

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Grenagh**

Ref: **409**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **214**

Category: **C**

Date: **13/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	26
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	214	208

Overall Developmental Approach:

The background information supplied with the entry form is useful. The Tidy Towns Committee have obviously been working in stages to improve and enhance the village. It would be wise to work on a basis of priority and a good foundation has already been laid for future progress. It is hoped that observations made in this report will help to bring about further progress in the future.

The Built Environment:

The standard of buildings generally in and around the village is generally good and the business premises in the village are well presented. The Sports Complex building is a large premises and well maintained. The Grenagh Community Centre premises is very well maintained and is an excellent use for the former Rathduff National School. The new national school premises is very well presented. Buildings in the Dairygold complex would need to be repainted and grass and weed growth at the entrance would need to be checked. The Catholic Church is a fine building in the village and both the church and adjoining grounds are excellently presented.

Landscaping:

A considerable amount of planting has been carried out in and around the village. The planting in the centre of the village around that area where old farm implements are in place looks well. A

considerable amount of tree planting has been carried out within the grounds of the Sports Complex area. The tree planting and other landscaping work which has been carried out in the vicinity of the new housing development is to be welcomed. The Tidy Towns Committee should ensure as far as possible in all areas of housing development that appropriate planting and landscaping work is carried out. The mature trees outside the village in all areas enhance the area generally.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The village located as it is in a rich rural environment has an abundance of wildlife in the surrounding areas. Perhaps in time a designated site, maybe a wetland area might be identified and dedicated as a recognised wildlife attraction. The committee may consider this in the longer term and it would be advisable to seek expert advice on such a project from the appropriate wildlife authorities.

Litter Control:

It is encouraging that the community is working with other bodies such as An Taisce with the aim of controlling litter. The problem of litter is one that is common to all communities big and small and all residents in a community can help with this. It is also advisable, if it is possible to do so, to involve the local school in some way. This would help to create an awareness of litter not just amongst the school pupils but also amongst the adults. It is noted that residents in one or perhaps more of the new housing developments do their own litter campaigns and the committee should encourage other residential areas to do likewise.

Tidiness:

There was a high level of tidiness within the entire area of the Sports Complex. That area of the Bottle Bank was quite tidy. That area close to the old petrol pumps in the centre of the village could be made a little more tidy. The area in the vicinity of and the entrance to the cemetery was quite tidy. The cemetery was also tidy. From the Blarney side there is an area near the church on the right hand side and this would need to be tidied up. The immediate area in the vicinity of the village pump would also need to be tidied up.

Residential Areas:

Like many other villages now this village is changing with a considerable amount of housing development taking place. The committee and the community together with the developers should take any steps possible to ensure that this development fit in, as far as possible, in a village like this. The housing developments which have been carried out are well maintained and presented. The houses and gardens at Lachteen Place look very pleasant. Also the Conard housing development looks well and nearby grass area is neatly trimmed. Likewise the development at Gleann Aras looks well. Other houses and gardens in the vicinity of the village look well and overall enhance the area generally.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach road from Blarney was good and grass verges along here were neatly trimmed. However there was very high grass and weed growth around the place name sign for the village and this would need to be attended to. The Donoughmore approach road was tidy; the footpaths here were tidy and clean. The new footpaths near Lachteen Place improves this area of the village. The signs in stone for the Sports Complex on the entrance walls are very tastefully carried out. The advance name place sign for the village which is situated across for the Sports Complex is in need of repainting. The scrolls/plaque erected near the village pump make a lovely feature in a prominent are of the village but the immediate area is in need of attention. The white enamelled bucket on the pump(which is probably part of the plan) is rusted and would need to be replaced. Also the planting nearby would also need attention. The display of the old agricultural implements and milk churns

make a nice feature in the village. As stated the project overall is an excellent idea but do try to make improvements here so that the feature will be highlighted more.

General Impression:

This is a lovely rural village set in a rich clean environment. As already indicated changes are occurring in such communities and it is therefore important that residents do whatever they can to preserve the integrity of such villages. The Tidy Towns Committee are well positioned to make a contribution towards maintaining the balance between the old and the new. The committee should therefore continue with the excellent efforts already begun.

Second Round Adjudication: