

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Courtmacsherry**

Ref: **638**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **222**

Category: **B**

Date: **24/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	31	29
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>216</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Courtmacsherry Tidy Towns Committee is obviously one which has a great interest in its village's future development. The adjudicator was pleased to note that you have a high level of support and help from local residents. We are looking forward to seeing your work in relation to the under-grounding of wires and its impact on the village's appearance. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, you give no indication as to the date or year on which your five year programme commenced. Do ensure that this is rectified in your entry for next year's competition.

### The Built Environment:

Both public and commercial premises generally looked well cared for on adjudication day. Both the Lifeboat and Pier House Bars looked extremely fresh and Travara Lodge Restaurant was well presented. The garden area to Pheasant Crafts, which one glimpses as passing by on the street, was greatly admired, although the sign appeared rather flaky and should be painted up before next year's competition. The wrought iron decorative framework over the Church of Ireland gateway should be repainted before next year's competition, as it appeared quite flaky. The church and its grounds however were well presented. The old post office has a slight air of neglect to it. Perhaps it will be put to good use in the not too distant future? The Community Centre looked very fresh in pink. The adjudicator was curious as to the current status of the gate lodge near the beach, as a site notice indicated that a planning application had been made for its demolition. This seems rather a shame, as it is such an attractive building!

## **Landscaping:**

The adjudicator noted your plans to redesign the park area. Do ensure that its design is in keeping with the village's unique character. The simple concrete benches were admired, although it would be suggested that a different colour might be more considered. There are some truly magnificent areas to the water side of the Main Street, which are generally cared for by the associated properties on the other side of the street. Perhaps some painting could be considered at the tennis court areas as it currently appears quite grubby and the net was quite tatty? Your plans for planting the Chequerboard area are looked forward to, as currently it appears quite harsh with no soft landscaping whatsoever! The new County Council storage area by the waters edge appears to be in an unfortunate location. Although it was quite tidy the adjudicator wonders if another location could be considered? Areas of incidental landscaping throughout the village were admired, such as the wild daisies opposite the Church of Ireland and a marvelous area opposite Station View with a colourful display of pansies, lavender, violets, snapdragons and nasturtiums. The village pump appeared quite flaky and the grotto was fine although its kerbs, risers to the steps and railings will need repainting before next year's competition. The children's playground area was well presented.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The adjudicator was pleased to note that the repainting of the estuary wildlife sign had taken place although the historical sign showed evidence of much flaking to its varnish. You have indeed maintained the estuary walk to a high standard and your future developments in this area are looked forward to with eager anticipation! There would appear to be a local walk through the woods. Perhaps you could make this more obvious to the visitors to the village in order that they can appreciate the wildlife habitats in the locality.

## **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was generally good. It is suggested that the old litter bins are repainted, as a number of them seem to be need of attention. The old well or drain in a stone retaining wall on Beach Road showed some evidence of litter on the day, which looked unfortunate.

## **Tidiness:**

Courtmacsherry generally looked quite neat and tidy on adjudication day. The pier area was fine, although the tin roof to a shed in this locality was quite rusty. This is very visible from the road due to the fact that it is at a lower level. The recycling area was quite neat and tidy on the day.

## **Residential Areas:**

Houses on Hamilton Row were generally well maintained, although one or two were not to the same high standard. Individual houses on approach roads and in the village centre generally looked well. The magnificent display of nasturtiums at Old Head House B&B looked quite most attractive. O'Donovan's and Flemings are appealing old shopfronts which are now used as private houses. The adjudicator was pleased to note that they had retained their traditional up and down timber sash windows. Do ensure that gable walls are painted, and not just the facades of houses, as these appear quite prominent as you walk along the street. Harbour Court Cottages, the adjudicator was pleased to note, have used vertical hung slate which is a quite traditional detail in this area.

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

The new village nameplate signs were noted and admired. The new pavement areas were in progress on either side of the road at the cul-de-sac leading to the beach and hotel. The new trees on the Timoleague approach are coming along well. This old railway walk is a magnificent facility to have and was generally well maintained on the day, although the other side of the road appeared

somewhat neglected in comparison.

**General Impression:**

Courtmacsherry is a most attractive fishing village which maintains its own unique charm. It has progressed well in the competition over the last number of years and continues to do so.