Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Carrigaline**	Ref:	**111**
County:	**Cork(South)**	Mark:	**265**
Category:	**F**	Date(s):	**16/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	45
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	**400**	**265**

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for the entry form and thanks also for the map of the town and all the supporting material. I note you have 20 committee members and hold monthly meetings and many informal meetings. I also note that you have meetings every few months with the Co. Council, Fás, the Gardai. Schools, Churches, Fire-brigade, Scouts and the Retired Residents Association. It is good to find you are getting sponsorship and financial support form local business and you are also getting assistance from Harbour Industry, and practical support from clubs such as the flowers clubs, scouts, community school, community association, Macra Na Feirme and the Fire brigade. You are communicating very well with local people. It is worthwhile, as you do, to keep regular contact with the schools. We are pleased to find that the competition has helped in better planning, litter control and development of the town. You have a variety of social events which are very important for the local community. All of this means you have an excellent approach to the competition. I read over your 3 /5 year plan and you have some ambitious aspirations to further improve the town and surrounding area.

The Built Environment:

Most of the business houses are maintained in very good condition, and I loved all those traditional shops that are brightly painted. The new shops and offices blend in very well with the older traditional shops and this shows that great attention was given to planning. It is perhaps unfair to single out a few instances but I admired Carrig Medical Centre. The Catholic Church is a visually striking building with its own particular charm and is beautifully landscaped, well done to al concerned. The Church of Ireland building and graveyard are beautifully kept. The pipe-band house hall looked good and the Grotto is supreme and nestles peacefully across from the church. The hotel, AIB, Cogans, Supervalu, Walsh's Pharmacy, Ulster Bank, The Gaelic Bar, Mc Carthy's and Carrigaline Book shop were admired. The modern Library and the garda station as well as Dunnes Stores all stood out well. But several other shops were just as good and in some cases probably better presented.

Landscaping:

Landscaping is very well catered for with superb shows throughout the town. Could I suggest that the centre of the main street could accommodate some tubs of flowers and shrubs etc, and this is in the area around Sherry Fitzgerald. Neat landscaping was observed in the car park near Moloney's Traditional Family Restaurant. At the public toilet attractive shrubs and flowers were noted. The trees along by the side of the river near the visitor information notice board give an attractive and softening effect to that area. Excellent landscaping was noted at the roundabouts. I was most impressed at the huge amount of young trees that are nicely developing all over the town. The landscaping at the new housing estates is special.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The public park is a great amenity with picturesque views of the river. In the park a very large green area was presented with litter bins and neatly trimmed grass. The spacious children's playground contained lots of suitable equipment and it was fantastic to sit there and watch numerous children thoroughly enjoying themselves in the fresh air – well done to all concerned. There are a few very good walking areas to be enjoyed, especially the riverside walk towards Crosshaven. There is an abundance of wildlife in all those wonderful trees stone walls and river banks around the town.

Litter Control:

The control of litter was good with a large quantity of bins that were well serviced everywhere. The children of the area are obviously playing their part with careful attention to litter and are joined by the youth club, scouts and local people. I do believe that a town of this size needs a litter warden. You show great commitment by organising litter clean-ups in trouble spots and back streets.

Waste Minimisation:

It is good that you are showing the way to the children in relation to waste. I inspected the bring bank at the car park where the 8 bottle bins and the clothes bank were well serviced and clean. Unfortunately some rubbish was dumped at the back of a bottle bin and near the clothes bin. The nameplate for the bring site looked badly as it appears it was burned and I fear that this gives a wrong message.

Tidiness:

It was obvious that there was a cut back in support form the Co Council as weeds were in evidence in many areas. Attacks of graffiti left their mark in some places. But all down along the main street was orderly and tidy. The derelict house facing the hotel is unsightly, but there is little you can do about this and two other derelict places that I noticed. There was cigarette ends at some points especially along the main street, but it was noticeable that some people were giving attention to this problem outside their own shops and pubs

Residential Areas:

There are several beautiful well kept houses all around the town with impressive displays of shrubs, lawns, and trees and hedging. The housing estates are very well planned and laid out, especially the new estates. Some of the estates are really superb and as good as any I have seen. I admired tasteful finger sign posting. This is a great idea to hold inter estate competitions, and it is plain to be seen that great pride of place attitudes are maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The bridges are attractive and I like the ones up near Lidl with strong and freshly painted railings. The road surfaces are excellent in most places except on parts of the main street, and it is a pity that you are being put on the long finger by the relevant engineer. All the road signs are clean and distinct and the grass margins are in excellent shape and well manicured. The tremendous landscaping at the roadsides and roundabouts give a feel good atmosphere on arrival and reminds any tourists to the area that they are visiting a well kept place.

General Impression:

I really enjoyed a half day amongst your people. You have brought Carrigaline into great shape. Great attention was given to your presentation and I wish to compliment you on this, and I could see the "footprints" of an imaginative and enthusiastic people all around the town.
The Carrigaline tidy town's calendar is a wonderful publication with a great picture by Niamh Ní Mhaoláin – well done to Niamh.