

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lowertown**

Ref: **679**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **155**

Category: **A**

Date: **28/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	10
Litter Control	40	25	25
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	18	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>149</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, you will need to formulate a work programme before next year's competition in order that you can, not only see your progress as the years go by, but also the adjudicators can assess how you are progressing with your plans for the development of the village. What would be of prime importance is to put in place some signage in order that visitors realise that they have arrived in Lowertown! Also, since you have a high level of interest in the heritage of the village, you should put in place some information boards and signage to indicate the positions and locations of the old church, old station, old post office and old forge areas. The adjudicator was pleased to note your high level of support and sponsorship. You have achieved good results since entering the competition for the first time last year. The adjudicator will be interested to see how the plans for the nursing home develop.

### The Built Environment:

The modern church looked fine, although its gates appeared quite rusty and the coping to one of the piers of the boundary wall was damaged. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator the galvanized railing to the front of the grotto will need painting. The stone wall between this structure and the church was greatly admired.

### Landscaping:

The attractive display of pansies to the front of the grotto was admired. In relation to the landscaped area to the car park opposite the church, the use of indigenous planting here is to be highly commended but it looked in need of weeding on the day, as it was quite overgrown. The attractive daisies to the roadside on the Toormore side of the village were admired.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The adjudicator was pleased to note your work in relation to the consideration of bird nesting times when cutting hedgerows and indeed the fact that the farm was now operating on organic principles. For ideas in relation to further development of this aspect of the competition please consult your Tidy Towns Handbook. ENFO also have a number of informative publications on the topic.

### **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was reasonable but even one or two papers can appear all the more evident in a village of Toormore's size. A bottle was seen in front of the grotto and the grass verge cutting had revealed rubbish.

### **Tidiness:**

An outbuilding with a rusty tin roof created a bad impression and should be painted up in its traditional red colour. Weeds were apparent to the base of the boundary wall of the church and this will need to be rectified before next year's competition.

### **Residential Areas:**

Houses throughout the approach roads were generally well kept - of note being an attractive modern stone house on the Toormore side of the village with a double gable to the roadside.

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

On the Schull Road the adjudicator noted that the verges had been cut but the dead grass had not been removed. As previously mentioned, there are no village nameplates and therefore the visitor does not know that they have arrived in Lowertown. This should be rectified before next year's competition. Do approach Cork County Council in this regard.

### **General Impression:**

Lowertown is a most attractive centre which made a good first entry into the competition last year. Good luck with your future endeavours.