

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Passage East**

Ref: **608**

County: **Waterford**

Mark: **189**

Category: **B**

Date: **10/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	
The Built Environment	40	28	
Landscaping	40	27	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	
Litter Control	40	27	
Tidiness	20	16	
Residential Areas	30	22	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	
General Impression	10	6	
TOTAL MARK	300	189	

Overall Developmental Approach:

We welcome Crooke back into the Tidy Towns competition and we wish them every success in it. Thank you indeed for all the information sent with the entry form and it is gratifying to read that your committee has the support of local shops, public bars etc in your area. Although your village is small you should try to draw up a 3 to 5 year plan to identify what projects you can carry out over that period within your physical and financial resources. This plan can be simple and, it is suggested, should be done in conjunction with your Local Authority, your Local Development Association and any other agencies you feel might be of assistance to you e.g. Fás. Do not try to achieve too much each year as lack of achievement can lead sometimes to frustration.

The Built Environment:

Your Church and School and their respective grounds looked well on adjudication day and all concerned are to be congratulated on this.

Landscaping:

Nice efforts at landscaping have been made on an ad hoc basis throughout the village and while this is to be commended you should, nevertheless, and perhaps as part of your future planning, try to develop a landscape plan possibly in conjunction with your local County Council who have some

expertise in this. In the event try to plant trees and shrubs which will give you some colour on an all year round basis bearing in mind the salt line problem. Some very nice landscaping has also been carried out at the Creadon View housing estate and greatly enhances the overall appearance of that area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You do not appear to have undertaken a project under this heading. Perhaps this is something you might consider when drawing up your plan. Initially it could be a simple project perhaps done in conjunction with your school e.g. nesting boxes, bird feeding/watering facility, information board on local wildlife etc. Perhaps there is someone in your area who is knowledgeable on this subject or you might like to contact other expert bodies such as the Heritage Council. In the meantime you will receive a nominal mark under this heading.

Litter Control:

The centre of the village was practically litter free on adjudication day. There was some minor littering in Hillside Drive housing estate but unfortunately quite an amount on the school road. Your comments regarding the co-operation of the school are noted. Perhaps your County Council might send someone to the school to give a talk to the students there on this matter. In the meantime perhaps a few additional litter bins might help to solve the problem.

Tidiness:

Other than for the litter matters mentioned above the village was presented in a very neat and tidy manner and reflects great credit on your residents who are obviously very interested in the preservation of the village environment. Well done to all concerned.

Residential Areas:

Private houses obviously represented the main plank of your Tidy Towns effort and in this respect many individual houses looked splendid and had some lovely gardens in full bloom on adjudication day which added greatly to the ambience of the village. Creadon View is a lovely development. The two older housing estates appear to be badly in need of refurbishment. In some cases fences are badly broken, houses need painting and open spaces appear to be somewhat neglected. The cutting of the open space at Hillside Drive is to be welcomed, but some maintenance work is required on the flower tubs.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads and roads through the village are in good order as are indeed those in the side roads. If possible try to trim the approaches in as much as you can. In this connection do read the notes in the Tidy Towns Handbook which gives information on this aspect of the competition and what should be done to preserve the environment for the growth of wild flowers. Approach roads are very important as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village.

General Impression:

Crooke is a lovely village with some magnificent views over Waterford Harbour. It is appreciated that many of the problems you are experiencing could be solved with perhaps a higher level of co-operation from all concerned but you must press on regardless. Any increase in markings in the competition as a result of your efforts could have the effect of soliciting further support for you. Sometimes people are led by example. In the meantime keep up the good work. The adjudicator looks forward to returning next year to see further progress made.

