

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonroche**

Ref: **293**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **209**

Category: **B**

Date: **12/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>205</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for all the information sent with your entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. It is gratifying to read that your large committee continues to have the support of Wexford County Council, WORD and many other organisation and, more importantly, your local community for your efforts. Your plans are very ambitious and you are to be congratulated on them. Success in the Tidy Towns competition is gained through careful planning and attention to detail. Do not however, try to do too much in any given year. Work within your physical and financial resources. Identify what you can do each year, say over a three year period, and this will also be a benchmark as how successful or otherwise you are over that period. You received an in-depth report from the adjudicator last year. The following, therefore, is by way of comment on further progress to date and should be read in tandem with that report.

### The Built Environment:

Commercial premises in general looked extremely well as did the Garda Station, the Health Centre, your local School and grounds and Community Centre. However, some comments made in last year's report, may still apply. You still have some areas of dereliction. You should consult with Wexford County Council on this as, under the Derelict Sites Act, they have powers to approach the owners of these premises with regard to maintenance.

## **Landscaping:**

The Millennium Park again looked marvelous this year and the highest praise is due to all concerned. Tubs of flowers, Planters and flower beds throughout the village looked extremely well and are being very well maintained. Those on the New Ross approach create a very nice impression and trees planted in the past are now maturing very nicely. As part of your future planning, try to identify other areas where you could plant trees and shrubs which will give you some colour on an all year round basis.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your comments under this heading are noted. Do however try to develop a Wildlife project perhaps involving, initially your school children and the provision of such simple things as nesting boxes and feeding tables for birds. The Millennium Park would seem to be an ideal place for such a project.

## **Litter Control:**

Clonroche was practically litter free on adjudication day. There was, however, some evidence of minor littering at Canon Murphy Park.

## **Tidiness:**

Many of the comments made in last year's report are still applicable but, in general, the village was presented in a neat and tidy manner and reflects greatly the interest which your residents and commercial operators have in their environment.

## **Residential Areas:**

As mentioned last year, there are indeed some inconsistencies in standard under this heading. The new Woodlands estate will look very well when completed and will add greatly to the overall appearance of the stock of houses in the village. The open spaces at Canon Murphy Park are being very well maintained and great credit is due to the residence there. If you have not already done so you should try to form Residents Associations and have representation from them on your committee. Many individual houses however did look very well and had lovely gardens in full bloom on adjudication day. This is an important part of the competition, particularly in a small village. You cannot succeed without it.

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

In general, approach roads looked good and verges are being reasonably well maintained. Road surfaces in spots, however, were not good and this is probably due to the enormous amount of traffic passing through the village. Footpaths are, in general, being well maintained and signposting is good.

## **General Impression:**

The enormous amount of traffic will always be a problem but, nevertheless, you are making very good progress and are to be congratulated on it. As mentioned earlier on, planning is very important. Do therefore try to identify projects which you might carry out under the various headings which will gain you additional marks in the competition. The Tidy Towns Handbook suggests various bodies which can be contacted and these should include your Local Authority, South East Tourism (based at Waterford), Duchas (or its successor) and indeed draw on the knowledge of any local specialists particularly in the area of tree planting and wildlife. Keep up the good work. The adjudicator looks forward to returning to Clonroche again next year to see what further progress has been made.

