

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Ballylickey** Ref: **665**  
County: **Cork(West)** Mark: **229**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **17/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	29
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>229</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Congratulations to the Ballylickey Tourist and Development Board for participating in the Tidy Towns Competition 2009. Thank you for your submission and for your map. While one would like to see a 3-5 Year Plan included, the map suggested further planning and was most helpful in surveying this lovely village. One notes that Tidy Towns is but one element of your action and development plan for Ballylickey and such a holistic approach is to be welcomed. Your clout in dealing with certain agencies may also be strengthened. Certainly something is motivating the people to present their village as beautifully as possible and if the Tidy Towns Competition helps all the better.

### **The Built Environment:**

While there is no sign of the usual keynote buildings of a village, Church or school, Ballylickey is blessed to possess some fine period houses which define the charm and character of the village. More modern buildings like at Costcutter are a credit to the village. This is a busy garage which is maintained in an attractive, clean fashion. The stone-faced pointed wall hides the enterprise behind. Both Ballylickey House and Seaview are fine period houses with fine landscaping. The Emporium is a quaint delight. Ouvane Falls is another building that adds to the charm of Ballylickey. Hopefully your pleadings will have some result in the cases of abandoned or derelict projects. The platform at Snave creates a worthwhile amenity. The stone shed near the campsite entrance should not be allowed to deteriorate because if maintained will add to the village built environment.

### **Landscaping:**

Ballylickey is fortunate in that much of its landscaping is natural, provided by established trees and the jutting

rock. The walls give definition to the landscaping and are attractively maintained. The interventions of your committee with the shrubberies add variety. Wonderful work has been done with the half barrels on the railings and on the fine stone retaining wall across from the bridge. The landscaping at the campsite entrance helps give Ballylickey its tidy appearance. Landscaping at Costcutter is a joy with the lupins affording delightful summer colour. The amenity area, part sponsored by Clár, is a worthwhile development.

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

Ballylickey is a wildlife natural habitat. It is a matter of finding out what wildlife inhabits Ballylickey, where their habitats are, what their visiting times are. What do you intend to display on the wildlife signs? While awaiting the funding for the signs make sure that you are tending to the needs of the birds and bees of Ballylickey.

#### **Litter Control:**

Costcutter sets the standard for the rest of Ballylickey. Bins are provided if needed. The place is a busy shop and garage. Yet there is no trace of litter. The rest of the village is of a similar standard, though there is litter, most likely caused by the passing traffic. You mention your management of the litter. Please expand on this for next year and reveal to us the elements of that management.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

It could benefit your committee to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. Such a study would stimulate new waste elimination projects for you. Remember that the emphasis in this section is not on litter control but on minimising waste in your community.

#### **Tidiness:**

For the most part Ballylickey presents a tidy image. One notes the absence of the telltale signs of weedkiller. The strimmer is used to great effect instead but one regrets the situation where the strimmer is not used. The cables intrude on the skyline from place to place. Road surfaces and road markings are of a high standard, and need to be. Some drivers have no respect for the daily lives of the residents. One wonders if there is need for further traffic calming.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The owners of houses throughout, enhance the appearance of Ballylickey by their landscaping of the fronts of houses. Houses are frequently at a remove from the road and are tastefully secluded by landscaping thus creating an air of mystery about the site. Walls, hedges, are at all times beautiful maintained. The derelict sites scar the landscape and detract from the efforts of the people in the immediate vicinity. The holiday cottages across from Snavel strand add further interest, even if outside the village boundary. One felt that the fine footpath out of town towards Bantry must lead to something of interest. In fact it led one to the fine houses out further from town, well worth the visit.

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

The Glengarriff/Bantry road is the main thoroughfare through Ballylickey, and a busy one too. It is well maintained, maintenance assisted by the fine stone walls, the natural stone, and the wild forests that seem trespassed upon by the passing road. The proximity of the sea adds to the charm. Maintenance is the key along this road. The two back roads at the junction are left to their own devices, an appropriate policy. Just one thing: ensure that the village name signs are visible and kept clean.

#### **General Impression:**

A delightful little coastal village which benefits from your contribution to maintaining high standards. Your causes of frustration are clearly etched onto the landscape. One wishes you well in your efforts to improve this situation.