

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rochestown**

Ref: **415**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **219**

Category: **D**

Date: **15/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	24
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	27	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	26
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>213</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Like many other centres Rochestown is undergoing change. The large apartment building is now a new feature of the area. The Tidy Towns Committee has worked hard over the years and a lot has been achieved. As, largely, a residential area, it is a very pleasant one and also it is important that a group like the Tidy Towns Committee continues to keep a vigilant watch on developments in the area. The committee should therefore continue to work in a coordinated way and further enhance this very pleasant area.

### The Built Environment:

As stated this is a largely residential area and the standard of building generally through the village is generally high. The Capuchin Friary outside the village is a lovely old church as are most of the adjoining buildings and the complex overall is impressive. The business premises, filling station, licensed premises and shop are well presented. The old railway platform is a significant project for the community and it is commendable that it has been retained. Across from the apartment development there is a ruin of what was obviously a lovely old red brick house or lodge. Depending on ownership situation it would be nice to see it restored, apart from the fact if restored it would enhance this area of the village considerably.

### Landscaping:

There are many examples of fine landscaping work in various parts of the village. In many of the open green spaces adjoining residential areas, there is excellent landscaping, much of which is now quite mature. The work which has been carried out at the River Bank enhances the area considerably. The landscaping work at the entrance to the new apartment development is to be welcomed. The green area across from the Rochestown Inn would need to be trimmed on a more regular basis. The landscaping work in the Underwood area is well maintained.

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

The Pond area obviously provided suitable habitat for many species of wildlife. Working with the Local Authority to improve the situation here is the correct approach. The Hop Island area is an important amenity area in the village. It could be seen however that parts of the area are overgrown. As has been referred to in previous reports, parking is a difficulty there. If possible it would be desirable to rectify this situation. The general area combines well as a walk way and wildlife habitat in addition.

### **Litter Control:**

Generally the litter situation throughout the village was quite good. There was however some litter on the road to the Garryduff Sports Centre. Entrances to the many residential areas and areas in the vicinity of the business premises were free of litter. In the walk area too there was scarcely any litter in evidence.

### **Tidiness:**

Considering the relatively high numbers residing in and frequenting the area there was a good level of tidiness throughout the village. The area in the vicinity of the old brick ruin (already referred to) would need to be tidied up. There seems to be remaining work still in progress at the old Railway Platform project. When this excellent project is completed, the immediate area including the grass area should be tidied up. Areas in the vicinity of business premises in the village were quite tidy.

### **Residential Areas:**

There is now a large number of residential areas within this community and the standard generally throughout is very high. The Tidy Towns Committee is correct in urging residents in the industrial estates to take responsibility for their own areas and this is obviously giving the right results. Houses and gardens in areas such as those in Lislee Road, Maryborough Estate are very nicely maintained. Also houses and gardens at Rochestown Rise and Thornberry Heights looked very well. The old terraced houses on the Passage West Road are very nicely presented.

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

The approach road from Cork was very tidy and clean and the green areas along here were neatly trimmed. The approach road from Passage West was also quite tidy. The explanatory plaque set in a large portion of natural stone looks well and gives an interesting background to the project. Footpaths throughout the village were generally good. The grotto close to the monastery grounds was very nicely maintained.

### **General Impression:**

The Tidy Towns Committee has done good work over the years in presenting Rochestown as a very pleasant residential area. That work is ever more important at this juncture and these efforts should continue. Where possible the committee should work with the Local Authority to ensure projects get completed satisfactorily. It is a most pleasant residential area.

## Second Round Adjudication: