

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cill Na Martra**

Ref: **450**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **168**

Category: **A**

Date: **07/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	21	21
Tidiness	20	8	9
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	5	4
TOTAL MARK	300	168	166

Overall Developmental Approach:

It was disappointing to note that you had not enclosed with this year's application a three to five year work programme. This document appeared to have been enclosed with last year's application. Do ensure that it is received by the adjudicators each year, as it will aid adjudication and help the adjudicators to monitor your progress as the years go by.

The Built Environment:

Both pubs looked well - Sean O'Murchu's was fresh in green and An Chrois looked very fresh with colourful floral displays. The Post Office was fine, the Prince August factory was well presented and the church and graveyard looked well. The school was fine, but weeds were apparent to the base of its boundary wall. Perhaps more trees could be considered in this location. The hall should be painted up before next year's competition, as it looked quite neglected.

Landscaping:

The adjudicator was pleased to note that there had been a great deal of stone wall building since last visiting the village. The trees in the vicinity of this stone walling in the centre of the village were admired and, perhaps, additional planting could be considered to the car parking area in this location. Attractive planting was also noted to a stone wall and bank in the vicinity of the GAA

grounds. The landscaped area to the entrance to Prince August was admired as usual. There is scope for further development of this aspect of the competition, throughout the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It was disappointing to note that you had left this category of the application form blank, again. Cill na Martra is fortunate with its wealth of marvelous hedgerows, in which numerous wild flowers were evident, including montbretia, foxgloves, fuchsia and wild daisies. Get the local school children involved in drawing up a study of wildlife habitats in their locality. This could be incorporated with a walk perhaps.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was generally quite good. There was some litter - the odd paper but not an inordinate amount. However, even one or two papers in a village of Cill na Martra's size can create a bad impression.

Tidiness:

This category of the competition could have been a lot higher. The creamery area with its rusty outbuildings on the Macroom side of the village looked most unfortunate. You mention in your application that this area is to be developed. It is to be hoped that this is forthcoming in the not too distant future, as it creates an extremely bad impression as one enters the village from this side. The furniture workshop appeared to be storing timber outside - this should be screened from public view. The forecourt area of the GAA grounds appeared quite weedy and the entrance wall looked quite neglected - perhaps stone cladding to the front of the wall could be considered in this location. The foundations to a house which had been abandoned during construction, mentioned in last year's report, was still apparent. The village centre area appeared to be well maintained - more stone walling had taken place since this adjudicator's last visit and tree planting had also taken place. A shed in the vicinity of O'Murchu's looked unfortunate and the rendered wall and associated buildings adjacent to the Prince August factory, mentioned in last year and the previous year's report were still creating a problem.

Residential Areas:

The sheltered housing and daycare centre is coming along well and will be finished in the not too distant future. Hopefully, the problems associated with the creamery site will be resolved and houses suitable to an Irish country village location will be built in this area. Generally, houses along approach roads and in the village centre were well cared for. Of note, were an attractive garden beside the GAA grounds and a single storey cottage with roses near the school.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Macroom Road was rather overgrown - do try to achieve a natural appearance to your approach roads and resist the temptation to neglect them completely, which results in them looking extremely overgrown and uncared for. Weeds were apparent along this road and, in terms of signage, the Children Crossing sign was extremely grubby.

General Impression:

Cill na Martra is an attractive village set in some magnificent scenery. It appeared, unfortunately, to have deteriorated somewhat since this adjudicator's last visit. Work is essential at this stage, in order to tackle the areas of neglect and dereliction within the village and on its approaches.

