

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rooskey**

Ref: **305**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **218**

Category: **B**

Date: **10/06/2003**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2003 | Mark Awarded 2002 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 29                | 30                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 30                | 30                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 30                | 30                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 19                | 18                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 35                | 35                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14                | 13                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 23                | 22                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 31                | 30                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 7                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>218</b>        | <b>215</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Rooskey is very welcome to the 2003 Tidy Towns Competition. Your village was adjudicated on a bright warm summer evening and it looked magnificent. The community support which the Tidy Towns Committee are receiving is obvious from the presentation of Rooskey, well done. We note that no plan has been forwarded with this years application. It is difficult to progress much further in the competition without a plan. We wish you every success in your proposed festival in July for Social Inclusion and would love to have details of this with next years submission. Try not to become to dis-hearthend regarding the problems of the public toilet and unoccupied houses within the village. You are doing the right thing making representations to everyone concerned and we wish you well. It was a pleasure to visit Rooskey and the adjudicator looks forward to many future visits.

### The Built Environment:

A number of buildings could be improved particularly in the presentation of gable walls, areas around windows and their general environs. Its becoming quite unusual now to see dated plastic neon signs in are towns and villages. The Hotel sign was in need of repair during our visit. The environs of the "Boat Hire" premises was a little scruffy in appearance. The roadside boundary walls of the Glanbia premises need to be cleaned and/or painted. The church was much admired both for its colour scheme and its excellent presentation, well done.

## **Landscaping:**

Shrubberies throughout the village are been well maintained and maturing nicely. Green areas in general are enjoying a high level of maintenance also. Some of the planters on the eastern side of the river had not yet been planted however those on the western side featured bedding plants. The shrubbery to the side and rear of the Centra shop would benefit from additional plants. The wide stretches of footpath in the centre of the village, over the bridge could accommodate tree planting, some consideration might be given to this. The grass verge on the entrance from the Carrick-on-Shannon road inside the speed limit sign was overgrown on adjudication which contrasted sharply with the excellent presentation of other approach roads. A good over-all presentation under this heading.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

We look forward with interest to the results of your survey of the flora and fauna of the area and commend this joint initiative with FAS. Congratulations also on the development of the canal walk. Swans and their cignets on the river were a delight to experience as of course was the river walk. Ferns and other wild flowers were noted on the eastern approach and admired (the road with the "Vistamed" sign).

## **Litter Control:**

Litter control was excellent during our visit. Bins appeared to have been recently emptied and there where no serious problems under this heading, however we do need to have details of your litter management strategy in order to make further progress under this heading. The area around the recycling point was quite tidy.

## **Tidiness:**

No doubt the committee is aware of the problem posed by the derelict petrol pumps on the river bank on the N4. Weed growth around the perimeter of the carpark at "Weir Lodge" was noted. The limestone kerbs which line the bridge would be enhanced if they were kept frequently swept to highlight their attractiveness. Grass cuttings where noted at the entrance to the river walk and at a few other locations. Undeveloped sites located across from the Glanbia complex presents a problem under this heading also.

## **Residential Areas:**

The beautifully white washed boundary walls to residential properties on the Strokestown entrance to Rooskey form an excellent introduction to the village and were very much admired. The newly developed feature in the shrub bed in the "Shannon View" development is a handsome feature, however some boundary walls in this development are beginning to look weather stained. Both town houses and bungalows on the Strokestown end of the village are presented to a high standard. We note with interest the new housing development planned for the site beside Weir Lodge and we hope that this will enhance the life of the community.

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

Congratulations on having the over-flow carpark resurfaced, it looks very well. Roads and footpath surfaces throughout the village are to a high standard, well done. All entrances to Rooskey are visually pleasing with neat grass margins and good name plates and road signs. The new Heritage sign on the Strokestown entrance was admired. More attention should be given to details like the ventilation stack which looks particularly shabby and the bridge rails which need to be refurbished.

## **General Impression:**

A visit to Rooskey on a warm summers evening is an idyllic experience and the village enjoys a magnificent setting on the river Shannon. More could be achieved for the presentation of the built environment on the western side of the river.