

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tarbert**

Ref: **87**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **232**

Category: **B**

Date: **24/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	43
The Built Environment	40	34	34
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	14	15
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>232</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for submission and details of work on hand. We are unaware from the entry form if you are working to an agreed phased plan. Your funding capacity is impressive and would suggest good backing from the community. You have a large area to cover stretching from the pier to the Limerick and Tralee roads. You are endowed with many fine buildings and an attractive river offering you potential for high marking in the area of wildlife. You have worked hard down through the years and much of previous years work is now bearing fruit: the trees on the square being the best example

### The Built Environment:

Public buildings looked well again this year and The Bridewell is a most interesting building, now offering an insight into 19th century penal life. Adjudication commenced at the pier which is well presented and busy. The lengthy approach from the pier offers some lovely landscaping and an attractive array of mature trees. The wildlife display board on this approach is in need of refurbishment. The church looked well but the boundary walls need painting. The adjacent car park is below standard. The fire station boundary walls need painting as does the Comprehensive School. You have a good display of commercial outlets in the core of the town and many have attractive traditional features worthy of preservation. The Central Garage is in need of improvement on this important site.

## **Landscaping:**

Well done on a great performance of landscaping. This is one of your strong points and each year seems to bring more developments. The picnic site at the Limerick approach is one of the best encountered by this adjudicator and a model for others to pursue. The lay out here is superb, with good quality seating and attractive landscaping. Individual effort is good also and many shops have colourful displays of window boxes, hanging baskets and some tubs, all combining to give an attractive display.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

We admired the wild life at the river bridge and we acknowledge your work in this respect with special release runs upstream. The river offers you good scope for promoting and popularising wildlife.

## **Litter Control:**

In general litter control was good and you do not appear to have any serious problems in this area. Like last year the river area did show some small amount but you have scored well in this section.

## **Tidiness:**

You have problems with dereliction, neglected open spaces and many undeveloped sites. The large open space beside the Ferry House Hostel is very evident and in need of screening at a minimum. Your biggest black spot is at the old creamery and the environs here seem to be a free for all: this is quite an eyesore. Other areas of untidiness relate to unfinished developments e.g., the house opposite the Comprehensive School.

## **Residential Areas:**

One of the problems facing all adjudicators is that of name plates on housing estates and street names. Unlike last year's report this adjudicator found a lot of housing estates with no identity signs. Communities would welcome such a development. You should contact the local authority and arrange for the erection of appropriate bilingual signs on all housing estates and streets. We note a good deal of new houses being built and this is welcome. The additional houses being built by the local authority and by individuals offer potential for you to recruit new members. Individual houses on the approach roads are well presented and many have first class gardens fronting them.

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

The road structure is good and well defined. The Limerick approach is exceptional and has a rich display of landscaping. We visited the new bird hide but found no indication of how to gain access. Is this for club members only, if not you should post a notice giving information on opening times. The attractive and interesting 1893 monument on the Ballybunion approach should be cleaned: it would only take one evening by two people.

## **General Impression:**

It is always a pleasure to visit Tarbert and witness the work in progress. The ferry service is important to Tarbert and for many visitors it marks an introduction to Co. Kerry. Your challenge now is to solve the black spot areas that are keeping your marks down in certain sections. We suggest you revisit your development plans and seek a meeting with Kerry Co. Council and try and impress upon them the problems of dereliction. We wish you well in your endeavours.

