

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Corofin**

Ref: **695**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **182**

Category: **B**

Date: **03/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	
The Built Environment	40	23	
Landscaping	40	25	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	
Litter Control	40	25	
Tidiness	20	13	
Residential Areas	30	17	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	
General Impression	10	6	
TOTAL MARK	300	182	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Your submission and sketch map proved helpful on adjudication day outlining the work completed and on hand. We acknowledge that your group has just reformed and we wish you well with new membership and endeavour. You should consider formulating a plan that would chart the way forward for the next 3 - 5 years. This would enable you to get support from the community. In the absence of a plan for next year you should draw up about ten small projects that could be tackled by your group and this would be your work programme for 2004.

The Built Environment:

The Village has some fine public and private buildings and many traditional shop fronts also, especially P. Crowley which is now unique, but needing improvement. It is hoped that this building will not lose its character with any planned development. The pottery shop is sweet and a good example of what can be done with a little colour. The church and school are well presented and the heritage centre looked well at this focal point - don't overdo the signage. Le Catelinais Restaurant is quite attractive with good signage. Richmond House and complex looked good on adjudication day.

Landscaping:

You have worked hard on the large area near the grotto and the purchase of a new ride on mower

should help with your efforts. I'm afraid many of the comments of last year have not been acted upon, but your renewed vigour may tackle them for next year. There is some very good individual effort throughout and this is commendable. The approach by the grotto is your best, and you should try and apply this standard to other approaches.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Even the two swans at the river bridge illustrate the potential of this area for wildlife. Of course planting for food is also part of the promotion of wildlife and you should bear this in mind if you are planting shrubs or trees - these include Burberry, Brambles, Hawthorns, Holly and Ivy. There was no litter in evidence at the Bridge this year. The bridge is richly embellished with a colourful display of perennial flowers.

Litter Control:

In general litter control is good and in particular main street, which was a problem last year. Litters bins seem adequate in numbers and are well positioned.

Tidiness:

The road surface has improved but there are numerous open spaces that are neglected and in need of a clean-up. The appearance of the Kerry Co-op building on the Ennis approach could be enhanced as it projects a very untidy image at this approach. This is also a valuable site so perhaps there are plans for development.

Residential Areas:

It would be great if you could get the residents involved in the housing estate. Also, the many new houses give an opportunity to recruit new members and you should pursue this. The rent an Irish Cottage scheme has deteriorated with very poor access road and one house needing refurbishment. Is this scheme functioning as self catering currently? The scheme overlooking lake Inchiquin is well presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There is an open space on the R.H.S coming from the bridge that could be developed as a landscaped area - could this be purchased by the community? The bottle bank is good but needs cleaning and improved surrounds. The rear of the building beside the Catholic church is very attractive from this important site. The small camping site was well presented and grass neatly cut. Your application recognises the many period buildings in the village and it is important to present these to a high standard. Like most villages and especially ones in the tourist route you have a great deal of through traffic that takes from the quality of life but this is a situation shared by most similar villages.

General Impression:

As a gateway to the Burren, Corofin has an important part to play in accommodating the many visitors passing through and staying in the area. A clean, well presented village is an important valuable asset to the industry and your efforts in village enhancement will be well rewarded and enjoyed by those who live in the area. Good Luck with the new group.