

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Crookedwood**

Ref: **654**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **200**

Category: **A**

Date: **17/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	36	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	200	195

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your completed entry form and map. The map was well detailed and very helpful to the adjudicator. While the overall objectives are clearly focused in the minds of the committee - a development plan would be very useful during adjudication as it would outline current developments and their place in terms of the overall objectives. It would also be a useful means of focussing the wider community and providing a longer term vision. It is sad to hear of the tragic death of Dr Mary Farrell, and undoubtedly her interest, knowledge and enthusiasm will be sorely missed. The community's continued efforts in the Tidy Towns competition and fitting tribute plans would no doubt make her very proud. It is good to see such an active and committed committee.

The Built Environment:

The built environment is in very good condition. The Pub, which is up for sale in the centre of the village needs attention. Hopefully the new owners will make the necessary improvements particularly to the car-park area. The phone booth area looks very well and the surrounding bollards, seating area and bank are very well presented. The house in the centre (with post office box), looks very attractive with it's nice geraniums, though it may need painting in advance of next year's competition.

Landscaping:

The landscaping is well planned and there is a wonderful diversity of trees, rich colour and well maintained shrubs - well done. The adjudicator looks forward to seeing all areas maturing and coming together over the next couple of years. The wild flower bank on the Taughmon Road will be more attractive when landscaping is completed. The river area is again a lovely combination of natural meadow and planting. The flower beds, shrubs and low lying bedding are all well maintained. They are particularly effective as they greet the visitor or passer by from all approaches.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to see local residents are encouraged to erect bird boxes and plant shrubs and trees suitable to wildlife. Again, a more detailed outline would be beneficial in this area.

Litter Control:

No litter was evident on the day of inspection. Litter control appears to be working well and it is good to hear "picked" litter is being recycled. It is also good to note that residents and in particular the local children are being involved.

Tidiness:

Crookedwood is a very neat and tidy village - well done.

Residential Areas:

The commitment of the residents is in evidence throughout Crookedwood. There is some very nice landscaping at the front of residences. The window box/hanging basket competition should further encourage the residents and introduce a nice amount of colour to the village; a themed approach may look very well and bring all areas nicely together.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The 30 miles speed sign of left approach from Castlepollard will need to be repaired or replaced. The junction of the Multyfarnham and main road is in poor condition. The County Council may take a look at improving this as it takes from the village. Good luck with your plans to replace public lighting with lanterns and place cables underground - a commendable plan which will add greatly to an already picturesque village. In general all approach roads are well maintained and the attention given is evident. The half barrell floral displays add good colour. Tourist trail sign posting is good.

General Impression:

A very well kept village, keep up the good work!!