

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cranny**

Ref: **245**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **203**

Category: **A**

Date: **06/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	21
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	203	200

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for completed entry form from which we note that the Committee work in co-operation with FAS and Clare County Council. It was good to note also that the local community support your fund raising activities. You mention a parish News letter in your submission. This may be a good way to let the community know of your work. Some centres print the Tidy Towns report (or sections thereof) in the local Newsletter to achieve this result. As suggested last year we would recommend that you now draw up 3/5 year work plan in order to focus your efforts for the future.

The Built Environment:

The Church was well presented, with its cheerful colouring and the School and grounds were also looking well. Colours of buildings blend well throughout the village. Stretches of good stone walls, already in existence and being built at present were admired.

Landscaping:

The riverside picnic area at the bridge is attractive and the Adjudicator enjoyed lunch at the stone picnic table. The flowers and trees planted here, the well cut grass and the sound of the stream made this a very pleasant experience. More riverside planting on the Coolmeen approach also gave this area a colourful appearance. The flower containers and hanging baskets throughout the village

unfortunately were poor. Tubs and hanging baskets must be a riot of colour to make them worthwhile. The planted bed in the middle of the village was admired, especially for the impact of the orange nasturtiums running through the planting. The trees planted some time ago in the village are now maturing and will be a legacy for future generations.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The planting throughout the village contributes to this category. Perhaps a specific wildlife project could be undertaken in the future in conjunction with the School. The Tidy Towns Handbook gives suggestions for such projects.

Litter Control:

There was no litter to be seen in and around the village on the day of adjudication. Well done. However, the yellow plastic litter bin at the picnic area should be replaced.

Tidiness:

The village mostly had a neat and tidy appearance except for one aspect of the bridge area. Here the ivy had been removed from the bridge but not taken away. In fact, most of the discarded ivy was in the river. Also an open shed on the Coolmeen approach had an untidy appearance. Kerbs were weed free throughout.

Residential Areas:

Private houses were mostly well presented in and around Cranny and some nice gardens were noted. Also, the use of window boxes. Cranny is unusual in that a number of houses open directly on to the roadway with no boundary walls. This creates a feeling of welcome and mostly the open spaces in front of these houses was well maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads were well maintained with banks nicely trimmed and the road surfaces throughout were mostly good. However, the verges needed attention in a couple of areas.

General Impression:

Cranny is a charming rural village set in the heart of County Clare. It has the potential to become even more pleasant with attention to detail throughout and we look forward to seeing further progress in the years ahead.