

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Whitegate-Cork**

Ref: **173**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **162**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	
The Built Environment	40	21	
Landscaping	40	27	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	
Litter Control	40	17	
Tidiness	20	10	
Residential Areas	30	19	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	
General Impression	10	4	
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>162</b>	

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the tidy Towns Competition. It is good to see your community participating in the competition and it is hoped that your involvement will bring about improvements in the village generally. The detailed map which was submitted was helpful with adjudication. It is suggested your Residents Association draw up say, a three year plan for work to be done in the community. It would be a good idea then to tackle these problems in order of priority. It is hoped that comments made in this report will be of help to the committee for future action.

### The Built Environment:

The buildings generally in the village are of a good standard. The Church of Ireland church is a lovely attractive old building. The school building and adjoining grounds were well presented. The business premises in the village were quite well presented. The Garda Station premises were well maintained. Buildings within the Refinery complex were quite well presented. Derelict buildings always detract from the overall image of a town or village. In Whitegate, the derelict corner buildings, where there is an old style water pump must be attended to. The old pump should also be repainted. There is a considerable amount of building work in progress in the vicinity of the village of present.

### Landscaping:

The Park area has the potential to be a very pleasant area and a considerable amount of planting has already been carried out here. However the entire area needs to be better maintained; for example the grass would need to be trimmed and attended to on more regular intervals. The tree planting and landscaping work in the vicinity of the Refinery looks well and enhances this area of the village considerably. Your plan to plant bulbs, shrubs etc. is noted and this should be pursued further for the future. Trees, shrub planting of a more permanent nature may be advisable.

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

The committee is on the right lines in starting to encourage more wildlife. The Display board on the Midleton approach road with details of Whitegate Bay Wildlife is a good initiative. The Scenic Walk, which is a project undertaken by Whitegate residents, Cork County Council and Fás is a valuable amenity for the community. The Park which has already been referred to is also a valuable amenity for local residents and for visitors. The green areas in the village are good amenities in the village but they need to be better maintained. These small green/grass areas near the grotto would need to be trimmed more often.

### **Litter Control:**

The control of litter is a problem for all centres and there has to be a constant campaign in place in order to control it. Unfortunately there is a problem in Whitegate with litter and this needs to be tackled as a priority. There was a considerable amount of litter in that area of the village across from the village green where a plaque relating to the People's Park is erected on the wall. There was also a considerable amount of litter on the village green. There was also litter on the road to the Garda Station. It would seem that litter bins are required as a matter of priority and these should be sited at appropriate locations throughout the village. The local committee will know best where these bins should be located.

### **Tidiness:**

Some areas of the village were tidy, for example, area close to business and residential area were quite tidy. But unfortunately other areas were not so tidy. One of the worst areas was in the vicinity of the Fitzgerald monument in the village green. This is an attractive monument and should be one of the focal points in the village but unfortunately there was litter, disused plastic containers and an old wooden pallet in its immediate vicinity at the time of adjudication. This area should be attended to as a priority. The area in the vicinity of the corner derelict site was generally untidy. The immediate area of the telephone kiosk was quite tidy. The World War memorial was clean and well maintained but over growth at surrounding low wall would need be checked.

### **Residential Areas:**

The presentation of residential areas was generally good for example houses and gardens at Thomas Davis terrace were very neatly presented and well attended to. Also houses and gardens in the vicinity of the park looked well. Individual houses and gardens in and around the village were well presented. New housing developments projects were noted in a number of areas throughout the village, such as Mosestown Grove, Careystown Meadow and Mariners Cove. Until these projects are completed there will be some untidiness in the areas concerned.

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

The approach road from Midleton was quite tidy and the green areas were well trimmed. However the advance place name sign here for Whitegate was very much in need of cleaning and repainting. The approach road from Roches Point and Guileen was also tidy but here the place name sign for the village was almost completely covered by high grass and weed growth; the sign here was also in need of repainting. Other approach roads to the village were quite good. The grotto of Our Lady of Fatima was very nicely maintained. The new footpaths across from the grotto will improve this area

of the village. Seats within the park area are in need of repainting. A flower tub at the edge of the park was almost completely covered over by high grass and weed growth. The cemetery attached to the Church of Ireland church was very overgrown and in need of attention. The old Ships Anchor in the village is a nice feature and is quite well maintained.

### **General Impression:**

The village of Whitegate is located in a very pleasant area. As already stated your entry into the Tidy Towns Competition is a positive step for the community. There is plenty of scope for improvement and the committee should not be discouraged in any way as many of the shortcomings referred to in the report can be remedied with just a little effort. It is noted that your committee works with the local authority and Fas. This is a very good starting point and if there is a strong local community effort those bodies will be only too pleased to cooperate. You are wished well in your efforts for the Competition for the future.

### **Second Round Adjudication:**