

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rostellan-Farsid**

Ref: **242**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **230**

Category: **A**

Date: **25/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	27
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	230	227

Overall Developmental Approach:

There is great evidence of a very active tidy towns committee noticeable on entering the village. Great avail has been made of the spectacular road frontage and view of the lake and the extensive well-featured lake/roadside walks are a tremendous asset and achievement. Even though the work is probably well planned out in advance – for this part of the competition we require a three to five year plan. This will also help the committee to focus on all the projects, challenges and opportunities that exist for the future. Such a plan can pinpoint the objectives – when, how and by whom they can be carried out and what amount or source of lobbying of public bodies could be engaged.

The Built Environment:

The terraced houses both along the main roadside and the residential area in the upper area form the back bone of this village and add to its attractiveness and uniqueness. The stone features are also very valuable notably the stone bridge, the Lakeview cottage and historical Antique store. The style of the buildings with their roof windows gives a very attractive picture. These are generally well maintained although a few are in need of decoration.

Landscaping:

The huge amount of mown areas along each side of the road is a great landscape feature. The many

shrubs and planted areas give a nice colour sparkle to the area. Tree planting along the Midleton road is very successful. The many picnic areas both roadside and at the lake are a lovely feature and very enticing. The positioning of the tables on concrete bases is helpful both for comfort and the preservation of the easy access picnic tables. The iron containers are effective as their size is well in proportion to the areas on which they are placed. Individual gardens play a significant part in the landscape and great credit is due to house owners who carefully maintain their gardens thereby improving the visual aspect of the area. The planting along the walls opposite the houses by the upper terraces give a very warm atmosphere at those houses and are well cared for,

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The lake is a marvelous asset to the area and provides very interesting observation. The work in regard to the common tern is laudable. The signboard indicating the variety of bird life that may be observed is helpful. The gathering of more information and displaying this in an accessible way would further improve this aspect of the village.

Litter Control:

There is a very good standard of litter cleanliness in the village. Small amount of litter were noted. Some litter was noted in the lake at the bridge -this presents a difficult challenge as it would be difficult to remove. More litter was noted along the roadside on the road having turned right on meeting The Rostellan Public house further along that road past the houses.

Tidiness:

The pier and surrounds – picnic area and walkway to the pier picnic area was very tidy. Weeds have been recently killed along the kerbside in the upper house terraces and the dead brown weed grasses are dying away now. A strimmer would be an ideal approach to controlling weeds by the picnic tables. Some clutter is caused by the display of materials and signs outside the shop by Midleton approach.

Residential Areas:

The pleasant terraces of houses both along the roadside and above are well tended and give a good impression. Individual houses along the roadside also contribute well to the overall appearance of the village. Planting colourful seasonal planters is attractive and adds summer colour to the scene.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The road surfaces are in very good condition. The lay-bys are very welcome and give an opportunity to stop and enjoy the lake and lakeside walks. The information available about historical and distance facts is welcome and gives added interest to the village. Traffic calming measures would be welcome as traffic does not appear to slow down while passing the village. The point at which the new road surfaces meets the verge has become a little distorted and restoration of the verge to meet the road surface needs to be attended to.

General Impression:

Rostellan has developed the lakeside walks and grassed verges marvelously over the years and the pleasant plantings and care of the village makes it a very picturesque and tidy village.