

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cabinteely** Ref: **1334**
County: **Dublin(DunLaoghaire-Rathdown)** Mark: **239**
Category: **E** Date(s): **05/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	30
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	30
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	239

Overall Development Approach:

Well done on another considered and comprehensive entry to the TidyTowns Your map highlighting locations of improvements to the town was useful. It did not however show boundaries of your town area, which would have been useful. You have a good network now established in the town. Perhaps you would now consider a web site to help further spread your message. It's excellent to see a green committee in one of your school and pupils from another .participating in spring clean up projects.
The Ceili at the Crossroads appears to have been a great way to build up a sense of community.

The Built Environment:

Cabinteely has a valuable collection of vernacular architecture in the main village area, well worthy of conservation.
Well done on your painting project. Paining of the shop fronts, and most importantly the facades of some derelict buildings, has transformed the towns image. The choice of colours was largely subtle and successful, although the image of livid green on the hairdressing shop will last with me.
The Horse and Hound look well as do most of the other premises. While there is a variety of shop front styles this can visually be minimised by the strength of the tress growing along the street.
The quality of the foot-paths varied from neat brick pavements to broken tarmac. The foot-path on the Johnstown Road needs attention
New developments appear well designed.
Increasing empty premises is presenting a problem in many Irish Towns.

Landscaping:

I was impressed with your work particularly the hanging baskets in the main village area. The entrance to the town at the bridge looks well with its planting and hanging baskets. The works at the entrance to Lambourne Woods works well. A section of the hedge row along the old Bray Road near the Brennanstown apartment development appears to have fallen foul to weed killer. The Brennanstown apartment complex itself however has a very impressively landscaped entrance and grounds. The area is lucky to be built beside the huge amenity which is Cabinteely Park. However, its high walls do nothing to advertise its attraction to passers by.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Unfortunately there was no access to the ground of the library at the time of my inspection. However, well done on your initiative on creating a wild life garden. The garden around St Brigids Church is a tranquil oasis that all should be proud of. Your future plans in this category are well worth pursuing.

Litter Control:

I was impress by the lack of litter evident in the town A black-spot however is the area behind the pedestrian bridge over the motorway. Your litter sweeper and your educational programmes are having an effect. Well done.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on your progress. Contact with the litter warden has been beneficial. The composting bin and water butt in the new community garden will be very educational. Similarly your talk on composting in the Library can have a huge influence on people. There is such good will now towards waste management; all people require is a little persuasion and lots of information. The plans you outlined in last years report are well worth implementing.

Tidiness:

The village is very well presented, but the varying quality of the pavements is regrettable. Grafitti was not evident at the time of my inspection. Your litter warden is doing a good job as no fly postering either was evident. The garda station looks neat and well maintained. It might be beneficial to talk with letting agents about the condition of their vacant premises. Kerbs and paths were largely free of weeds. The vegetation in the library garden should be trimmed back to stop it blocking use of the footpath.

Residential Areas:

The success of your organisation is evident in the well maintained house and gardens throughout the town. I was particularly impressed with the amenity value of the grounds of Brennanstown development and with its state of maintenance. The Lambourne Woods and Holmwood estates are particularly well maintained and attractive. A best garden, best street or tidiest estate competition would raise standards even higher and galvanise a lot of local support.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads and back-street are generally well maintained. The poor quality of some of the foot paths requires attention. Well done on improvements to sections of the Brennanstown Road. The areas under the bridge will I fear be a perennial problem. Perhaps a longer term plan to have it hard landscaped might be the solution. Signs identifying the town will be a great help in establishing a sense of community.

General Impression:

The village is looking well. I enjoyed my visit. I am impressed that you now have traders taking responsibility for the spaces outside of their premises. Your hard work has greatly improved the look and experience of being in Cabinteely. Well done.