

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Newcestown Village**

Ref: **138**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **234**

Category: **A**

Date: **07/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	36	36
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	30
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	234	230

Overall Developmental Approach:

Newcestown Parish Development Association and Tidy Village Association is certainly quite large with a committee of 15, which must make your work somewhat easier than it would be with a smaller committee. You would appear to have a good relationship with the local school, Cork County Council, Muintir na Tire and FAS. The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had not submitted your work plan with this year's application. It is important that this document is lodged with each year's application, in order to aid the adjudicators in their work.

The Built Environment:

The stone church looked well in its prominent location in the centre of the village. O'Mahony's Pub looked quite fresh, as did the Parish Hall. The Post Office will need painting up before next year's competition, as will the boundary wall of the school, although the school building itself looked fine. The window boxes hanging from the wall of the GAA grounds were noted but perhaps this wall could be painted instead, which would be a more effective solution. The attractive planting behind looked well, but the entrance wall in pink and yellow will need to be painted up before next year's competition.

Landscaping:

This is an aspect of the competition which you obviously enjoy. The grotto had been repainted and was in good condition. The new monument to Bishop Galvin was admired on the Kilmurry Road, with its attractive planting above the stone wall surround. The attractive planting with the stone wall including permanent planting of roses and fuchsia on the Castletown Kenneigh Road looked well. On the Bandon Road, the picnic area with its display of farm machinery and grassy space with snapdragons in a stone bed and village pump was admired, although the graveled area appeared quite weedy. The planting in the vicinity of the post office with its hydrangeas and marigolds were admired.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your provision of bird feeders at the bird sanctuary is a good initiative. Your work in relation to tree planting is also most conducive to further development in this category of the competition. Do consult your Tidy Towns Handbook for clues for further developing this aspect of the competition. ENFO also provide a number of good publications on the topic.

Litter Control:

Litter control on the day was very good, apart from a single bottle near the picnic area on the Bandon Road.

Tidiness:

The recycling area was neat, although some weeding was necessary at the base of the wall in this location. Do consider screening the recycling bin in order to improve this location further? The basketball and tennis courts were still in bad condition, which was quite disappointing to note, as this had been the case when this adjudicator last visited Newcestown. It was noted that work is planned for this area, in terms of a stone wall. There was much evidence of tidying and maintenance on the day. A barrel vaulted tin barn on the Kilmurry Road should be painted up in its traditional red colour before next year's competition. Do ensure that building material is removed once construction is complete - a pile of sand was evident to the pitch and putt course.

Residential Areas:

A large building site was noted on the Enniskeane Road - do ensure that new houses are landscaped to the same high standard as existing properties. A number of new houses were noted on the Bandon Road. There are a number of attractive properties and gardens on the Kilmurry Road, where attractive planting is noted to a stone bed to one particular house.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Enniskeane Road the attractive square traditional sign was admired. This is a pleasant approach to the village with its peaceful stream area to the side of the road. The new footpaths at the church were admired. The attractive stone walls and landscaping on the Castletown Kenneigh Road have been noted elsewhere in this report. However, this road was a little bit rough further out and its yield sign is in need of some attention. On the Bandon Road the verges were slightly rough, although the stone planted beds were admired. On the Kilmurry Road stone walls were admired, as were wild flowers such as ferns, foxgloves, blackberries, fuchsia and montbretia in the hedgerows.

General Impression:

Newcestown Village is a centre whose residents show an obvious pride in its appearance. Do ensure that you maintain the high standards you have consistently set yourselves over the years. Good luck with your future work.

