

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Annestown** Ref: **646**  
County: **Waterford** Mark: **249**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **13/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	1
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>249</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Welcome to the 2009 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, which included a completed application form, a report of the development group's work programme and a village map. These were of great assistance to the adjudicator on the day of adjudication. It is further noted that you have drawn up a list of priorities for a work programme to the village with the assistance of FÁS. Your regular meetings with the County Council Engineer and the D.F.B.A. Enterprise Officer, together with Leader, will give focus to your future efforts. Well done on this initiative.

### **The Built Environment:**

Like many Irish coastal villages, Annestown gets its character from the pattern and shape of its own unique location. The wide village street retains its charming, traditional scale and its location on a sloping hillside gives it a very special ambience. The village retains a strong urban form and the individual residences have largely retained their traditional architectural details. It would be a well worthwhile undertaking for the committee, in liaison with Waterford County Council, to have these buildings architecturally assessed with a view to their long term preservation. Existing features such as doorways, entrance porches, sash windows, and chimney stacks should be particularly noted. The green and white residence, at the junction of the Dunhill Road and the Main Street, sets a fine example in this regard. This building was beautifully presented with an attractive colour scheme, sliding sash windows and appropriate doorway, together with some colourfully ornate window boxes. Further along the street, the individual houses have an appropriate pastel colour scheme and the well proportioned porches are a feature of the street. The prominently located St John the Baptist Church is well presented and the grounds are neat and tidy. The story board here is a great point of interest.

**Landscaping:**

As stated by last year's adjudicator, the committee have made good choices in the selection of shrubs and plants with a view to long term, low maintenance. The selection of plants and shrubs here is a vital ingredient because of its coastal setting and perhaps a survey of native plants in the area would be a good undertaking for the committee. There was an array of flower box presentations throughout the area. One half tub on the village street was in need of replanting.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

We note your future ambitions to collaborate with the Anne Valley Environmental Project. This venture would form an attractive connection through to Dunhill and enhance the already strong visual connection with the historical Castle. The beach area has already undergone some developments under the Copper Coast Geoparks promotion. The lime kiln story board is a nice addition and the sculptural table and seating by sculptors Ivan and Marcel Twohig is a nice addition but the area surrounding both of these needs attention. A wildlife information board already exists in the adjacent car park and this would be a good location to incorporate further information. The area had quite a number of visitors on the day of adjudication and these facilities were being well used.

**Litter Control:**

There was no litter present on the day of adjudication but small quantities of discarded papers were scattered on the ground of the Celtic View SC and in the car park at the beach.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Once again your application form does not deal with your efforts under this heading. Last year's adjudicator made a number of suggestions on the waste minimisation agenda which we would again reiterate. We would again suggest that you consult the Race Against Waste website and the local Environmental Officer in order to make progress under this category heading.

**Tidiness:**

The overall appearance of the village was one of tidiness. At the beach, some attention to the car park, particularly to the fencing and surface, would raise this area to the standard of the village core.

**Residential Areas:**

As previously mentioned, the houses in the village looked well and a number of individual residences have attractive, colourful presentations.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach roads have an attractive charm, enclosed by a variety of loose stone walls and somewhat sparse vegetation due to their coastal location. They have their own unique charm, lined with strands of wild flowers and the village announcement signs were attractively presented.

**General Impression:**

Annestown is a charming village which strongly retains its traditional character within the core. Both built stone walls and loose stone walls are characteristic of the area and this is a tradition well worth maintaining. This lovely feature is well illustrated by the attractive vista of the Rock House enclosed by a magnificent series of built stone walls when viewed from the beach. Well done on this year's submission and we wish you well in your future endeavours.