

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bree** Ref: **29**  
County: **Wexford** Mark: **285**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **28/06/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	50	38	38
Landscaping	50	41	42
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	31	31
Litter Control	50	35	35
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	10	10
Tidiness	30	19	19
Residential Areas	40	29	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33	34
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>285</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Welcome Bree Tidy Towns to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition 2013. Your entry is very much appreciated. Thank you for your entry form, map, 3 year development plan 2011–2013 and accompanying documentation including a waste minimisation plan, bio-diversity plan, photographs, etc. Your population category is Village A (under 200). Your committee of 8 suggests that your community holds your tidy towns group in high regard. Your programme of meetings is clearly based on your experience and so meets your needs. You have support from a useful group of agencies from Wexford County Council to Wexford Naturalist Field Club. Your communication channels are effective. We note that you have a website and no doubt you will be including social media in the future. Your engagement with the school works to your mutual benefit. Your comments about the benefit of this competition and how your group's work contributes to the development of the community are well made.

### The Built Environment:

The telephone exchange has been enhanced and the new seat was admired. Improvements to the graveyard were also seen and noted. Anita Lett's grave – founder of the ICA, is in St John's Church of Ireland, Clonmore a wooden sign on the roadside points to the church. Gate well painted. Avenue of majestic trees. Church is a very impressive building and is well presented. Graveyard neat and tidy. Clonmore Medieval Church and Graveyard were visited and the historical information plaque was read. Gate well painted. Old and new graves. Graveyard (14) walls and gates sound. Landscaping at entrance. Neat and tidy. Bree Community Centre is an impressive complex. There is hedging along the boundary with the cemetery. GAA buildings clean and well painted. Work in progress. Infants playschool enjoying the sunny weather outdoors. Well filled stone planters in the car park add colour to the impressive Community Centre. The complex is still a work in progress and the standards set to date are high. Well done to all involved. The pub with adjoining shop are the only commercial premises in the village. Well presented. Church of the Assumption 1839 was designed by the celebrated English architect Augustus Pugin. It was an extra bonus to see one of Pugin's buildings. The church is well presented. Graveyard neat and tidy. Parochial house and grounds – grassed area, trees and shrubs well maintained. Walls clean and sound. The National School is a building site with the new school nearing completion. Hoarding all around the site. A direction sign for the cycling route peeps through the hoarding. 1798 plague noted. Dick Joynt, sculpture, 1938-2003 – his memorial garden is impressive. The centre piece is a mother and child sculpture. Planting is restrained but in keeping with the overall theme of this sensory garden. His public works are displayed in Bewley's Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin – his final piece - The Horse. His piece – The Ram – in Bray weights 30

tonnes. Tallaght, Dublin has the Victors and Michael Collins is in Merrion Square, Dublin. This adjudicator will seek out his public sculptures in Dublin and Bray. Like the elephant in the room reference has to be made to the grey corrugated agricultural structures in the centre of the village. They are beyond the capabilities of any tidy towns group, even one as accomplished as Brees.

### **Landscaping:**

You have an extensive programme of landscaping projects each year. They all combine to present Bree in a very tasteful, colourful summery look. Landscaping in the residential areas was noted. Your remedial work to the beech hedging at the Community Centre was noted. ICA Memorial Garden 1910-2010. Attractive stone railing. Raised beds with railway sleepers, trees and a variety of shrubs/flowers for year round effect. Crab apple trees noted. Memorial stone is the centre piece. Sun dial, plough share, bird tray and seat all spotless. A fitting tribute to the founder of a great organisation. This adjudicator parked in the car park and admired the creepers in its walls before going walk about in the village. Old stone walls used to great effect to display flowers and other plants, mosses, etc.

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

Your bio-diversity plan was read with interest. A progress report would be very much appreciated. Well done on communicating your bio-diversity activity in the local newsletter and school. Your continuing battle Japanese Knotweed is noted. Bree Tidy Towns can score more marks in this category with projects in the village. The Slaney River Valley, Jamestown and the wild fowl reserve, while interesting, do not increase Bree's marks. The Bree parish information board is clean and legible. Very informative – flora/fauna and parish map. The sound of birds is a constant in the back-round.

### **Litter Control:**

Bree Tidy Towns is commended for carrying out a litter survey of the village and approach roads. We note your success in tackling litter in the village. There was very little evident on adjudication day. The photo of your spring clean this year tells its own story. Thankfully the adjudicator saw no signs of the dumping that so troubles you.

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

Congratulations to your 2 members for achieving their master composter certificates. They are to be commended on implementing their learning. Excellent progress has been made in energy efficiency, recycling, the WEEE collection, green home waste action plan and your distribution of No Junk Mail Please signs. Your comments about your waste contractors and effective ways of reducing the volume of waste generated by each household were very interesting. Other tidy towns groups that carried out household waste surveys succeeded in astonishing those who participated in the surveys at the amount of waste their household produced. As you know the entry form shows the priorities in tackling sustainable waste and resource management using a waste pyramid illustration. Tidy towns groups should concentrate on communicating the principals of the higher priority actions in this waste pyramid. The recycling area in the Community Centre was spotless. Well done.

### **Tidiness:**

Hedge cutting and edging of verges noted. Gates to fields are painted a uniform colour - green. Good idea. Noted that directional signage, traffic signs, etc. clean. No graffiti or weed growth at kerbs evident on adjudication day. No inappropriate advertising. With the exception of the corrugated buildings in the centre of the village mentioned elsewhere in this report no tidiness issues arose on adjudication day.

### **Residential Areas:**

All residential areas were visited. They differ, even in a village as small as Bree. It would be invidious for this adjudicator to compare one with another. Tidy neighbourhood's competitions are for local authorities. Cluain Aiteann has detached/semi-detached houses. Estate name stone at the entrance. Grass verges, young staked trees. Well presented. Knocknagross on the Main Street – kerbs all painted a uniform colour. Seats clean and sound. Young and mature trees. Flowerbeds. Houses well presented. Name stone on a grassed area. Red village pump noted. Hill View has a bi-lingual name stone. It has very well maintained grassed area with flower bed, trees, shrubs and a seat. Boundary wall red with red capstones. Bird boxes, feeders and bird tray. Residences well presented. Colour scheme carried onto some of the residences to great effect. Carrick na Cogue Park has a name stone in a landscaped bed at the entrance. Residences well presented. Kerbed verges well maintained. Newly planted flower, shrubs and trees. All add to the finished look of this new housing development. Your negotiations with the developer about the advertising hoarding and the metal gates at the rear of the site were noted. Rock of Bree has name plaques on the entrance walls. All detached residences well presented. Uniformly painted – black and white.

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

Approach road from Wexford has a black and white village name sign standing on a grass verge which is neatly trimmed. Young trees. Good first impression of Bree. Approach from the opposite end of the village also has a black and white metal village name sign on a well maintained grass verge. Pleasant first impression of Bree. Stone walls, fences, hedging and field gates all in good condition. No issues arose in this category on adjudication day.

**General Impression:**

Bree Tidy Towns has enhanced the village further this year. We look forward to receiving Bree Tidy Town's entry in the 2014 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition.