

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glinsk** Ref: **198**
County: **Galway** Mark: **231**
Category: **A** Date(s): **24/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	41
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	30
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	2
Tidiness	30	11
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	231

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Glinsk to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. This is a most attractive village and the adjudicator was visiting for the first time. Your committee of 20 is very large by national standards and this reflects the great work that you are doing for the Glinsk area. You enjoy wide agency support also and the National School appears to play a most important role in your work. The Review document on your 2007-2008 projects was most interesting and gave the adjudicator a very clear picture of the life in this very busy community. Well done on your Pride of Place participation. Do remember that the TidyTowns Handbook gives great information and suggestions. Both new Committees and those who have been involved in the competition for some time will find this booklet really useful.

The Built Environment:

The maintenance of historical sites seems to occupy a lot of your time and the Castle and the Abbey are most interesting parts of the history of Glinsk. It would be good if a little more public information was available on the history of the area. The works at the GAA complex and at the Community Centre are most important community projects and the grey and white colour scheme at the excellently presented Community Centre is most effective. How is the project on the conservation of the interesting Church windows progressing? In the Heritage Park the 10 bridges that you have completed in recent years adds much to this beautiful and relaxing area. The Cemetery was excellently maintained and the old stone gate pillars were admired. The grass areas here were very well presented but the small gate needed to be painted. The School is well set back from the road and was attractively presented with the nearby wildflower meadow and tree planting. The railings and gates here will need to be painted for 2009 if possible.

Landscaping:

The area beside the School is so important as a method of introducing young children to the importance of

nature and the natural environment. Opposite the School entrance the grass verge area needed to be cut. The Nature Walk concept leading through the village is excellent and perhaps some signage might be considered.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Heritage Park was explored by the adjudicator on a damp June day and what a lovely area this is. It is really relaxing here especially the area by the new Dam. The standard of maintenance here was very high though the area with the cut limestone blocks did not reach the standard noted elsewhere in the Park. A sign at the entrance to the Park explaining the development of the project and the nature of the area should be considered for 2009.

Litter Control:

The involvement of the School in the Anti-Litter campaign is a welcome development. At the Bring Centre in the Community Centre car park the presentation was very good but the official signage should be erected as soon as possible. Is the Bring Centre a little far out from the village centre? This is just a query as the adjudicator has no problem with the present location. In the village itself litter control was good.

Waste Minimisation:

Your documentation advised that you use recycling best practice and for next year you might indicate what waste minimisation projects you have in hand. It is recommended that you have perhaps just two projects each year under this category. This category is not about litter control but about how waste production in the village can be best reduced, as well as recycling where possible.

Tidiness:

The white wall opposite the turn to the Community Centre caught the eye and needed to be painted. In the Heritage Park car park a large pile of sand needed to be removed as it is right beside the otherwise attractive picnic table.

Residential Areas:

Work still seemed to be under way on Castlelawn estate. Individual houses in Glinsk were generally neatly presented some with excellent landscaping that contributed to the attractive character of the village. The houses planned for the elderly will be an excellent project and we look forward to seeing further progress in 2009.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The road from Williamstown was very attractively presented with very good green grass margins and the varied tree species along this road created a great first impression of Glinsk. The verges on the road to the School were uncut and other roadside verges did not seem to have been cut in recent weeks.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Glinsk for the first time. Good luck with your TidyTown projects for 2009 when we look forward to visiting you again.