

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilrane-Rosslare Harbour** Ref: **1052**
County: **Wexford** Mark: **215**
Category: **C** Date(s): **24/06/2009**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2009 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Overall Development Approach | 50 | 26 |
| The Built Environment | 50 | 29 |
| Landscaping | 50 | 30 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 50 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 50 | 29 |
| Waste Minimisation | 20 | 2 |
| Tidiness | 30 | 18 |
| Residential Areas | 40 | 29 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 50 | 28 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 400 | 215 |

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2009 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, which included a well detailed application form with a clear list of the projects undertaken this year. The map submitted was clearly marked with a legend, and was of great assistance to the adjudicator and made the visit very enjoyable. The adjudicator commends the committee's efforts to engage the help of other agencies, and perhaps the net could be widened to include the production of a three to five year village enhancement plan.

The Built Environment:

Kilrane-Rosslare Harbour covers a large area and comprises of a number of focal points. At the entrance to the village, the older Church, St. Ruain's, is a nice building but, as stated in last year's report, is in need of repainting and the outside area is in need of weed control. Culleton's Pub is a most attractive and welcoming building. It has an appropriate colour scheme. The black shop front with cream fascia board and black and red lettering looks particularly well. It is nice to see a strategically located building like this retaining some of its fine architectural details such as sliding sash windows and well proportioned entrance porch. The external area is nicely presented with tables and seating, planted flower tubs and an array of hanging baskets. The adjacent car park was clean and tidy. Opposite, the St. Ruane B & B again looked stunning. The Community Hall, renovated in 1997, is a lovely recently painted building. The restoration here is particularly successful and it is good to see the character of the original building retained as was the nice detail of the sash windows. The Green Flag School opposite is presented to a high standard. This building is freshly painted and the grounds contain some nice, recently worked shrubberies. The nearby thatched cottage is a fine example of vernacular architecture and its strategic location creates an attractive entrance to the St. Helen's Bay Village development. The front wall of the self catering office was in need of repainting and weed control was required along its base line. Further along at the Kilrane Business Park, a planted hedge along the front boundary would provide screening and would enhance this important facility. The Bank of Ireland premises

on St. Martin's Road was well presented. St. Patrick's Church is a contemporary design and contrasts well with the older St. Ruain's. The pyramid roof here is a nice feature set in well maintained, nicely maturing grounds. At the Harbour end of the village, there is a nice cluster of hotels creating a busy atmosphere. The Harbour Hotel has a particularly nice colour scheme incorporating the attractively presented Mail Boat Pub.

Landscaping:

The viewing point opposite the hotel is a highlight of the village and its high quality hard and soft landscaping was admired. Evidence of the committee's hard work and their effective mobilisation of the wider community, is clearly to be seen in the many hanging baskets, planted tubs, window boxes and flower beds throughout the village, all of which considerably enhance the natural setting. The 1798 Memorial is well presented on a nicely planted triangular grassed area on the junction of St. Helen's Road. The adjacent colourful private garden was admired. Well done on this effort!

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is noted that the committee have installed further nesting boxes at Kirwan's Gardens and that you have plans to create a series of notice boards here involving the school children. The Cliff Walk is a spectacular amenity and was well utilised by visitors on the day of adjudication.

Litter Control:

The efforts of the committee are obviously paying dividends as the village was generally litter free on the day of adjudication. A small amount of litter was noted on St. Martin's Road and close by the roundabout at Rosslare Harbour.

Waste Minimisation:

Your engagement with the Environmental Officer of Wexford County Council is noted. The Bring Bank at SuperValu is well located and this facility was neat and tidy on the day of adjudication.

Tidiness:

Last year's adjudicator noted a number of areas requiring attention and made some general comments on signage. It is good to see that the committee have been proactive concerning this issue and have been in contact with Wexford County Council. The adjudicator notes that you have been in contact with a number of owners concerning derelict properties. It is to be hoped that you will be successful with this campaign.

Residential Areas:

The village has undergone much expansion with residential developments in recent years. It is expected that the present slowdown in the economy will alter the rapid development that took place over the past number of years. Hopefully this situation will give more time for newly completed developments to mature. Church Wood is a well designed housing scheme with a pleasant scale and nice proportion to its various elements. This scheme is maturing nicely. Ascal Ruain and the railway houses have a unique scale and their nice appearance presents an area of charm and character. St. Brendan's estate has also matured well and the grassed areas here are well presented. It has an interesting layout in that it connects the colourful children's area at one end to the nicely developed sports grounds at the opposite end. The sports complex is a fine facility incorporating multi-purpose uses such as tennis and basketball.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The village is located on a busy access road to the ferry road. Many improvements have taken place in the past few years along this busy route. Traffic calming and cycle lanes have been incorporated into the project but, as last year's adjudicator pointed out, more could be done to accommodate the pedestrian. Generally grass margins are well presented and a number of trees are now beginning to mature nicely. On the lesser access roads, there was a somewhat uneven standard of presentation.

General Impression:

Kilrane/Rosslare Harbour is a seaside village close by a busy ferry port. The commitment of the newly formed Tidy Towns committee is proving a great asset. We wish you well in your future plans.