

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cranny**

Ref: **567**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **210**

Category: **A**

Date: **28/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	27	26
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	12	13
Residential Areas	30	20	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	210	203

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for completed entry form. It is good to note that you have the support of FAS, Clare County Council, the local Credit Union and Church Gate collections. Cranny is a lovely village set in the heart of Co. Clare. By the riverside, the sound of sheep could be heard nearby and fish were jumping in the river during our visit. This type of tranquillity is difficult find in Ireland now and should be preserved as much as possible. A plan with this theme in mind should be drawn up for the next two/three years so that you will have your targets and aims in front of you to focus upon. We would also suggest that you consider entering other competitions (if you have not already done so) such as National Spring Clean Week, (run by An Taisce); Green Schools; Golden Mile; IBAL (Irish Business against Litter); Anti Litter League; Pride of Place (all-Ireland competition); LEADER Environmental Initiatives and any Competitions being organised by the Local Authorities, as appropriate.

The Built Environment:

In regard to the built environment of Cranny, the Church was very well presented and also the School. In relation to the old National School this needs some attention as this site has become rather untidy looking. At the public house, Tir na nOg, there was building work taking place and no doubt this site will be left in a neat and tidy condition when this work has concluded.

Landscaping:

The flower beds on the approach roads were noted and admired, Also, the large flower beds in the middle of the village again presented a very colourful aspect. Unfortunately, the hanging baskets at the bridge were interfered with as there were only two left - one at either side - during our visit. However, otherwise the riverside picnic area was looking well and the raised flower bed opposite was admired. The tree planting undertaken was noted - this will leave a legacy for future generations.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Any planting you have undertaken contributes under the wildlife category. Also, the riverside area constitutes a wildlife habitat.

Litter Control:

There was no litter to be seen around the village during our visit and your strategy in this connection is obviously working. It is good to see that you involve the school children in your endeavours.

Tidiness:

With regard to tidiness, the departure of the ivy from the bridge was noted. As mentioned, unfortunately the yard which is situated at the old school presents an untidy appearance as indeed does the area behind the flower bed near the riverside. However, most of the village otherwise presented a tidy and pleasant aspect.

Residential Areas:

Most residences in the village and on the outskirts, with some notable exceptions, were well presented with a nice use of colour.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The welcoming information signs on the way in to the village were noted. These present a pleasant welcome to the visitor. However, the roads in and out of Cranny are very narrow and quite dangerous. These are not wide enough for the comfortable passage of two vehicles. We would suggest that you discuss same with Clare County Council regarding a possible easing of this situation.

General Impression:

Cranny is an example of a country village at its best. Do keep up the good work with a little more attention to detail. We wish you well in the future.