

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lios Poil**

Ref: **524**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **174**

Category: **A**

Date: **24/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	22	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	174	172

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your entry and details of your activity. We notice there is no progress on a development plan for the improvement of the village since last year. We would impress upon you the necessity for you and community to have a vision of how you are going to progress in the competition over the coming years. Let it be said straight away that Lios Póil is well placed to be a high scorer in the tidy towns competition and many centres would envy your strategic location, your rural setting, your linear layout, and the uniqueness of being part of An Ghaeltacht. You need to make more of your advantages and we hope next year will produce a start in this direction.

The Built Environment:

The church is the dominant building in the village and it is an imposing spectacle looking out on the beauty of west Kerry. However, its environs need more colour and you could achieve this by landscaping the raised embankment adjacent to the church. West Kerry is famous for its wild flowers and you should exploit this distinction at this location. The garage at the Annascaul approach is very untidy and would boost its sales by presenting its environs to a higher standard. Abandoned cars are hardly acceptable in this age. The Estuary fuel station is providing a valuable service and one of few stations offering a puncture repair facility: well done. However, it could be presented to a higher standard and the area beside the welcome recycling centre is very untidy. You seem very anxious to accept the ultra modern materials of building and we suggest you adhere to the more traditional features when refurbishing houses especially. The old creamery is now an eyesore and we

hope the new owner will develop to an acceptable standard.

Landscaping:

There is good colour throughout the village and many houses have attractive flower displays. Some of the landscaping of previous years is now in need of maintenance. For instance the sign at Páirc an Fhaidh is attractive but now overgrown with grass. You need to concentrate on the two principal approach roads and improve the grass control. You also have a great array of wild flowers and you should cultivate these on the approach roads as they would be of great interest to your many visitors.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You have great opportunity here for raising your marks and the area's natural habitats are promoting wildlife. The plethora of wild plants are also contributing to wildlife.

Litter Control:

The village and environs were free of litter and this is not a problem, so well done to all concerned.

Tidiness:

Your problems here are caused by a good deal of dereliction, unoccupied premises, abandoned cars, poor boundary walls and neglected open spaces. These problems will only be solved with the cooperation of the owners and you should seek their cooperation over a phased period.

Residential Areas:

House are well presented and many have gone to great trouble keeping their gardens to a high standard. The attractive house with well landscaped gardens on the approach from Dingle near the village identity sign is a good example for others to pursue.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road structure is good and well disciplined. Some lay by areas are being used for storing road materials and this should be discouraged. The grotto is a disappointment and would only take a couple of evenings with a meitheal to clean it up, white wash the backdrop and improve the presentation of the statues. We also suggest you paint the bridge and embellish it with hanging baskets: it would create a very favourable image for the village and give you an improved identity.

General Impression:

It was a great delight to visit Lios Póil in this part of west Kerry. As mentioned at the outset the village has potential to be a high scorer in the competition. Its environmental future is in your hands really and if you contact the local authorities and liaise with other relevant agencies you will find a willingness to work with you in your endeavours. Go néirí libh.