

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Causeway**

Ref: **357**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **239**

Category: **B**

Date: **05/08/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	40
The Built Environment	40	35	34
Landscaping	40	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	239	233

Overall Developmental Approach:

We note from your submission that you are working to an agreed development plan which is due to conclude next year. You have done well in applying your efforts in a phased way. You are also conscious of your problems and some perrenniell black spots.

We also note you have a FÁS worker for two and a half days each week.

The Built Environment:

Public buildings looked well on adjudication day and you are holding your standard in this section. The church is again very well presented and the car park trees are flourishing. The school is bright and well presented but we note there is no progress on replacing the chainlink fencing. The supermarket is well presented and freshly painted. The college was well presented despite a small amount of litter. We are puzzled at the absence of any identity on the old VEC building, which was excellent in presentation.

Landscaping:

This is one of your strong points and you have worked hard in this category down through the years. We also commend you for the high level of maintenance and the great colour generated by all the planting. However, we did not observe any extra development in this area this year. The generous

amount of stone walls in and around the village is of a good quality and we note many of them have been improved with tree planting and grassed area, which is the ideal combination.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The display of wildlife at the picnic area is excellent and well presented. These two display boards are informative and provide a welcoming image for visitors.

Litter Control:

Litter control is good and you do not seem to have any problems in this area. We commend you for your policy of continuous action and promotion as litter control is everybody's business.

Tidiness:

You have made little progress with the many poorly presented open spaces, broken walls, untidy farm yards, rusty corrugated sheds and boundary walls. We acknowledge the brightness of the village centre but there are many problems on approach roads. There is no progress on the premises opposite the school.

Residential Areas:

Marian Terrace is well presented and also St. Martin's Court. Throughout the village there are numerous well presented buildings and many have very attractive gardens. That said, many houses have badly maintained boundary walls and spaces between boundary walls and roadside are in need of attention. You should do a short of survey of houses requiring improvement and try and influence occupiers to improve. We notice your are not experiencing the same intensity of house building as other centres. We would refer you to previous years reports in this respect.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road structure is good throughout and all approach roads seem to be well maintained. The ring fort picnic seating should be removed as they are not serving any purpose and are being abused. As mentioned before there is no need to have ring forts presented like flower gardens.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure to visit Causeway once again and witness the work of the community. You now need to revisit your five-year plan and identify the projects not yet realised. You have raised your marks a little but you need to tackle the outstanding problem areas before progressing further.

Second Round Adjudication:

It was a pleasure to revisit Causeway on the occasion of second adjudication and to note the improvements of the last few years. In particular the painting of the rear facades of buildings at the crossroads have been noted. Well done on this initiative. The two plaques at the crossroad look well however the plaque showing the location of Causeway in relation to its environs could be heightened a little to make it more visible. Your viewing point amenity area at the ring fort is a pleasant development and one that provides an opportunity for motorists to leave their cars in the adjoining carpark and stretch their legs while awaiting their children from the school. The view of the surrounding countryside and distant hills is wonderful on a bright day when visibility is good, the interpretative panel here was noted, perhaps the information provided could be expanded upon a little as the board itself needs refurbishment. Some consideration might also be given to upgrading the circulation area here perhaps featuring some stones. eg, flagstones, and/or other items with a theme related to the ring fort. The gate here might be replaced with a timber one and hedgerow

could be planted to the concrete post fencing. Your new footpath has been noted. Well done also on your wildbird survey and attached brochure. This is a fine initiative. The wire scape both at the cross roads and at the school spoils the panoramic views at both sites. Well done on a fine presentation.