

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Sneem**

Ref: **60**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **258**

Category: **B**

Date: **02/08/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	42
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	27
Litter Control	40	36	35
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34	34
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	258	253

Overall Developmental Approach:

The data submitted with the entry form was most helpful for adjudication. The Tidy Towns Committee are obviously continuing to work enthusiastically for the betterment of the community. Notwithstanding the fact that the village is a very busy route, the community seems to cope well with the situation and the village continues to be very attractive.

The Built Environment:

The buildings throughout the entire village are generally presented to a very high standard. The garda station was nicely painted and looked well. The national school was beautifully presented. In a village or town, church buildings are always imposing and in Sneem, both are excellently presented - the Church of Ireland, Church of the Transfiguration is a lovely and the Catholic church is very beautiful building and very prominently located. For a village of such size, there is a variation of business and commercial premises through the village and overall these are of a very high standard and very tastefully presented.

Landscaping:

The standard of landscaping work throughout the village is of a very high standard. It has been well planned and more importantly is well maintained. Landscaping works which have been carried out

in the immediate area of the many sculptures are well maintained and are maturing well. In specific areas, such as those of the Garden of the Senses, the Riverside Walk and Wildlife area and the lovely work carried out in these areas is pleasant and impressive.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

With such a magnificent natural location, the area generally is a most attractive centre for many species of wildlife. Also, the proximity to the river enhances considerably this aspect of the village's attractions. But the community has worked to go further in this respect by creating the "Sneem Bird Village." This is a unique development and the project does indeed attract many bird species. The development too provides a quiet corner where the only sounds audible come from the wildlife, providing a very peaceful area.

Litter Control:

Noting numbers and traffic in the village, efforts at litter control are obviously proving satisfactory. Throughout the village generally, litter seems to be well under control. Control of litter features strongly in your committee's three year plan and such an approach is essential if this problem is to be kept under control in a busy village like Sneem.

Tidiness:

There was generally a good level of tidiness around the village. The pier area was very tidy and this is an important area of the village. The areas in the vicinity of the fire station, post office and public toilets were all very tidy and well maintained. The Bridge area was very tidy and clean.

Residential Areas:

The standard of residential areas throughout the village continues to be very good. There are many examples of this in and around the village, for example houses and gardens at Coomanassig View are pleasant and well maintained. Also, houses and gardens at Sea View are again very well presented. On the outskirts of the village too, individual houses and gardens are beautifully presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The busy approach roads to the village were generally well maintained. On the Kenmare approach, signs at the entrance to the village would need to be repainted. The stone walls in this area of the village were well maintained. The Waterville/Caherdaniel Road was also tidy. The flower tubs, window boxes here were very attractive and enhanced the area considerably. The stone walls at the sports complex looked well. The old water pump near the visitor information board in South Square was well maintained and is an attractive feature in the village.

General Impression:

The methodical approach which your committee adopts in regard to planning is a good one and if this co-ordinated approach is maintained in the future, further progress can be made. The village overall is a delightful one and the community has many natural advantages in their efforts.

Second Round Adjudication:

A number of old buses parked in a yard area on the Kemare approach look unfortunate - perhaps this area could be screened from public view? The numerous landscaped areas, as ever, looked extremely well. Signage, on approach roads, and in the village centre appeared quite grubby and should be washed down. Murphy's Bar on the South Square was in need of some attention, although

premises generally were presented to the highest of standards - of particular note being the school. Discourage the use of curved canopies, and encourage their replacement with traditional fabric awning. Sneem continues to contribute well to the competition - keep up the good work!