

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Boherbue**

Ref: **416**

County: **Cork North**

Mark: **213**

Category: **B**

Date: **29/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	13
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>206</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Your submission including sketch map and photographs proved helpful on adjudication day. It was a really sunny day in Boherbue (we notice it is spelt Boherboy on the map which cost this adjudicator an extra 40 miles return journey from Mallow) and the village was a blaze of colour. Your vision for the next few year is commendable and we urge you to identify projects at the beginning of each year as you may have to cope with changing circumstances. Membership of 35 on your committee enables you to draw on a great amount of voluntary labour, so well done. The aerial view of the village illustrates how compact it is and this is to your advantage. The photo also show vividly how precious the green fields are to the environs of the village and we hope ribbon development or sporadic once off housing will not be allowed to detract from this.

### The Built Environment:

Fresh painting continues to be your strong point and many individuals were observed 'touching up' on adjudication day. You still retain the rural ethos of the village and the farming influence is poignant with so many farming related buildings in evidence. We wonder if the IRD Duhallow building is still operating as it was closed on a Wednesday adjudication day: this building is now in need of refurbishment and some weed growth was evident at the base of the walls and the steel windows are 50 years old and need replacing. The closed garage opposite the Garda Station is keeping your marks down in this section together with the unsightly unused garage on the Mallow approach. We admired the public buildings again this year and the wonderful display at the Scoil

Chuimsitheach was much admired on this important approach road. We hope the fuel pumps at Frank Knee will soon be removed. Halla an Phiarsaigh memorial hall needs painting and please change the colour. No progress with an appropriate sign for An Post. The clock on the Retail Park is attractive distinctive. The house opposite Chapel View is still an eyesore.

### **Landscaping:**

An other fine display throughout and some new developments are acknowledged. Without exception all approach roads are richly landscaped and we congratulate the many individuals who have gone the extra mile in crossing the road to give colour to roadside margins. Patsy O Sullivan Park does not match the standard of other developments in the village. The beech hedging is attractive and you might extending similar planting to other areas as it is very indigenous and naturalised. The cemetery and landscaping fronting the entrance is excellent. We also note the new layout and surface dressing at the Church car park, together with new landscaping, so well done on this addition.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

What a delight to witness the development on the Knocknagree Approach. This is really excellent and informative. We note your claim on the return of the Corncrake and wonder if you have authenticated its return and if so, you should alert Birdwatch Ireland who will be delighted to learn of the sighting. The quality of display boards is excellent: one of the best in the region, consequently you have raised your marks in this section. You might now consider publishing a leaflet on the wildlife of the area in conjunction with IRD Duhallow. We admired the development of Linnet Plantation and perhaps an information plaque on same might be of great interest to visitors and locals alike.

### **Litter Control:**

You have maintained your mark here and litter does not seem to be a problem throughout the village or on the approach roads.

### **Tidiness:**

We noticed some weed growth on the footpaths near the church: these should be sprayed in May. Your problems here are still in the area of dereliction and will need to be tackled if you are to raise your marks significantly. We appreciate that some of these problems are outside the scope of your committee but your influence is vital to have them rectified.

### **Residential Areas:**

The standard and presentation of houses in general is very good. Some houses at McAuliffe Avenue would benefit from painting. We urge those with traditional features to protect them and maintain them to a high standard. We are pleased to notice many shops have living accommodation attached and this is commendable as it brings stability to the fabric of the village core.

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

Road structures are very good and well maintained. You have a good deal of fast traffic passing through the village showing little concern for the safety of residents, but you are not alone in this respect as it now a national problem of high proportion. As mentioned last year you also have many back and side entrances in need improved presentation and this is important as these areas now form a core part of the adjudication system.

**General Impression:**

An other fine performance for Boherbue. You now need to lay greater emphasis on giving attention to detail and visit the many black spots mentioned in this and previous reports. Your challenge now is to keep the community with you and firm up your plan projects. Bear in mind Tidy Towns is essentially a voluntary movement with heavy reliance on people's commitment to an enhanced environment. Seeking and getting assistance from other development agencies then becomes a bonus. Good luck in the future.

**Second Round Adjudication:**