

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilcrohane**

Ref: **149**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **225**

Category: **A**

Date: **03/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	36
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	225	220

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was interested to read your five year plan, but was puzzled as to which year it commenced in - presumably it is 2004 as you had not submitted a plan for last year's competition? Your proposals in relation to the bottle bank are eagerly awaited, as indeed is your large amount of work planned for hall and community playing fields area. You seem to have given yourselves plenty of time to get this up and running! Plans to improve the tennis courts will also provide a high level of amenity to both resident and visitor alike.

The Built Environment:

The church looked extremely well with well maintained grounds, as indeed was the graveyard on the road to the pier. Both O'Mahony premises looked very fresh. The Bayview Inn and the Hostel looked well. The National School was extremely fresh in blue with attractive window boxes. Fitzpatrick's looked quite charming and the Community Hall was fine.

Landscaping:

Do ensure that you don't have a heavy reliance on hanging baskets and window boxes. Those on the bridge looked well but resist the temptation to gild the lily by over prettifying the village. Permanent planting and trees would be more benefit than floral displays as they give year round effect. The

map of the Sheep's Head Peninsula was neat and very informative. The planted bed at the entrance to the playground was admired but the recessed parking area appeared quite rough in appearance. Some landscaping was suggested here in last year's report and perhaps a more extensive development should be considered in this location. The graveyard on the road to the pier has been mentioned previously with its stone wall and ruined church, well maintained parking area and planted bed with fuchsia. The river side garden area looked extremely well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Do consider bird nesting time when cutting hedgerows. The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had left this section of the application form blank! Do consult with local wildlife experts in regard to the various habitats that are to be found in your locality. The Tidy Towns Handbook gives many good ideas and references for working on this aspect of the competition.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was good with little litter being evident. However, the bin by the National School was quite full and perhaps you could consider emptying bins more frequently.

Tidiness:

You mentioned the County Council yard area in your application. Perhaps a temporary method of screening could be considered in this location until the site is developed. Do consider outbuildings when looking at the overall presentation of the village, as a shed with a rusty tin roof created a bad impression near the centre of the village. The yard to the Co-op should also be screened from public view, as it appears quite messy in its prominent location. Weed control was generally good, although some was apparent to the bench at the pier area with its magnificent views out to Dunmanus Bay.

Residential Areas:

There were a number of new houses on the Ahakista Road. A stone wall had been broken down in order to gain access to one opposite the playground - presumably this will be re-instated incorporating an entrance area when work is complete? New houses were also noted on the Bantry Road. Those further along, this road had attractive planting and stone entrance wall. The magnificent bright pink michaelmas daisies to a house on the Bantry Road next to the village nameplate were greatly admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Ahakista Road has attractive grassy banks. It was generally well maintained. The new stone entrance feature with the village name in Irish was noted. The road to the pier was well presented with attractive montbretia and wild roses to the hedgerows. The Bantry Road looked well with wild roses and blackberries evident to its grassy banks. In terms of signage, the village nameplate on this road could be painted before next year and the directional signs at the bridge appeared quite flaky.

General Impression:

Kilcrohane is a most attractive centre which continues to perform well in the competition. It was a pleasure to visit and witness all the good work that has been done in the year's since the adjudicator last visited the centre.

