

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ceann Tragha/Ventry**

Ref: **417**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **204**

Category: **A**

Date: **25/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	26	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>200</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for submission and details of work on hand and plans for the future. Thank you also for submission as gaeilge. As mentioned last year Ceann Trá is located in a magnificent part of the country with most attractive environs, not least of all a beautiful strand. Being a Gaeltacht area adds an extra dimension to your attractions. Your challenge is to match the demand for new developments with the traditional character of the village and area.

### The Built Environment:

Halla Cheann Trá is now the most dominant building in the area and is very well presented. We suggest an appropriate sign on the hall itself as it is not identified from the Ballyferriter approach. The environs are good here and the recycling centre is well presented with no apparent abuse. The national school is attractive and freshly painted, together with Oifig an Phoist, Penny's Pottery and The Skipper Restaurant.

### Landscaping:

Your village is unique with the great attractive plethora of wildflowers, and colourful hedgerows. Indeed there is no need to go overboard with window boxes, tubs or hanging baskets. We suggest you concentrate on flowering shrubs indigenous to the area. e.g., the narrow road approaching the

school from Dingle is flanked on both sides with rich colourful fuchsia, we suggest you trim it back and cultivate it similar to that at Gallarus. Many individuals have attractive landscaping and the B/B beside The Skipper Restaurant is a hidden treasure. We acknowledge the green area at the Post Office junction, but would caution against too much grass development: better to concentrate on maintaining the meandering rural characteristic of the village.

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

The two illustrated display maps and other maps in the village are well positioned and beneficial to visitors and locals. You are better placed than most to raise your marks in this section.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was good, apart from some unsightly pockets at Ventry Strand Car Park. You do not seem to have a litter problem and the recycling unit is effective and well maintained.

### **Tidiness:**

Your problems here relate to some poorly presented boundary walls, broken fences and abandoned trailers. Could you encourage the owner of the caravan park to replace the broken post and rail fence with a fuchsia hedge. However, the centre of the village was clean and tidy and is a welcoming site on the approach from Dingle, which offers a splendid vista of the Ceann Trá area.

### **Residential Areas:**

Houses are well presented and many new houses are now boosting your resident numbers which should be welcomed. We would urge developers to stick with traditional materials and maintain the traditional character of the village. The three holiday homes beside the school need landscaping: we suggest climbing roses on the houses to soften the bareness of this site.

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

Road structure is good and well defined. Signage is also good and well maintained. A sign is missing on the school approach from Dingle. Because of the layout of the village many side and back areas are visible from the roadside, so we would urge you to treat these areas as part of the core village. The toilets at the strand are only fair.

### **General Impression:**

It was a delight to visit Ceann Trá on a sunny June day. The village was busy with tourists and holiday makers, and the activity at the hall by students learning Irish was a joy to witness: moladh do gach éinne. We hope to return next year and see some improvements, but we commend you on your entry and your commitment to your own area. Good luck for 2005.