

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glanmire** Ref: **117**  
County: **Cork(South)** Mark: **234**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **04/06/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	0	35
The Built Environment	50	0	30
Landscaping	50	0	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	0	20
Litter Control	50	0	30
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	0	10
Tidiness	30	0	17
Residential Areas	40	0	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	0	27
General Impression	10	0	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>234</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

It is good to have Glanmire back in the Tidy Towns competition again this year. We wish you luck with your new structure. It is important to do whatever works best for your committee on a practical level. Now that you have three separate 'villages' instead of one larger area for Tidy Towns purposes, would you try to set up three different committees and each group looks after their own area? I gather from your entry that your existing committee is still over Tidy Towns for all areas. Thank you for your excellent map, which was very helpful in finding our way around. Your additional information was also noted. Well done for using the TT categories in your 3 year plan, as advised by last year's adjudicator. Could you make your actions a bit more specific and put a timeframe on them? If possible assign them to a group/individual. This should make the document into a more useful tool for yourselves to monitor your progress going forward. You have good links with Cork Co Co, SECAD and Cork Sports Partnership. You have also forged good links with local businesses, clubs and groups. It is good to hear that you get good support from the local school also. Has your facebook link helped increase community involvement in any way?

### The Built Environment:

Great work has been done on the 1st Alms House, an important piece of Glanmire's built heritage. The 'Glashaboy Walk' brochure was read with interest and does a good job of showing off your built environment to visitors. The building opposite the Alms Houses is another matter and should be painted/cleaned. I gather this is the car sales business that is almost sold? Hopefully something can be done with it soon. The Riverside Inn has an attractive colour scheme and window boxes add a splash of colour. Your comments on AIB are noted. It's a pity they didn't finish painting the fence as it looks unfinished as it is. The 3 storey stone building next door was admired (Chiropractic Clinic). You have some lovely old traditional signage on some shop fronts. This should be preserved if at possible. One building has roller shutters. Are these a necessity? They look rather unsightly when the premises are closed down. It is lovely to see original sash windows in one or two buildings. The business park has an air of neglect about it, particularly around the entrance which you should focus on for the moment. Signs are dirty and surfaces are weedy here.

### Landscaping:

You are blessed with a naturally beautiful setting so not a lot is needed to enhance the natural landscape. The Grotto is one of the nicest I've seen and looks so well cared for with the planting fitting into the natural landscape.

It would be great if some child-friendly planting could be done in old beds outside Monkey Maze, which otherwise was well presented with its cheerful yellow colour. Your efforts to engage with the management there are noted. 'Summer College' has some attractive tree planting near the entrance.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

You have good signage showing your various walks. You have a variety of habitats such as the estuary as well as woodland. Have any wildlife awareness events been held locally or surveys carried out as to what wildlife is in Glanmire? The thrust of this category is to gain an understanding of what wildlife is in your area, then to raise awareness of this among the community. Think about how you can do this or improve on the current awareness? Some schools are working on their 'biodiversity' theme as part of their green schools programme, in which case they would be carrying out surveys etc. In this case, working in conjunction with the local school would be crucial. Well done on your efforts to minimise the use of weed killer in Glanmire.

### **Litter Control:**

Well done for your participation in National Spring Clean and for your regular clean ups, also for encouraging the second level students to get involved. Your participation in the anti-litter challenge is a good way to keep up the community momentum. Your efforts to segregate clean up materials where possible are noted. There was a little litter as well as an abandoned bike on the Rivers town Road. Otherwise litter control was very good. Awareness is an important element of this category so please provide evidence of how you promote your anti-litter messages locally.

### **Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:**

Well done for your various recycling initiatives. The main thrust of this category is how we can help reduce waste in the community by preventing it, then how we can reuse and recycle the rest. Please have a look at the new guidelines where you should get one or two ideas to implement for next year. As a minimum you should state here the status of the local school in relation to the Green Flag. Does it have a green flag and what stage is it at? There are very close links between this programme and some Tidy Towns categories so you can help each other. You should also mention any water or energy saving measures, e.g. for watering plants/flowers during summer season. Does the school run any walk/cycle to school promotions? This cuts down on your carbon footprint and your traffic! It is good to hear that your local businesses are saving money as well as the environment by using more energy efficient lighting.

### **Tidiness:**

Some of your signs require cleaning, e.g. the name sign on Riverstown rd. Benches require ongoing maintenance, such as those near the grotto. The 'Irish Examiner' sign at the old Barry's shop needs attention. The stately entrance to 'Glen Mervyn House' was admired. The sign could be spruced up a little. Overhead cables feature significantly in Glanmire. Look out also for wire clutter on the front of your main street buildings, particularly along the main street. Remove disused cables where possible.

### **Residential Areas:**

The new estate on the Mayfield Rd as you approach Glanmire is finished to a high standard with some excellent tree planting, landscaping and signage. The main street has some brightly coloured and cheerful private houses. One house could do with being painted. The row of houses opposite the Monkey Maze could be freshened up in places.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Your village is busy with through traffic and this presents its own issues. The Eastcliff Road is a lovely, leafy route – popular with walkers I gather. The Riverstown approach road looks well. You have good visitor information, such as the sign opposite the grotto. The main street backs onto the river. This whole back area is very neatly presented and can be viewed from along the pathway. Attractive stone walls add to the character of the village. The scenic riverside pathway is well maintained.

### **General Impression:**

It was a pleasure to visit your lovely village for the first time. We hope that your new Tidy Towns structure will be to your benefit when trying to implement positive improvements. You are to be commended for taking on your various challenges by engaging in a positive way with the relevant stakeholders. It might be worth seeking residents of your community interested in helping with specific tasks such as wildlife or waste prevention. Try and find out what skills and resources are in your community. You may be pleasantly surprised! Thank you for a fine presentation and we wish you well in future projects.