

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Crinkle**

Ref: **200**

County: **Offaly**

Mark: **182**

Category: **C**

Date: **08/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	
The Built Environment	40	25	
Landscaping	40	17	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	
Litter Control	40	18	
Tidiness	20	10	
Residential Areas	30	20	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	
General Impression	10	6	
TOTAL MARK	300	182	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome back to the Tidy Towns Competition. Congratulations on reforming your group and best wishes for the future. You have developed a readable and extensive five-year plan, which is commendable. You have identified a number of constraints and you have learned from your previous experience in the competition. However, despite mentioning that you fell down under the headings of litter and tidiness in previous years your five-year plan does not address these headings. The idea of different people being responsible for different areas is very good and the adjudicator hopes it proves successful. Perhaps a competition between the areas could be organised as encouragement. It is appreciated that you will have some liaison with the school children during the development of the wildlife area beside their school – perhaps an awareness of litter could be incorporated into this. Your plan is excellent and requires a certain amount of involvement and investment from other bodies. Start with the basic core elements of the competition – litter and tidiness. You appear to have a planned approach, which is the only way to achieve sustainable progress. Crinkle is a beautiful village, which has the potential to do extremely well in this competition.

The Built Environment:

Stonewalls and bridges are a real feature here in the village and your plan outlines your hopes to refurbish and maintain these. The ruins of the barracks are an imposing site and an interpretive sign detailing its history would be excellent. The Thatch Pub is beautifully presented. The gable end

of the pub and the tubs are lovely. A creeper should be planted along the wall to the car park. Crinkill superstores are clean but the plethora of signs and products outside gives it an untidy appearance. The house alongside is very well presented. The post office looks well and some baskets would give it colour. Crinkill Merchants looks well. Milne Food Products could present their property much better. The premises for Plydore Greenhouses are starting to make an effort. The wall outside is a nice feature and the landscaping is nice. Hopefully further effort will take place inside the gate. The school is clean and well presented. The premises along the left of Main Street have no nameplate to say what it is. The large premises itself is well kept but the wall and entrance needs attention. The frontage of this premises where the goods entrance is (still no nameplate) needs attention. The barracks' wall is impressive and could be a fantastic feature. The fire hydrants along main street appear to have been painted and should be preserved as part of the streetscape.

Landscaping:

The trees down from the Thatch Pub (towards Main Street) are doing well and they are well tended. Your plans to plant hornbeam trees will be an asset to the village. Individuals and premises have made an excellent effort with hanging baskets and tubs and all are complemented. A creeper along the GAA wall will look well. The grass here is in need of cutting immediately. The grass outside the barracks' wall has been cut, but there are a lot of weeds. The seats and bins should be refurbished along here. Main Street has so much potential.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on completing a survey of the bird life in your area. Do you have any plans to display this information in the village / school / newsletter? Your plans under this heading are commendable and you are wished the best of luck with their implementation. Crinkill has an abundance of mature trees in and near the village. The river no doubt has its own inhabitants. The competition looks forward to your progress under this heading.

Litter Control:

Litter Control was very poor on the day of adjudication. Litter is visible everywhere – Hawthorn Drive, Cemetery Road, Main Street, Sway Street, School Road and Military Road. Litter is a huge problem nationwide and the efforts you have made will no doubt make a difference to the village. Well done on regular clean-ups and on getting people to take responsibility for different areas. Involve the children and request the assistance of your Environmental Awareness Officer in initiating some projects with the children and with the community.

Tidiness:

The group are aware that the village does not do well under this heading. The refurbishment of footpaths and walls will help immensely under this heading. Also, be aware of and vigilant with weeds and grass areas. Derelict or used buildings should be closed off properly.

Residential Areas:

There are many fine houses and gardens here in Crinkill. While houses are mostly well presented some common areas need attention. The housing estate near the GAA grounds (on the opposite side of the road) has no nameplate. The nameplate for Hawthorn Drive should be cleaned. Boundary walls and frontages should be kept clean and free from weeds. This is where individuals can take responsibility and assist the Tidy Village Association with their efforts.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Some road surfaces are in need of resurfacing or attention. Footpath and kerbs also need attention in many areas. Continue your contact with Offaly County Council regarding these issues. Request

the community to be aware of all areas visible from the public road.

General Impression:

The general impression of Crinkill is very favourable. The village enjoys a beautiful location and has some excellent features. As mentioned before Crinkill has immense potential in this competition. You have drawn up a very extensive plan and if all your objectives are achieved you will see a massive increase in your marks. You are just starting off again so continue to engage community support. You have much work ahead of you but the effort will be worth it. Look at other villages and try to get ideas or advice from them. Liase with Offaly County Council and seek advice from your Heritage and Environmental Awareness Officers. Do stay entering the competition and you are wished the very best of luck in implementing your plans.