

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Causeway**

Ref: **664**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **233**

Category: **B**

Date: **01/08/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	38
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	19
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>226</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your detailed submission, copy of your development plan and helpful sketch map. You are now well set to progress further with the aid of the phased plan. Your ability to collect such funding for your efforts is commendable. Most importantly, you are conscious of your problem areas and your determination to remedy these will lead you to further success. Your challenge now is to adhere to your plan and get the community backing for your efforts. You are fortunate to have the assistance of a FÁS worker, but your real strength lies in your own commitment.

### The Built Environment:

Public buildings were well presented again this year. The church is attractive and the recent car parking development has been done in good taste. Harty's looked well, but the sign needs replacement. The national school is bright and colourful and well presented, but you do need to replace the chainlink fencing. Leahy's shop looked well again this year. The square is your strong point and the buildings here looked really well. The forge feature is a valuable link with the past and of great interest to visitors. The funeral home is also presented to a high standard, but the adjacent unoccupied house opposite needs painting. The college is quite large, relevant to the population, and is a focal part of the village. Its student numbers would suggest great activity and movement of traffic during school season. The old VEC building opposite the college entrance is excellent.

## **Landscaping:**

This is undoubtedly your strong point and the effective tree and shrubbery planting of previous years continues to enhance. Of particular attraction was the almost endless colourful display of in bloom flowers in the square area and throughout the village. Well done on the tree planting at the additional car parking area adjacent to the church. The beautiful hedge opposite the national school is superb, together with the fuscial of roses display on the wall from the school to the village. Regarding the ring fort, we would suggest not to have it too well trimmed and certainly not to plant it. It should just reflect a humble dwelling area of the iron age.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Well done on your wildlife publication and also on the attractive illustrated display boards. You are one of a small number of centres taking a more than casual interest in this category. Do keep the student interest if you can.

## **Litter Control:**

Litter control throughout was good and you do not appear to have any great problems in this area. Getting the students involved in keeping Causeway litter free is the right way to go.

## **Tidiness:**

You have problems in this section. The area in front of the take-away is very untidy. The old hall is now an eyesore, but the oak tree planting will improve with age. On the northern approach, the unoccupied garage roof is very unsightly, so you will need to try and influence the owner towards improvement. The cemetery is well presented, but the boundary wall needs painting.

## **Residential Areas:**

It was good to see residents of Marion Terrace cutting grass and attending to gardens on adjudication day. This area is well presented and an important introduction to the village core. The handball alley is inoperable due to building materials being stored in front of it; this seems to be an annual complaint. Some individuals excel on their performance and this is reflected in your markings. The sculpture on the southern approach is interesting and has an attractive presentation of planting around it. The bottle bank is effective and in good use. The post office is well presented, but the signs are too large.

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

Infrastructure is good throughout and the road surface and footpaths are well presented. Your weakest approach is from the west and was quite overgrown. Well done on the painting of farm gates; a suggestion made some years ago. Some rusty corrugated roofs need painting as they are very obvious when in poor condition. It was heartening to read your list of no fewer than 42 projects in your circular to residents - well done.

## **General Impression:**

An other fine effort by Causeway. Your consistency in getting a little extra done each year is praiseworthy. Your village, in particular the layout, is unique and a real gem to visit. Well done with your five year plan. We look forward to further progress in the years ahead.

## **Second Round Adjudication:**

Causeway sported a number of grubby items of signage on the day; some on the Ballybunion Road

and in the centre of the village. The picnic area was simply presented and quite neat in appearance. Leahy's was very fresh and an attractive display of geraniums opposite was admired. Weed control was a problem at kerbsides opposite the forge. Flyposting is a practise which should be actively discouraged. The recycling bins should be screened in some manner, perhaps by means of timber screen fencing or a stone wall. Keane's will need repainting before next year's competition. Litter was noted in the area of the phonebox and outside Cantillon's, which itself looked most fresh. Even a small amount of litter is all the more evident in a village of Causeway's size. However, it should be noted that these comments are offered in the spirit of constructive criticism, and the centre generally looked well on the day.