

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kanturk**

Ref: **516**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **167**

Category: **C**

Date: **08/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	14	14
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	167	163

Overall Developmental Approach:

This is a town with some attractive features, which could be enhanced considerably. Participation in the Tidy Towns Competition is a good way of bringing about progress. It would be beneficial for the Kanturk Tidy Towns Committee to draw up a simple plan of action and work towards specific goals. There are important issues to be dealt with in the town and many of them could be progressed satisfactorily if a plan of action was pursued.

The Built Environment:

There are some impressive buildings in the town – the Catholic church is a fine building and is well maintained. The nearby Courthouse is also a fine building but it is disappointing to see weed growth on the structure and this should be attended to. Scoil Naisiunta an Clochair is an attractive building. The Edel Quinn Memorial Hall is excellently presented. The Credit Union premises in Strand St. looks well. There are many quite well presented business premises throughout the town but there are buildings which need to be attended to, for example the disused building in a prominent location near the bridge in a prominent area of the town. The magnificent Kanturk Castle located outside the town is an important asset to the town. The now disused premises of Kanturk Trade Union 1881 is obviously of historical significance and might be considered for restoration. The premises of Kanturk

Tennis Club would need to be refurbished.

Landscaping:

Probably the best landscaping in the vicinity of the town is at the Town Park. Some very fine landscaping work has been carried out here. Landscaping in the adjoining grounds of Kanturk Castle enhances the area. Some tree planting carried out in the vicinity of Dr. Pat O' Callaghan Park looks well. The landscaping at the entrance to St. Patrick's Place looks attractive. The tree planting, which has been carried out in areas like Strand St. looks well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The river is an important asset in the town area. From the bridge area it is quite clean and obviously attracts some wildlife species. The river area is a valuable amenity for the community and the presence there of species like duck etc. makes the area interesting. Perhaps when a general Tidy Towns plan is being drawn up for the town, consideration might be given to ways and means of enhancing this aspect of the town's natural resources. The Town Park is an invaluable asset to the town and is a most pleasant place with plenty of seating etc.

Litter Control:

A serious effort needs to be made to deal with the litter problem in the town. In fact it is suggested that it should be a top priority of Tidy Towns action in the future. There was some litter in the area of the Bottle Bank in the car park near the church. There was also litter in the car park near the entrance to the Community Hospital. In O' Brien St. where litter bins are provided, there was a considerable amount of litter on the street. Litter was also much in evidence in the otherwise lovely Town Park particularly in the vicinity of the "Memorial Shelter."

Tidiness:

Some areas of the town were quite tidy – for example the busy Strand St. area. The large park near the Catholic church was tidy except for the immediate area of the Bottle Bank. The area in the vicinity of the Garda Station was tidy. The general area in the vicinity of the Kanturk Tennis Club was quite untidy. The immediate area at the entrance to the Community Hospital was quite tidy. The area at the entrance to the lovely old church of Ireland church was quite untidy, some work would seem to be in progress in this immediate vicinity.

Residential Areas:

Many residential areas in and around the town were quite well presented. Houses and gardens at St. Joseph's Place were nicely presented. Also the residential area of Plas Naomh Pdraig – St. Patrick's Place was neatly presented. Also residential areas such as St. Oliver's Place and Burton Place were well attended to – the large open green areas here, was well maintained. Also individual houses and gardens on the various approach roads to the town were very attractively presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach road for the Castle was quite tidy but the seating along here is in need of repainting. Also the "twinning" sign on this approach is in need of repainting. The IRD sponsored signs for the town are attractive. Traffic signs in the vicinity of the town are in need of repainting. The approach road/footpath from Newmarket was tidy but the old disused Service premises here would need to be attended to. The green area at the junction for Charleville/Buttevant was very overgrown with grass and weed growth and was quite unsightly; this would be a good site to create an attractive landscaped project on this approach to the town. A sector of the old stone wall across from here was broken and in need of repair. In O' Brien St., the Unity Stone – Carraig na n-Aontachta is an interesting project and well maintained. The monument at the junction for Percival St. is well maintained. The simple famine memorial at the entrance to St. Patrick's Place is nicely maintained. The grotto at the Charleville/Buttevant approach is well attended to and is a nice feature in this area of the town.

General Impression:

This is a town with very great potential. Its many natural assets can be significantly enhanced with a more coordinated effort. It is suggested that a plan be prepared and then work on a priority basis. Such an approach would bring about considerable improvement.