

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Crosshaven**

Ref: **479**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **196**

Category: **C**

Date: **28/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	196	195

Overall Developmental Approach:

The Crosshaven five-year development Plan 11 (May 2001) submitted with the entry form gives a very good understanding of the future proposals for Crosshaven and addresses many of the challenges facing development and planning. The notes supplied in addition to the entry form were also very useful in informing about the activities of the tidy towns committee recently. By continually focusing on the issues to be addressed in Crosshaven progress will be made. There is a considerable amount to be done but with the determination of the committee in conjunction with the public authorities, local businesses, residents and schools, headway will continue to be made.

The Built Environment:

The main central area in Crosshaven - the square, is dominated by Crosshaven House which is thankfully having major work undertaken at present and will in time be a marvelous focus within the town. The Buildings along the square and the roadside leading in from Cork are reasonably well kept and considerable painting and presentation improvements have gone into the development of these areas. The carpark hopefully will develop more character in time – islands of tree planting, upgrading of paving, upgrading of the open green space to the front and the quality of the surfaces and markings are all items that will help. The churches, school and Fire station look well. The apartment block " The Grand" looks well The "Majorca" building continues to await a resurrection and hopefully this may occur. The new housing above on the hill has changed the face of Crosshaven very much and places a different skyline to the town. On looking towards the Catholic

Church from the opposite side of Crosshaven there is a now a colourful array of buildings on display. The buildings of the Boat Yards are not the most elegant but their function requires them to be as they are. However good fencing, screen trees and paint can do much to produce an improved profile in this area.

Landscaping:

The Gardens of the many houses throughout Crosshaven contribute greatly to the overall landscape of the town. Many of these are well planted with plants very suitable for this seaside location and they spill over onto roadsides with great effects. Pockets of roadside landscape plantings – at the approach road, at the sea front areas and islands within the carpark are helpful but these need to have a more bold impact/appearance to work well. The area by the Fire Station is a little weak with the broken and badly painted seat. Containerised plantings in places add some summer colour. The car parking area near the bus turning circle is well maintained.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The obvious seashore wild life interest is a great asset to the town. The railway walkway is an excellent venture and is well used. More information about what may be seen, when and where is always helpful. Involvement with local schools and environmental agencies as well as getting local knowledge could help to form a compilation of local facts about the wild life environment. The beautiful Valerian plants and many other wild plants give a natural attractiveness to Crosshaven.

Litter Control:

Unfortunately there was a considerable amount of litter to be noted around the various areas of the town; the carpark and the green areas to the waterfront in particular, were problematic. The continued campaigns and emphasis on keeping the town litter free are so important- people will eventually get the message.

Tidiness:

There is much weediness on footpaths and at the bases of walls, which is not helpful in this regard. The wire mesh fencing at the Boat Yards is variable – some of the more rigid newer green forms of fence look very well, the rusted and broken older types give an untidy appearance. Seating and the white painting bases to these seats at the carpark and waterfront area need attention. A site close to the Tourist Office is very untidy with much of the trees and shrubs being cut back. Attention should be given to construction sites to ensure that before the builders and developers leave the site all materials are removed and that there is proper reinstatement of the area – the tidy towns committee could have a role in this aspect.

Residential Areas:

There is a wide variety of housing in Crosshaven. Many of the houses are very individualistic and as such give a great interest in the town and surrounds. The new housing being built as stated is very prominent and creates a new image on arrival from the Cork road. Contributions made by every householder help to build the visual aspect of Crosshaven The Conty Terrace is an interesting terrace and adds to the lore of building variety in the town

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Many of the road surfaces are in poor state of repair with potholes and broken edges. The road up by the Fires Station to the Catholic Church is well surfaced. The car park also is in serious need if resurfacing. As stated in the materials supplied with the entry – there is an expectation of sewerage works being under taken – this, and perhaps more under ground cabling of services should precede resurfacing. The approach road with very well tended grass verges looks attractive and this together

with some plantings helps greatly.

General Impression:

Crosshaven has marvelous assets by nature of its location and facilities. Considerable work is required to bring this fine place to reach its full potential