

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clashmore**

Ref: **615**

County: **Waterford**

Mark: **221**

Category: **B**

Date: **13/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	221	217

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for the information and the maps sent with the entry form, all of which were most useful on adjudication day. Comments under this heading in last years report are still applicable. Over the last number of years Clashmore has increased its markings in the Competition. While the centre is small further progress can be achieved through planning and the identification of projects which you can carry out on a year to year basis without overstressing your physical and financial resources. The plan need not be elaborate or expensive and can be drawn up in conjunction with local agencies who feel could be of assistance to you. In the event do send a copy of the plan with your entry form next year so that the adjudicator can have sight of it.

The Built Environment:

Your major buildings including the Church, School, Distillery and the Heritage Centre were again very well presented this year. In the case of the latter the building looked resplendent and will be entered for Heritage Award. This is a wonderful project and will greatly benefit Clashmore in terms of its tourism development. Congratulations to all concerned. Business premises again looked well and reflect greatly the interest in which your owners have in their environment.

Landscaping:

Your comments on the entry form would indicate the emphasis this year has been on maintenance. In this respect a wonderful job has been done and the village looked resplendent on adjudication day. Well done to all concerned. However, as part of your possible three/five year plan you might give consideration to other areas which you might identify around the village which could benefit under this heading. In particular the area around the grotto, the river walk, the Distillery and St Mochuas Well looked very nice. In the case of the latter the picnic table facility needs varnishing. The river walk is a beautiful facility and work in progress on its open spaces was noticed on adjudication day. The landscaping of the river in the Distillery area has been entered for the Landscaping Award. The school grounds are being very well maintained as is the cemetery surrounding the Heritage Centre.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You do not appear to have undertaken a project under this heading and therefore the comments made in last years report are still applicable. The river walk and Distillery area presents a wonderful opportunity for the introduction of swans, ducks, nesting boxes, feeding tables etc as appropriate. Perhaps there is someone in your area who has some knowledge of this subject or alternatively do consult with the Heritage Council. In the meantime you will receive the same mark as last year.

Litter Control:

Clashmore was practically litter free on adjudication day. This reflects greatly the work which you are carrying out and the interest of your residents in keeping their environment litter free. There was however some minor evidence of littering in the vicinity of the school.

Tidiness:

As always the village looked extremely well with no obvious untidiness to be seen. Congratulations to all concerned.

Residential Areas:

All the housing estates in the village were visited. The new housing estates looked extremely well and will be a great addition to Clashmore. The increase however in open spaces attached to these housing estates can sometimes create problems as maintenance can go beyond the capability of the local committee. It would be important therefore that a representative of the residents of these estates would be on your committee. While the older housing estate on the road to GAA grounds looks well some of the gardens are overgrown and could be improved. Evidence of cutting of its open space was to be seen on adjudication day. This is a very big area which could very well lend itself to further landscaping as part of your three/five year plan.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads are nicely presented. Road surfaces are quite good as are indeed the footpaths. Work on new footpaths was noted on adjudication day. Adjudication normally takes place between the village nameplates or the speed limit signs which ever you opt for. Verges should be trimmed from there on in bearing in mind of the comments of the Tidy Towns handbook regarding the preservation of wild flowers. The appearance of approach roads is very important as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village.

General Impression:

As always Clashmore is a lovely place to visit and likewise this year. You are making very significant progress of which the Heritage Centre is a prime example. Do however give some thought to developing a plan and its implementation but do not, of course, lose sight of the maintenance factor

and attention to detail which is the basis of your entry. Well done to all concerned. Keep up the good work.