

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Boherbue** Ref: **95**  
County: **Cork(North)** Mark: **235**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **10/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	27
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>235</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Congratulations to Boherbue on your entry to the Tidy Towns Competition 2008. You are fortunate to have such a large committee. Its size suggests that your organisation has much support in the community. There was evidence of this support as ladies busied themselves in their sponsored high visibility vests in the village centre. The adjudicator immediately felt connected to the village activities! Hopefully your interaction with the various agencies is beneficial to your plans and work. You work in conjunction with the school in your litter campaign, worthwhile also. Could you encourage the school authorities to attempt to attain Green Flag Status? At times in your submission there appeared to be a frustration about the work, there are very few meetings and you find it difficult to stimulate new people to join in your efforts. Maybe this explains why you have so few projects planned and did not enclose a plan of action over the next few years. Which brings one back to the big committee. During the year you might have a look at your structures so that you can get the best productivity from the committee. Boherbue is a beautiful village and your efforts over the years have helped in shaping what you have to-day. Boherbue is still being shaped so you have a real interest in being involved. A map with village highlights would be most helpful and helps connect with the adjudicator.

### **The Built Environment:**

The centre of the village is a delight and the buildings are enhanced by the tasteful landscaping. The pump appeared splendidly clean. The colour on the buildings and the colour of the flowers compliment one another. The crouching yellow vests add another dimension to the colour!! The Presbytery looked very well. The buildings at the Boherbue Handball Club and the school look extremely well. The landscaping at the Scoil Chuimsitheach enhanced what is a cared for building and brings colour and life to that part of town. The Credit Union building also adds to a well maintained colourful image. The Church also exudes pride and the parking and landscaping around it are imaginative and well appointed. Boherbue Park is a wonderful facility but needs to be maintained. The thatched house is a welcome reminder of the past but was brought

right up to date by the Munster flag fluttering proudly in the breeze. Sponsors Super Valu cannot be omitted from mention as one of the buildings bringing life to Boherbue. It is a pity that you have no plans in this section.

### **Landscaping:**

One of the features of Boherbue is the many hedgerows which provide privacy, shade, colour and wildlife habitats. But those hedges are but one of the many landscaping delights that greet local and visitor alike. The beds reinforced with the railway sleepers exemplify care and affection for the place. The school deserves special mention with its colourful flower tubs and boxes. The Scoil Chuimsitheach also. The landscaping across from the school fills that corner tastefully and softens the protruding wall. The centre of town is a kaleidoscope of colour. The rose bed and window boxes at the red house another one of many delights. You are planning on removing the pumb...?

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The 'Wildlife in Boherbue' board says it all. The board looks well and gives a comprehensive account of wildlife in the village. You tell us that you have a wildlife sanctuary but access is a problem. Firstly it is a big advantage to have such a sanctuary. For next year you might give us more information on it, include a few photos and tell us what is happening. In order to make further progress you need to put a wildlife plan together.

### **Litter Control:**

You seem to be getting great support for your litter collections. Well done. Boherbue is not a litter black spot and no evidence of dumping was found but you do have litter, as you are aware. In order to reduce the amounts you collect on the Monday nights you might put a litter plan together: What types of litter do you find? Who is generating this litter? Where are the black spots? Do you have sufficient bins? Are the bins strategically sited? What are your targets regarding litter? How will you achieve those targets? Define your interaction with the school.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

Try to distinguish between waste as in litter and reducing waste as in composting, recycling, reusing. The pursuance of the Green Flag Status will help focus your efforts in the correct direction. This section is about reducing waste in the home, school and in business. It could benefit your committee to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. Such a study would stimulate new waste elimination projects for you. The emphasis in this section is not on litter control but on minimising waste in your community.

### **Tidiness:**

There is a general air of tidiness in the town. The traffic seems controlled. For the most part there are few weeds on kerbs and edges. So do keep an eye on weeds on kerbing. In places the wires and cables mar the skyline. If the opportunity arises to bury them make sure to jump at it. Dereliction leads to that neglected appearance which you obviously abhor. Owners of these premises have responsibilities also and can be pursued through various agencies. There is some clutter at busy enterprises but can be a tricky problem to deal with. Road signage is for the most part in good shape. Yet again the absence of a plan is a pity.

### **Residential Areas:**

The private houses throughout the village are proudly presented and beautifully maintained. They exude pride and dance with colour. They are an important part of the character of Boherbue. 'The Beeches' is a work in progress but will add to its colourful surroundings. Paddy McAuliffe Ave was resplendent on the day but would look well in any weather. The houses in the village centre, once businesses one presumes, now give a solid appearance to that area. Well done.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The hedgerows on approach roads have been mentioned already. The one on the Ballydesmond road leads one gracefully into town. Mind you the clutter at the garage reminds one that this is a busy village and not to get too carried away.

There are precious trees on the approach road from Millstreet. The well maintained grassy banks give a lovely appearance. The big yellow building is a problem and blights the scene. Boherbue is fortunate in that its approach roads proclaim the village. But the village name signs could be improved.

**General Impression:**

A most enjoyable visit to a bustling village. I cannot share in the melancholic tone of some parts of the submission. There is a basic village vista that has been there for years and is beautiful. New buildings are adding colour to the character of the older buildings. A young population that breathes life into the street and a generation of young seniors out cleaning and sweeping. Where would one find it. Continue the good work.