

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Goleen**

Ref: **143**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **200**

Category: **A**

Date: **28/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	35	34
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	35	35
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	16	16
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	200	196

Overall Developmental Approach:

Goleen District Community Council is one that shows an obvious professionalism when it comes to organising plans for their village's future. Therefore it was disappointing to note that you still haven't put together a three to five year work programme! This document need only be a few pages long, outlining your plans for the village's future and setting a timeframe against their implementation. It will prove an invaluable document for both yourselves and the adjudicators, as both parties can clearly see your progress as the years go by. It was disappointing to note that you feel you have little assistance from the local community in regard to your work. Do try and foster a better relationship in regard to this, as it will assist you greatly with your work. The new stone walling to the east of the village was noted and admired on the day.

The Built Environment:

Most of the buildings were extremely fresh on adjudication day such as McCarthy's, The Lobster Pot and Heron's Cove. Dermot Sheehan's was quite fresh apart from a patch to the façade which was in contrast to the presentation of the rest of the façade. Staining was still apparent to the gable of the Green Kettle - this was mentioned in last year's report. The Post Office was quite fresh. The stone church was admired, with a freshly painted boundary wall and stone coping. The National School was fresh, but its boundary wall was in need of a paint and weeds were apparent at its base. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, the galvanised railings should be painted up before next year. The adjudicator was interested to note that Fastnet Sails had located their business in the old

church. The sign outside Mizen Tourism Co-op should be painted before next year's competition, as it looks quite shabby at the moment.

Landscaping:

There is scope for much further development in this aspect of the competition. Although the nasturtiums at the harbour area were admired, there are plenty of opportunities for further landscaping in this location. The grotto was simply presented and admired. You should sit down and identify areas of potential development in regard to this category of the competition. A most effective approach, used in other towns and villages is one incorporating small areas of incidental landscaping, which surprise the visitor as they travel along the main streets.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your plans to map out walks of different lengths and degrees of difficulty for hikers is to be commended. The adjudicator was also interested to note your investigation into the possibility of using a reed bed filtration system for the village. Last year's report mentioned a wildlife project but there didn't seem to be any reference to it with your application this year! What is its current status?

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was generally quite good, although a number of papers were evident on the road to Barleycove and one or two on the road to the harbour and Heron's Cove.

Tidiness:

Sheds and outbuildings opposite the church should be re-whitewashed and tin roofs repainted in their traditional red or green colour. The open space in this location was quite overgrown. A messy yard area and outbuilding on the road to the harbour and Heron's Cove was mentioned in last year's report and had also been a problem when this adjudicator last visited Goleen a number of years ago. Do ensure that you consider rear yard areas when looking at the overall presentation of buildings and spaces.

Residential Areas:

The charming large house dominating the top of the village is quite unique and attractive in a mustard colour with grey/blue window frames. Some attractive houses opposite the Green Kettle on the road leading to the church were admired, with their magnificent displays of geraniums in window boxes. Goleen Holiday Cottages were well presented and some charming houses opposite the church were admired. New houses were noted on the Barleycove Road. Do ensure that when completed they are suitably landscaped.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Slate, rock and building materials appear to have been dumped on the Schull side of the village. Do ensure that building materials are removed once work is complete. More was evident further in. Directional signs in the village centre opposite the Green Kettle were quite grubby, as were those on the Barleycove Road and also the speed limit sign on the Harbour Road. This latter road appeared grubby and the road surface in this location was in bad condition. The harbour area itself was well maintained with its attractive stone and clapboard shed. As mentioned previously there is scope for further development of landscaping in this location. The Barleycove Road was quite overgrown by the village nameplate but will have marvelous displays of montbretia in time.

General Impression:

Goleen has developed and expanded a great deal since this adjudicator last had the pleasure in visiting the village. Good luck with your future work and well done to all concerned. Do ensure that future developments do not spoil the village's unique charm and character.