

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clondrohid**

Ref: **109**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **197**

Category: **B**

Date: **14/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	37
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	25	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	30	30
Tidiness	20	14	15
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	197	193

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for a neatly filled in entry form, complete with extract from the Leader Plan for the village improvement. We would have liked to read the final draft of the plan and wonder if we only got a synopsis two page extract. You have acted wisely in dealing with Leader and you should be indebted to them for such a valuable document. Indeed, we could hardly do better than recommend the plan to you in its entirety. However, any plan will only be as good as its implementation and you have much work to do over the coming years. You should phase your work and set yourself targets on an yearly basis.

The Built Environment:

The village is linear which has advantages, especially at it makes it more compact and reduces the amount of approach roads. Buildings are strong in traditional appearance and you should strive to protect and maintain these features as you continue to develop and progress. We like the church and its environs, but would concur with Leader in terms of softening the car park area with some landscaping. However, this is a detail at this stage and you have many more pressing problems to deal with. The school is below standard in appearance and appeared drab on adjudication day. The Co-op Stores are very prominent and cover a large area which need improved landscaping. The workshop opposite the Co-Op is poor and needs a clean-up. Halla an Phobail need an appropriate sign: you should get an artist to paint an attractive sign with appropriate lettering.

Landscaping:

We acknowledge the great amount of landscaping in and around the village and on the approach roads. This can be one of your strong points but landscaping needs to be matched with neatness and good maintenance in other directions also. The creche needs a sign on the building also and the fingerpost signs in the village are inadequate. The Leader plan has some good suggestions for improved landscaping throughout the village core and also on approach roads and up to the GAA field: we recommend you pursue these suggestions.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

What has potential to be your most welcoming entrance is currently your weakest: the approach by the bridge is really poor and the bridge itself is very narrow. It is unlikely you will get a new bridge in the short term but perhaps the existing bridge walls could be faced with stone and embellished with some appropriate landscaping, or hanging baskets and a good village identity sign. This could be followed by developing a small amenity area near the river bank and perhaps a river walk, offering display boards identifying the flora and fauna of the area. You will find that your best single investment in an around the village will be tree planting and we urge you to plant similar indigenous species as they will make a profound statement after a few years. The improvement of road surface to the Halla, followed by landscaping and a more defined entrance would improve this area significantly.

Litter Control:

The Bring Bank containers need a wash but are well disciplined. In general litter control was good with no serious problems in evidence. This is a vital category for advancement in the competition so you need to bring the community with you in your endeavours to keep the village litter free.

Tidiness:

You have numerous problems emanating from a plethora of poorly presented open spaces, dereliction, badly presented chainlink fencing and untidy back yards. We accept the disruption caused by building sites: chainlink fencing is not conducive to good Tidy Towns and few committees now use this method of fencing.

Residential Areas:

You have scored well in this section and the village houses are well kept and many individuals have attractive gardens. Again we urge residents in the village centre especially to be proud of the traditional features and maintain them to a high standard. We hope the new housing scheme at Curra Glen will blend in well with the surrounding building and we also recommend you recruit new members from the new occupants.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

We like the Fáilte signs on the approach roads as they project a caring image for the village. You should extend this policy to all approach roads. You have a good deal of poorly presented side and rear areas and we would point out that these now form a core part of the adjudication system. Like so many other centres you have a traffic problem and the bridge traffic is hazardous.

General Impression:

The village has all the ingredients to make good progress in the competition. You have made a good start with the Leader plan and your challenge now is to get the necessary backing from the

community, and the commercial operators of the area. Successful Tidy Towns is all about partnership and voluntary effort. We wish you well in the future.

Second Round Adjudication: