

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Askamore**

Ref: **99**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **197**

Category: **A**

Date: **06/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	28
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	31	31
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	27
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>194</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Askamore has a very large committee for a village with such a small population. You appear to have some good practical support from the local community in terms of litter control, planting, painting as well as fund raising. Your three dimensional map was extremely clear and very useful on adjudication day - of particular help was the associated list of projects by area which had been cross-referenced to the map. This being your second year of entry, the adjudicator was pleased to note that you had achieved a very high mark for a first effort last year. Keep up the good work.

### The Built Environment:

The dry stone walling on approach roads and throughout the village were greatly admired on adjudication day - much enthusiastic stone building was seen throughout. The community centre looked fine and work was obviously still under way at the car parking area in front, which currently looks a bit rough and ready - the fencing had been completed but the gate was yet to be put in place. The church and grounds were well maintained. Much evidence of activity was noted here on the day also and the colourful hanging baskets were admired. In terms of commercial premises, Doran's Shop was fine.

### Landscaping:

As mentioned previously, the construction of the rockery at the community centre was under way on the day and planting of trees and a creeper here will certainly be of great benefit to the village generally. Work was also ongoing to the car park area adjacent to the graveyard. The graveyard itself was extremely well maintained. The dry stone walling on the Carnew / Ferns side of the village was admired with its planted area filled with poached eggs and cape daisies to the front.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The adjudicator was pleased to note that you had consulted with your local wildlife officer in relation to wildlife habitats in your area. The wildflower seeds scattered on the ditches of approach roads and Forestry Road should be magnificent when in full bloom. The adjudicator noted your recycling bins at the Community Centre, which are located in a very prominent location - perhaps they could be screened in some manner, in order to give a more discreet appearance.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control on the day was reasonably good - although the odd item of litter was evident behind the trees adjacent to the graveyard. Perhaps you could consider investing in more litter bins.

### **Tidiness:**

The standard in this category of the competition was generally quite good also - weed control was very good on the day and items of street furniture, such as the phone box, were in good condition. However, as mentioned later in this report, it was rather overgrown along the roadsides between the village centre itself and the community centre.

### **Residential Areas:**

Houses along approach roads and in the village centre were generally well cared for on the day.

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

The welcome signs on approaches to the village were greatly admired. The Craanford Road was fine, although the far side of the village was slightly overgrown. As mentioned previously, the road between the village and the community centre was rather overgrown. The adjudicator noted that the hedgerows and banks were filled with wildflowers. However, it is important to strike a balance between a totally overgrown appearance and manicured verges in order to achieve a natural - not overgrown - appearance to these areas.

### **General Impression:**

Askamore is a small village set in some magnificent scenery. There was much evidence of activity and work taking place on the day - at the church, the community centre and at the main approaches to the village from the main road. A good effort all round.