

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bree** Ref: **29**
County: **Wexford** Mark: **250**
Category: **A** Date(s): **04/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	32
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	250

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the filled out entry form that contained a useful map of the village. I note you have 8 committee members and you hold bi-monthly meetings, and there are further meetings with Wexford TidyTowns network plus with the green school co-ordinator. It is important to keep the parishioners informed, as you are doing, of your activities and future plans. I read over the three year development plan and you have some quite ambitious targets that, when implemented, will add greatly to the area and hopefully you will win the TidyTowns Competition. Congratulations for coming second in the Keep Wexford beautiful competition 2007. You are doing worthwhile work in keeping in touch with the schools, as this creates awareness in the children, at a young age, about their local environment. It is positive to learn that the competition keeps the community focussed on civic pride. Good luck with the upcoming festival.

The Built Environment:

Bree Community Centre was very well presented in a crisp and fresh manner with its spacious car park and was adorned with hanging baskets of flowers and sported some good mature trees. It was great to see the tennis courts in use where some children were getting lessons on the game. The Catholic church is a fine imposing building and is visually striking with a great boundary wall, wrought iron gates and railing and a beautifully kept graveyard nearby. The School was neat and tidy with some good shrubs and mature trees. Byrnes spar shop, the post office and the Huntsmans looked immaculate with some very good sign writing, and they were decorated further with bright flowers in window boxes. The old mill in the town could be screened off with trees to reduce the visual impact.

Landscaping:

There are some fine splashes of landscaping around the village, notably across from Byrne's shop. The new

graveyard looked absolutely splendid with that neat stone wall outside and neatly trimmed grass, and congratulations to all concerned with the upkeep of the graveyard. The ICA memorial gardens is a beautiful little place, and very relaxing to stroll around and sported a nice stone seat plus a wrought iron seat. In this area I admired a great old water trough, and the old horse drawn harrow is a reminder of bygone days, but I thought it could be somewhat dangerous with iron bars protruding out of it. The splendour of this garden would rival any similar development in Ireland.

The Dick Joyce memorial garden with the mother and child sculpture is an attractive feature. The adjacent shrubs and flowers looked great. There is a good green area outside Hillview, and other well kept spacious greens in the village. The landscaping in place at the private houses is very good and compliments the public landscaping.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

I did notice a number of bird boxes around the village and it was pleasant to see some birds feeding across from the shop in the green and down in the ICA garden. I admired the public notice board that gives good illustrations of the fauna and flora of Bree.

Litter Control:

I read your submission on litter and you certainly have tackled this situation head on, and the rewards are there for all to see, as no litter was in evidence on the day that I called. You are to be commended on the fine effort you are making with the control of litter.

Waste Minimisation:

I inspected the segregation bins at the community centre and two cars pulled up while I was there and people put material in the different bins. I note the local businesses are members of REPAK and they segregate all glass and bottles in different bins. It is positive that the school are going to conduct a waste audit.

Tidiness:

Most of the village was presented in a clean and tidy condition, and only some weeds were noticed in isolated areas notably outside a green storage tank at the top of the town. A number of well serviced litter bins were in place around the village.

Residential Areas:

Cluain Aiteann housing estate is well landscaped with a spacious green area and has good houses, but unfortunately there is no sign post / nameplate on the estate. Knockgross old houses are well presented with the green area to the front. Hillview has good signage with clean and tidy houses with fine displays of shrubs and flowers. Carrimacogue park has an attractive stone signpost, and has good new houses well landscaped. There are some very good single houses all around the village and some of them had effective shows of lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers and the Gables is a fine example. The Rock of Bree housing estate has some very well designed modern houses with a good green in the middle.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main road down through the village is in need of some attention as it was quite bumpy and patched up in many places, and maybe it was dug up lately. Down at the end of the village there is a V and I think that a signpost could be provided here. There are some good stone walls and secure fencing along the roads. The signposts were clean and clear.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure to visit Bree after a lapse of about five years and the village, as always, looked in a crisp and fresh state. Congratulations to all concerned and I could see the "footprints" of a very active committee. Well done to all concerned.