

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Leap**

Ref: **560**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **210**

Category: **A**

Date: **30/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	30
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	20	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>203</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator would like to thank your Committee for the extremely comprehensive application form received. This was backed up with an excellent map and a very detailed three year Action Plan. You are very focused on what you want to achieve and this is always the first step towards eventual success.

The village of Leap has very high traffic volumes and you are right to be concerned about this and the adjudicator is pleased to note that you are in discussion with Cork County Council and other bodies about this. Reduction of traffic speeds through the village is obviously a key issue. The proposal for a controlled pedestrian crossing will be a great improvement if provided.

### The Built Environment:

The Community Hall following it's recent re-painting looked extremely well, as did the four flora / fauna plaques mounted on the front wall outside. The Post Office is another building that caught the eye and the combination of white and green is very effective. At the National School the overall presentation looked extremely well and the railings, an area often forgotten by others, have been appropriately painted. A fine low stone wall was noted at the Tennis Courts.

### Landscaping:

At the County Council Store on the Glandore approach the large landscaped area at the corner is looking well. This is an important location and when matured the trees will look well here. At the Catholic Church car park some additional tree planting to break up the car park area would be quite effective. The work on the ravine is a major undertaking and the hard work is showing good results. The hanging baskets in the village are effective but do not over do this aspect of your landscaping. On the Rosscarbery approach road the new planting at the village sign is a welcome feature. In this general area the tree planting at the bank at Woodview Court is an effective development.

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

The four boards at the Community Hall are of great interest and the art-work on them is excellent. The estuary area is an excellent one to study wildlife and the general viewing areas from the Skibbereen road are good.

### **Litter Control:**

The Bring Site on the Glandore road is being very well maintained and was neat and tidy on adjudication day. It is noted that litter control is a major part of your overall campaign. Litter control in the village was quite good on adjudication day. Some litter was however noted at Woodview Court.

### **Tidiness:**

Some small untidy areas in car parking locations were noted on the N.71 - Skibbereen side. These are areas of weeds and nettles than can be easily cleared. For example one area is opposite the entrance to Myross Wood. The storage of retail good on footpaths was noted in a few instances. This does not look well and above all can cause difficulties for the disabled. At the Catholic Church the metal traffic barriers should be painted matt black. A little flyposting was also evident and this should be discouraged.

### **Residential Areas:**

Many of the private houses have been re-painted and look really well. For many properties in Leap mature landscaping is looking really well. On the Glandore road the Local Authority houses looked really well and the standard of presentation is being maintained at a high level. In the village centre many private houses are using strong colours in a very effective way. Good colour coordination was noted at Woodview Court and Kilmacabea Court. At Kilmacabea Court the long grass area with the young trees inside the wall is very effective.

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

The Glandore approach is impressive and the road here has been recently resurfaced. Approaching Leap from Rosscarbery the luxuriant growth of trees creates a most impressive entry into Leap. The long grass verge on the left hand side is effective in leading the eye in towards the centre of the village. The Skibbereen approach yet again is well presented, generally wide and has very good views over the estuary in certain areas.

Overall approach roads are being well maintained.

Footpath renewal has also been noted.

### **General Impression:**

Your plans for Leap are ambitious but you have correctly identified the major issues that must be the subject of your focus over the next two years. Well done to everyone for the progress achieved to date.

