

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BANDON**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	36
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	32	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>210</b>

## **Bandon, Co. Cork**

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The adjudicator would like to thank you for your Tidy towns Plan 2002-2006 and the excellent maps of Bandon. At the end of 2002 do make sure to move your Plan on to cover the period 2003 – 2007. Bandon is a large town for your Committee of 18 to handle, but you are doing good work. This is a most attractive town where trees, stone buildings and stone walls are key features.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Do continue to encourage the removal or the re-development of derelict properties. Try and see if you can get permission from property owner to white-wash external walls. Windows could be boarded up and painted matt black. In this way the original derelict property can become a feature of your town. Attractive landscaping was noted at the Bandon retail Park. Pearse Street and South Main Street have a number of interesting well presented shop-fronts. Among a number that impress are AIB, Michael Galvin, Bandon Credit Union and Hilsers. Re-building works have been noted. There are still a number of projecting shop signs which are not appropriate. These detract from the overall visual impression. Can you consider starting a campaign to replace some of these signs with traditional hand lettered flush mounted signs which will be much more appropriate, and which will enhance your streetscape? In some, inappropriate projecting signs have detracted from otherwise attractive shop-fronts. The Church of Ireland Church is a fine building, but would be improved by painting the gate and iron railings. The old disused church building on the road to the Golf Club looks attractive, and perhaps an appropriate new use can be found for this property. The Maxol property would benefit from re-painting, The Catholic Church occupies a fine elevated site and there are fine views from here of the colourful streetscape below. Attractive new shop units were noted on the Quay near Factory Lane. Some buildings in North Main Street require attention, as does the Town Hall building. St. Brogan's College and grounds are being well maintained.

### LANDSCAPING

Cahalanes Garage on the Cork approach road caught the eye with it's attractive landscaping, as did the nearby Fleming premises. Many hanging baskets and flower displays were noted in the town centre, and these are most attractive. However the old tyres painted white with flower displays are less appropriate. "The Green" on Chapel Street was noted to be wild and uncut. This could be an attractive landscaped area given regular cutting. Potential for a very attractive triangular shaped landscaped area was noted on the New Road. When completed this will add greatly to the visual impression in that area. Good landscaping and fine stone walls were noted in the area of Allen Square.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Bandon River and the weir gives you great possibilities to develop the wildlife potential of

the town. You should, first of all, carry out a Survey of the wildlife in your area. This can then lead to the provision of public information panels about the local wildlife and their habitats. Bandon has the potential to make significant progress in developing this aspect of your Tidy Towns Plan.

## LITTER CONTROL

Litter control in the town centre was quite good on adjudication day. The fact that you now have a litter warden and a mechanical litter sweeper is a great step forward. Well done! However some litter was noted on the Dunmanway approach road. Serious littering was noted in the area of the Bottle Bank. This looked quite unsightly on adjudication day. Again in Bank Place, very bad littering was noted.

## TIDINESS

The project to put some of the ESB cabling underground is strongly welcomed and your adjudicator wishes you well in this long-term project. Large untidy areas of open space were noted on the Cork approach beyond Flemings on both sides of the road. The Bottle Bank area needs serious attention as it was most untidy on adjudication day. Reference has been made above to the condition of “The Green”, an area that looked very untidy. Weed growth of up to 3’ was noted in this general area.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Attractive terraced housing was noted on Oliver Plunkett Street, and another well presented estate was noted near the Community Hospital. Good use of colour was noted here. Again, at Ballymodan place on the Golf Club road, excellent terraced houses were noted, and again, the colour choices here work well. On Castle Road some older properties of character with very attractive window details were noted. New housing development at Canon’s Wood was visited. On the Dunmanway approach road the private gardens with some excellent mature landscaping are a fine feature. Watergate Street, an older part of Bandon, has some very attractive older houses and some excellent painting has been done in this interesting area.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Cork approach road has some excellently presented verge areas. However there are serious gaps where little work appears to have been done. This is a pity, because a co-ordinated approach to this approach road would bring good results. Bad weed growth at kerbs was noted in Chapel Street. On the Clonakilty approach road some work is required near the turn to Courtmacsherry. An attractive water feature was noted in this general area. Verges in the Old Chapel need a lot of work, and this should be an important part of your work programme for 2003. On McSweeney Quay some buildings need attention in terms of painting. Work on new footpaths has been noted and the finished result is most satisfactory. On the Macroom approach road there is some fine natural landscaping, and the artificially created landscaped areas add to this.

## GENERAL IMPRESSION

Bandon is a very large area for your Committee to handle, together with the Local Authority and other agencies. It is a town of much character and you are doing valuable work. Well done!