environment:

Derrinturn is certainly experiencing rapid growth with so many new buildings over the past few years; new developments are a successful mix of public, private and recreational which will provide a good range of services for the community. We wish you well with the planned improvements to the Community Hall. The school, its grounds and boundary wall looked well; the boundary wall of the Garda station could be painted. Encourage shop-owners to use lattice type shutters with internal lighting at night. The Cost Cutter premises were nicely presented.

Landscaping:

In your landscaping programme ensure that native species are used in order to facilitate wildlife diversity; where practicable plant cultivars of trees / shrubs that occur naturally in the surrounding countryside; young trees will hopefully mature to provide a legacy for future generations. Flower displays looked well

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

In addition to maintaining hedgerows you might consider undertaking a survey of wildlife habitats of your hedgerows and publishing the results on all weather, vandal proof information panels, local school children could be invited to participate in this initiative. You Sli na Slainte walk is a fine amenity facility however signposting appeared not to be in place on the day of adjudication. The new GAA Pavillion is an exciting development. The graveyard was neatly presented.

Litter Control:

Your litter control activities are diverse, well done on the major monthly clean-ups and the involvement of schoolchildren. Hopefully you will be successful in acquiring a sponsored wheelie bin and litter bins. The small estate behind the bus stop on the northern entrance to the village was very littered on inspection day with bottles, cans and crisp wrappers. It is good to note that litter is segregated for recycling

Waste Minimisation:

The recycling point is being neatly maintained, and there is a good variety of containers, well done. You might also consider undertaking a community 'waste audit' with a view to finding ways to decrease the volume of waste produced in Derrinturn; have you considered community composting? Congratulations to the school children on their Green Flag, they deserve our appreciation.

Tidiness:

It is important to maintain footpaths and the base of walls free of weed growth in the interest of safety and remember sprayed weeds can be unsightly so don't forget to remove these. Untreated weed growth featured along many stretches of footpath and at the base of the school wall. Do keep us informed of your activities to eliminate graffiti.

Residential Areas:

The participation of new residents in the management of Derrinturn village is appreciated and is a credit to the community. It is good to note that each estate will take on the responsibility for the landscaping of their own areas; the time constraint factor is acknowledged and is shared with many towns and villages now. Both new and older estates enjoyed a good overall standard of presentation with the exception of the small estate behind the bus stop which had quite a few weather-stained dwellings and seats in need of attention as well as the litter noted above.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The proposed extension of the footpath to Windmill Cross is excellent, no doubt you have plans for the improvement of existing footpaths throughout the village. Road surfaces are quite good

General Impression:

Derrinturn has the appearance of a village enjoying a strong community spirit. We look forward to future adjudications.