

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Coolgreany** Ref: **119**
County: **Wexford** Mark: **230**
Category: **B** Date(s): **03/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	34
The Built Environment	50	27
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	230

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the TidyTowns Programme for 2009 and thank you for the Completed Entry Form together with the Coolgreany TidyTowns Plan 2007 -2010.

The bridge and new wall are excellent additions to the built environment of Coolgreany and were very well presented on the day of adjudication. The little small flowers planted on it gave it a needed splash of colour.

The various 1798 memorials are each being maintained and presented in an appropriate manner. This is a large and significant element within the village and all credit to those in charge for their upkeep and presentation. The Michael Davit memorial was likewise being well maintained.

Work was in progress on the community hall during our visit. The new paint will give this sizeable building a much needed lift and have a knock on effect on this section of the village.

The Built Environment:

The reinstated wall at the bottom of the hill on the Inch Road approach is almost completed and being built to a very high order. All compliments to the builders and those involved.

O'Rafferty Pub caught the eye. The post office and General Store was neat and looking well on the day of adjudication. Tutty's lawn mowers store was busy as always but retained a suitable air of efficient order.

Coolgreany Inn would benefit if it were painted before next year's competition. There is an amount of grass growing at roof level here when viewed from the side road. Coolgreany National School a fine building is marred by a lot of litter in the car park area.

The Old Coach House looked well. The terrace of houses that give shape and form to the wide main street collectively looked well and projected an agreeable sense of enclosure. The expansive area had an attractiveness which was added to by the many monuments and especially because of mature trees on the opposite side of the street – which might be almost considered a town square because of its substantial size.

Landscaping:

The newly planted area and the flower boxes above the bridge were noted with approval.

The Ram House Garden continues to look well albeit the garden is now natural yet still appealing. A very fine hard landscaping has been installed behind the bottle bank at the 1798 memorial.

Work on the Grotto is impressive and while all of the plans as set out in the entry form have not yet been achieved already the area is improved since this adjudicator last visited the village. The area to the fore ground at Croghan View Estate was well laid out and included a well presented communal grassed area and appropriate planting.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The children's play area and the communal grassed area by the school /sports grounds has been subjected to graffiti. Many opportunities exist especially around the river area and within the communal grassed areas to explore and enjoy bird and wild life. Discuss the options with a local bird life enthusiast or consult the Wild Life Officer attached to the Office of Public Works for a number of ideas as to how best to devise a suitable programme in this regard.

Litter Control:

We noted the Litter bin sponsored by Tutty's of Coolgreany in the main Street. The area by the school in Croghan View is seriously littered and represents a bad black spot in this other wise well presented village. Litter bins were noted in the main street and else where. In the main, apart from the exception noted above, litter management was of a high order.

Waste Minimisation:

The bring centre/bottle bank was well situated, was being used and also respected. This category of the competition is as much about encouraging a change of mind-set in respect of waste minimisation as it is about dealing with material recycling as such. Secure literature from Wexford County Council and elsewhere which will help individual households and the community at large to reduce usage of scarce and expensive energy, reuse items where appropriate and recycle materials wherever possible so that the final amount of waste carried to landfill is minimised.

Tidiness:

Grass was well cut on the roadway above the river bridge. The truck and building material stored above the bridge which is assumed to have been involved with the now completed flood relief programme should now be removed. There was some graffiti on the playground equipment in Croghan View Estate.

Residential Areas:

The houses beside the new wall at the bottom of the Inch Road Hill are delightful. Knockgreany houses on the road towards Croghan Mountain were well presented. The individual houses along this road are each very well presented. Cnoc Gréine site appears to have temporarily suspended building. The roadway leading to the housing estate and sports ground has been suitably cut back and looked very well on the day of adjudication. The attractive dry fill stone wall is now exposed and is quite attractive. The service road for the estate is very well swept. Many houses in Croghan View Estate were neat and orderly.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Inch Road the 60 km/h speed limit signs are clear and readable, however one of the 50 km/h Speed

limit signs have become obscured by encroaching vegetation. Fine stone village name plates announce the village on each of the approach roads.

Further up the village especially on the road towards Croghan Mountain the road surface is seriously below par and will need attention in the near future. Croghan Mountain road verges have been well cut back giving a clear line between the road surface and the grass. The village name plate is well positioned and is enhanced by flower planting in a timber surrounded bed.

General Impression:

Remote and tranquil, historic and scenic, the area in which Coolgreany is located has a great deal of interest and was in time gone by the centre of major happenings. Today that history is remembered and celebrated. The village appeal and attraction is deep seated in the age old values of scenery, tradition and tranquillity. To everyone and each agency associated with this year's entry our best thanks and applause. Please keep up the good work and you are wished well in next year's competition.