

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Newmarket-Cork**

Ref: **36**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **184**

Category: **C**

Date: **08/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	
The Built Environment	40	27	
Landscaping	40	26	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	
Litter Control	40	25	
Tidiness	20	14	
Residential Areas	30	23	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	184	

Overall Developmental Approach:

The Newmarket Tidy Towns Committee is now approaching participation in the Competition in a well structured way. A very comprehensive five year plan has been compiled which represents a fresh start in your efforts. The Committee and the general community should now deal with the various matters on a priority basis. By adopting such an approach, results will become apparent which in turn will result in a more enthusiastic response from the residents.

The Built Environment:

There is a number of prominent buildings in an around the village. The Catholic church is one such building and it is well presented. Nearby the CYMS building looked well. Probably the most impressive and imposing building in the vicinity of the town is The James O' Keeffe Institute. This is a fine building and an important one for the community as it accommodates the IRD Duhallow Agency, Teagasc Offices, etc. Though a small premises, the Cork County Council Library in the town is nicely presented. Another small but nicely maintained premises in the town is that of The Newmarket Pipe Band. The Boys National School - Scoil Naisiunta na mBuachailli Ath Trasna is excellently maintained and a credit to all concerned. The area in the vicinity of the school was extremely clean and railings, etc. in the vicinity of the school were neatly painted. There are some well presented business premises in the town - the video premises across from the school is a lovely building and well maintained. The Post Office premises was well maintained and the Newmarket Motors premises was well presented. Also the forecourt and the area in the vicinity of OC Garage in

High St. was tidy. The refurbishing of the town's Garda Station is noted and on its completion the immediate area of the building including temporary accommodation will, hopefully, be tidied up. An immediate aspect of your programme for the future will be to deal with some derelict and semi derelict buildings in the town. Dealing satisfactorily with this problem will improve very considerably the overall image of the town.

Landscaping:

Landscaping work has been carried out in some areas of the town; for example the landscaping at the entrance to Teach Altra Nursing Home looks very well and enhances this area. Also the landscaping in the vicinity of Barry's Place residential area looks well. In many areas of the town, flower planting provides some welcome colour; one such colourful flowerbed is near the entrance to the O' Keeffe Institute. Tree planting in the Pitch and Putt area here also looks well. The landscaping in the Park at the Boherbue/Rockchapel junction looks extremely well. The shrubbery across from Newmarket Motor premises is nicely maintained.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The environs of the town is such that it would naturally attract many species of wildlife. However for everyone's enjoyment a designated area for wildlife watching is desirable. Probably the area with most potential for this would be the Island Wood area. This area is a most attractive one and could be a major focal point for leisure activities for both local residents and visitors to the area. It is suggested that this area should receive more attention by way of both maintenance of pathways and control of high grass/weed growth at entrance etc.

Litter Control:

The situation in relation to litter control generally was reasonable but there is obviously some scope for improvement. There was litter in High St. In New St. there was a considerable amount of litter. We did, however, note your participation in the "Litter Campaign," this is important as it contributes to creating the awareness which is so necessary in dealing with the litter problem. The involvement of the schools in any anti litter measures is always worthwhile as it helps to create the awareness at an earlier age. One of the most disappointing areas in relation to litter was inside the perimeter walls of the Church of Ireland cemetery at the access steps where there was a huge amount of litter here of all sorts, which incidentally is the approach to the Sarah Curran graveside.

Tidiness:

With some exceptions, there is a need for a greater level of tidiness throughout the town. The Park area and the general area of the Boys School were very tidy. The Childrens Playground was extremely tidy and clean. The entrance to Newmarket Co-op premises and the large adjoining car park were very tidy. That area across from the church in High Street, where there is a disused tractor, was extremely untidy and would need to be tidied up. The immediate area near the Bottle Bank would also need to be tidied up. It could be said that streets generally in the town could be tidier.

Residential Areas:

A good effort is being made in this category of the Competition. Residential areas in the vicinity of the Charleville approach looked well and some gardens here were colourful. In Verling Place houses and gardens were well attended to. Similarly, residents in Barry's Place had their houses and gardens well presented. A further example of nicely maintained houses and gardens was at Pdraig Guiney Terrace. On many approach roads to the town there were some examples of beautifully maintained individual houses and gardens, all presenting a vibrant image of the area.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads to the town were generally good. The approach road from Kanturk was quite tidy and here the colourful Duhallow Trail sign for the town looked well. Also flower planting around boulders looked well. Footpaths here too were clean and well maintained. Street works were in progress in some streets - in New St. and in some cases new footpaths were being laid and so these streets were obviously untidy but when completed they should be considerably enhanced. The stone walls in the vicinity of the Childrens Playground and Park looked very well and the streets/footpaths were very clean and tidy. Here too the seating provided was well maintained. The monument across from Newmarket Motors was clean and well maintained. There was some grass and weed growth along kerbs in the vicinity of the church. The approach road from Charleville was quite tidy but what seems to be a disused hall would need to be attended to. The Bohebue and Rockchapel approach roads were quite tidy. The road to Island Wood is somewhat narrow and it is, therefore, important that grass verges here be trimmed on a regular basis if only for safety reasons. The Island Kiln Project is a most interesting one and the explanatory background history provided is excellent. The green area nearby and seating/picnic tables provided area all well maintained. Some signs in the village have been cleaned but in other cases there are signs and poles, some of which are rusted and in need of cleaning and repainting.

General Impression:

In drawing up an Action Plan for a five year period, the Tidy Towns Committee have now laid a good foundation for the future. The town is a pleasantly located and surrounded by a fine rural countryside. There is good potential for progress and if the broader community supports the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee, good progress can be made.