

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cabinteely**

Ref: **1334**

County: **Dublin(DunLaoghaire-Rathdown)**

Mark: **263**

Category: **D**

Date(s): **10/07/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	50	33	35
Landscaping	50	33	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28	28
Litter Control	50	33	34
Tidiness	30	19	20
Waste Minimisation	20	6	6
Residential Areas	40	31	32
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32	33
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	256	263

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your entry form for TidyTowns 2012 together with a well drawn and very helpful map and copy of your plan. Cabinteely TidyTowns has a strong committee of 19 and volunteers. Your engagement with the local parks department, local schools and other businesses is important. Your means of communication with the community through your website and flyers is also important. Your support from local businesses is very encouraging and a great means of funding. Groups these days are finding obtaining funding the most difficult part in implementing their plans. You also have a well organised and planned litter picking group and this shows when you enter this lovely town.

The Built Environment:

The built environment of the village is a credit to all the owners. The Horse and House is a focal point and well decorated with nice hanging baskets. The Post Office and attached cottages looked very traditional with nice bollards in front. The Library building is very attractive, well landscaped with some nice seating. The Garda Station is a very well presented building. The extended part of the town, Cabinteely Park and shopping area all added to the attractiveness of the town. The town has a very welcoming and pleasant feel about it. The houses either traditionally or newly built all add to the charming character and streetscape of this unique town. The fine stone office block shows how well this has happened. The nice granite seating, bicycle racks and suitably designed bins all add to the attractive appearance.

Landscaping:

The landscaping in the town has to be admired. The lovely lanes of trees as you look down the town are a joy. Perhaps more trees could be planted down Main Street to continue this avenue. Brennanstown Estate was well landscaped with trees and shrubs. Cabinteely Park has extensive landscaping. The area would be a joy

to visit at any time of the year with the extent of planting that gives all year round interest and colour. The Japanese theme garden adds an original touch to the landscaping and planters throughout the town even the one in the centre of the roundabout all add a splash of colour to a well landscaped town. The Buddleia (Butterfly Bush) beside the garage was admired.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The natural surroundings of the park with its wildflowers and pond are all natural habitats for wildlife. The area at Brennanstown Estate enjoys the stream from the park and also is a haven for wildlife. The Library Biodiversity garden is well maintained and you hold Biodiversity walk workshops which are applauded. The town has natural habitat for wildlife as mentioned by last year's adjudicator. You seem to be at a standstill in moving this section on. In your plan you are conducting a habitat survey in the town. Do try and have the results of this survey documented for next years competition. The area has lovely walks which is a great amenity for the community and should also be developed. In this category entrants are reminded that hedge cutting during the nesting season from 01st March to 31st August is not permitted as per section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976.

Litter Control:

Your involvement of the Cabinteely Community School and their teachers on Spring Clean Day is great encouragement for the community. Your town shows all the signs of a well planned litter control programme. Cigarette end boxes were noted at the barbers.

Tidiness:

Everywhere in the town has an air of tidiness. The newly laid footpaths added to the overall tidiness. The park area was also neat. The bring bank in the car park was neat and tidy and well positioned for users. At one entrance to the park overhanging briars on to the footpath need to be removed. The traffic flows well in the town and parking is not a problem. The parking area near Brennanstown estate with the roundabout and planter is very effective.

Waste Minimisation:

In this category entrants are encouraged to move beyond just collecting litter and to take steps to actually reduce the production of waste in the community. Some recommendations in this area are to carry out a waste audit. The race against waste booklet from the Tidy Towns unit has some very helpful guidelines on carrying out such an audit. Segregate the waste collected during litter clean up campaigns. Compost leaves and grass and re use these as compost for landscaping in the village. Engage with the local Council in plans for any community composting as permission is needed. Engage with the schools Green programmes. Consider running a waste minimisation workshop in partnership with the local authority. Encourage the community to join the green homes programme.

Residential Areas:

The residential areas throughout the town are to be admired. There is a mix of traditional houses which the adjudicator liked very much and the newly built modern houses and many estates all blending well together to give the town a very attractive streetscape. Brennanstown as mentioned was well presented. Glen Wood and Glen Drive all nestled in among an attractive landscape area. The gardens of private houses were also admired and the window boxes and hanging baskets added to the charm. Well done to all residents in this category. As the unfinished building sit perhaps if screening was put across it would improve the area.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads to the town with lovely walls, trees and hedging are superb and give a great impression of a community that cares how others see them. The newly laid footpath at the Library is clean and welcoming. The verges are well maintained and neat. The shrubs incorporated into the hedge across from the Library were admired. The roof and wall near the garage is in need of some attention.

General Impression:

Cabinteely is a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. For this adjudicator it was a first visit and very much enjoyable. The hospitality received when hunger called was excellent. The area has a lot to offer in its natural surroundings. Continue your hard work over the different categories and you will be rewarded. Best of luck in this year's competition. Continued success for the coming years.