

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Milford-Cork**

Ref: **316**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **224**

Category: **B**

Date: **16/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	33	31
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>218</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

The Milford Village Development plan which you have drawn up will prove to be very helpful in bringing about progress throughout the village. It is advisable to work on priority projects on a year to year basis. The fact that you are working with the support of the Local Authority and other agencies is essential to bring about the type of progress which you are aiming at.

### The Built Environment:

Many buildings throughout the village are quite well presented. The school building is well attended to. The church is a lovely building and is an impressive one in the village which is excellently presented; the adjoining grounds are also well attended to. Other buildings such as the Garda Station and the Post Office also looked well. Business premises in the village were generally nicely presented. The fine ruin of Kilbolane Castle looks impressive and no doubt has significant historic implications for the community.

### Landscaping:

In a number of areas throughout the village there are some good examples of landscaping. The shrubbery in the centre of the village near the telephone kiosks is well attended to and forms an attractive feature in this prominent area of the village. Commencement of planting and laying out

the amenity project at the bridge area of the River Deel is noted. This, when completed, will enhance this area considerably. Planting in the area of the West End also looks well. The flower planting in many areas throughout the village add colour. The new planting at Dr. Croke Place will enhance this area. The colourful flower tubs at the church gates are excellently maintained. The Committee and the community should continue with tree planting in the village where appropriate.

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

The village is surrounded by a pleasant rural countryside and this environment undoubtedly provides fine habitat for many wildlife species. The River Deel is a valuable asset to the town and it was noted that that area of the village visible from the bridge was quite clean. The river too no doubt provides habitat for other wildlife species. It is suggested that the community continues to develop and enhance the amenity potential of this important area of the village.

### **Litter Control:**

It was noted that litter bins were in place in a number of areas throughout the village. There seemed to be a good level of litter control throughout the village. The community's participation in the Litter Challenge programme no doubt contributed to the control of litter in the village. Also working towards litter awareness through the schools is an excellent idea. The fact that this awareness is created at an early age builds a good foundation for the future. In addition to these steps, the fact that a litter collection programme is undertaken locally is another very positive approach to the problem. The satisfactory control of litter is a problem that is faced by all communities and your community is obviously taking a very positive approach to the issue.

### **Tidiness:**

The site in the village which apparently is awaiting development, and is at present fenced, is distinctively untidy and it is hoped that this will be dealt with in the lifetime of your community's renewal programme. It is located in a prominent area of the village and in its present state, detracts considerably from the effort which is being made by the community. Many other areas throughout the village were quite tidy. Areas in the vicinity of the church, school and Post Office were all well attended to. The area in the vicinity of Milford Co-op creamery was also tidy. The main area in the village centre near the attractive shrubbery was very tidy. The entrance to Cumann Luth Chleas Gaedhal Ath an Mhuilinn Paric Mhic Ghiobiun was very tidy and well maintained. The forecourt and general area of Donegans Garage was quite tidy.

### **Residential Areas:**

Residential areas in the village were generally quite well presented. At Cul na nGabhar - Coolnagour, houses and gardens here were very neatly presented; the low stone wall here was well maintained and the large green area was neatly trimmed. At Dr. Croke Place - Plas an Chrocaig efforts are also being made to present the area satisfactorily; the green area here was quite well maintained. There were many good examples of individual houses and gardens in the general vicinity of the village and all these combine to present a pleasant community image.

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

The stone place name signs for the village on the approach roads are impressive and are being well maintained. Also, the series of signs identifying various areas within the village have been very tastefully designed and look very well. Stone walls in many areas of the village are well maintained. The use of local stone as surrounds for shrubbery, for example in the village centre looks impressive. The stone plaque commemorating the Millennium Fleadh Cheoil Chorcaí 2000 is tastefully constructed in the West End area of the village. As part of your renewal programme, the Committee has done a fine job in preserving and restoring the old water pumps in the village and these are now attractive features. The seating near the Dr. Croke and Coolnagour residential areas

was well maintained. The approach roads to the village could be tidier. Grass verges at both the Charleville and Dromcolliher approach roads would need more attention. There was very substantial weed growth on verges on the Dromcolliher road; also on the Charleville approach the speed limit sign poles were rusted and in need of repainting.

### **General Impression:**

The community is now in the second year of the village renewal programme. There is obviously good interest in the programme and the efforts which are being made should continue. Progress is being made and if the community continues to work in a coordinated way, this programme will become ever increasingly more apparent.