

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Robertstown**

Ref: **702**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **174**

Category: **B**

Date: **28/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	23	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	174	172

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission that included an excellent map of the village. Your submission should have included a brief long-term plan and a schedule of work completed during the year. The plan will help you identify what can be done to improve the village over the next few years and the resources you will require. The work completed schedule will allow you to monitor your achievements on a regular basis.

The Robertstown Development Association is strong and has been working in cooperation with the local community and with the local authority.

The Built Environment:

Robertstown consists of an attractive harbour village positioned on a bend in the Grand Canal. The stone built canal bridge is very imposing and in good condition. The village fabric is very interesting and comprises of a range of 18th, 19th and 20th century buildings – many of them well presented and associated directly with the canal.

Landscaping:

The canal and its immediate surroundings form the major landscape feature of the village and this is magnificent. There are a number of green areas adjacent to the canal. These are grassed and landscaped and look well. The work of the Association is paying dividends here. The bollards and railings are a very strong feature, although they could benefit from maintenance in places.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The canal and adjacent countryside offer wonderful opportunities for the development of a wildlife or nature trail. The proposed Wildlife Reserve should be able to take advantage of these potential features. Perhaps the school might initiate a nature programme.

Litter Control:

Litter management still remains a problem. Litter was noted in a few areas around the village, particularly adjacent to the canal-side shop.

Tidiness:

The village is generally tidy except for the large number of areas where weeds have been allowed to develop. These include the canal bank and along the paths. The number of derelict sites also reflects poorly on the appearance of the village.

Residential Areas:

The new housing development of Grove Heights looks splendid with its tidy attractive houses and gardens. The central open space is similarly attractive with its new planting and trees. The other housing developments are also attractive with their houses, gardens, open spaces, planting and trees.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads to the village are very pleasant, but these could benefit from weed management. The road surface around the village centre is very rough in parts and this detracts greatly from the environment of the village

General Impression:

Robertstown is a delightful village with great potential. The Tidy Towns group is not long established, but already they have made progress and over time their hard work will achieve excellent results.

