

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lixnaw**

Ref: **407**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **194**

Category: **B**

Date: **23/06/2003**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2003 | Mark Awarded 2002 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 36 | |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 24 | |
| Landscaping | 40 | 24 | |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 | |
| Litter Control | 40 | 27 | |
| Tidiness | 20 | 16 | |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 23 | |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 22 | |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 194 | |

Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition in this, your first year of entry. It is obvious that much thought and preparation has gone into your decision to enter and this augurs well for the future. Thank you for the well completed entry form, additional notes, map and three year plan. This is exactly the documentation required and was helpful to the Adjudicator on the day. Your partnership approach with statutory bodies is the way to achieve your aims, while involving all the community in your efforts also. Lixnaw or Leac Snamhach has a rich heritage and no doubt your efforts will ensure that this heritage is preserved and enhanced in the future.

The Built Environment:

The Church and adjacent Convent were well maintained, neat and tidy. The Garda Station was well kept but rather stark and some additional landscaping here, as well as the trees already planted, would be welcome in view of the premises central location. The School needed to be painted and the old Creamery building and surrounds also needed attention. Another derelict building was noted in the village and long term plans should be looked at with a view to eradicating these black spots. The Community Centre was well presented but the sign over the door was damaged. The Adjudicator counted five Public Houses in Lixnaw. All of these were well presented, especially Quilters Bar the owners of which have provided some colourful window boxes to enhance their premises.

Landscaping:

The landscaping undertaken on the approach roads and in the village was admired. On the day, the hanging baskets were being watered with a spray and it was good to see the Tidy Towns spirit in action. The signs on the entrances to the village are worthwhile and the idea of incorporating flower beds with these give added value to the project. It was noted that the grassed area needed to be mown at the entrance to the Clogher Drive Estate.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The planting which has taken place throughout the village contributes in this section, especially the rowan trees near the Community Centre which will provide berries to feed birds in the winter. We look forward to seeing the development of a nature walk as mentioned in your three year plan.

Litter Control:

There was very little evidence of litter in the village on the day of adjudication. Obviously, your organised "litter picks" are working. The litter signs at the entrances to the village have also, no doubt, made the public aware of its responsibilities in this regard - however, constant vigilance is necessary.

Tidiness:

Overall the village presented a tidy and weed-free appearance with some areas, such as beside the Creamery, needing attention.

Residential Areas:

The residential properties on the approach roads and in the village were well presented in the main and contribute to the Tidy Towns effort. It should be remembered that the surround walls of a premises are also important. The excellent stone name sign for the Clogher Drive Estate was admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

As mentioned above, the new name signs incorporating a "Fáilte" to those approaching Lixnaw are worthwhile. Signage is mostly good throughout the village and we were pleased to note that you are putting in place the action needed to maintain these signs to a high standard. The roadside verges needed to be cut on the Ballingar Road out to the Community Centre and also in other locations on the approaches to the village.

General Impression:

A very pleasing village with the potential to do well in the competition. We look forward to future progress in the years ahead.