

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Courtmacsherry**

Ref: **596**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **229**

Category: **B**

Date: **10/08/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	36
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	26	23
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>222</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Courtmacsherry is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included your five year plan. We note with great interest your long and short term goals and objectives for the estuary walk, the village centre, the local authority park, the community centre and its environs, the old railway station and the pier, the tennis courts, residential areas and the beach and environs. We wish you well in its implementation. Courtmacsherry enjoys an excellent location on Courtmacsherry Bay and enjoys panoramic sea views and wildlife. Coupled with your neighbouring village Timoleague this stretch of Courtmacsherry Bay is a joy to visit.

### The Built Environment:

The stone church is attractive and its grounds are nicely presented, some consideration might be given to revarnishing its doors. The old national school (Community Centre) is beautifully painted and has a lovely hand painted sign. It is good to note that the public toilets are wheelchair accessible. Both the lifeboat station and the public toilets are quite well presented as is the Pier Bar and the Lifeboat Inn has a most attractive presentation together with the Travel Lodge. The Courtmacsherry Hotel and Cottages is a welcome development. Your stated objectives for the Community Centre and Anchor Cottages have been noted.

### Landscaping:

Young trees on the verge at the nameplate appear to be establishing themselves well which is an accomplishment given their location at the foreshore area. The grotto overlooking the sea and the park is beautiful and the amenity area located across from Anchor Cottages residential development enjoys a high standard of presentation. The information panel has been noted. The hard surfaced amenity area beside the tennis courts looks well. Stands of mature trees are a valuable part of your heritage.

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

The estuary walk is a fine amenity, including the park, the children's playground, the car park etc.. The pier is quite well presented. It was a bit weedy however it is picturesque. We note your objectives for the further development of the pier. Your planned improvements for the tennis courts and environs have been noted also. Your plan to retain the natural vegetation along the estuary walk for wildlife is excellent and your overall plan for the estuary walk is noted also. The beach is a fine asset and was clean on the day of adjudication. We note your objectives for the environs of the beach. Well done!

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control is excellent and as already noted the beach was litter free even though it was being enjoyed by many visitors at the time of adjudication. Keep us up to date with your daily and weekly litter management activities and send us in details of your overall litter management strategy. Perhaps you could encourage businesses to become involved in the "Race against Waste" and "Irish Business Against Litter" initiative.

### **Tidiness:**

Well done on the recycling point in the carpark, it was being well maintained during our visit. Better enclosure to the utility building to replace the wire mesh fencing is suggested and the rubble to the side should be removed. The green area to the roadside of the beach was weedy and overgrown. We note your plan to improve this area and look forward to developments here. This section of green area stood in sharp contrast to other well maintained sections of the estuary walk.

### **Residential Areas:**

The beautifully painted terrace of dwellings overlooking the sea was appreciated. Some single storey dwellings overlooking the sea at the carpark were weather stained and would benefit from cleaning or painting, whichever is the most appropriate. Flower displays here were admired. Work in progress was noted to two storey dwellings. The majority of residential properties are presented to a good standard. We note from your plan your objective to either plant the base of the wall at St. Joseph's Terrace with climbing plants or to stone face this wall. Your plans for Hamilton Row/Church Corner have also been noted. Continue to encourage residents to extend their activities to the area beyond their boundary wall.

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

Nameplates are attractive and well presented. The rail barrier along the estuary walk could be painted a bright colour. The carpark at the beach looked well during our visit. A boundary wall in the other carpark could either be painted or planted with a climbing plant. Footpaths and road surfaces were generally good however wire scape in the village was visually obtrusive. Hopefully service cables will be ducted at some time within the near future.

### **General Impression:**

Courtmacsherry looked well overall at the time of our visit and has achieved a handsome increase in

marks. We look forward to repeat visits and to charting your progress in the competition.

### **Second Round Adjudication:**

This very village was looking well at second round adjudication with the many well painted houses giving a very pleasant appearance with the dense backdrop of mature broadleaf trees. The appearances along the linear village are very dependent on individual homeowners and businesses looking after their own property and surrounds and the emphasis in your plan to encourage owners to maintain the attractive appearance of their houses and a section of the wall opposite their house is an excellent approach. Some more attention to the waterside areas along near the tennis courts would be welcome –where the vertical railway slippers and seat are placed. The village was very clean. A number of new houses are being incorporated well into the village. Newly surfaced footpaths were noted. The long walk by the estuary is a marvellous facility and the interest taken in the development of this is laudable. This allows for great appreciation of the natural environment observable in the area