

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Villierstown**

Ref: **755**

County: **Waterford**

Mark: **246**

Category: **B**

Date: **05/08/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	38	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	22
Litter Control	40	38	36
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>239</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

As last year the presentation of Villierstown was again this year much admired. Wonderful work is being done by your committee and the support which you are receiving locally, from Waterford County Council and from FAS is, indeed, to be commended. The information sent on the entry for and your excellent map was most useful. While additional work has been carried out the emphasis does appear to be on maintenance and while this is to be highly commended you are again encouraged to produce by way of a Plan projects which could be achieved over the next 1/3 years under the different headings which will gain you extra marks in the competition. You are now reaching a very high level in the competition and this type of planning and attention to detail is what will progress you further.

### The Built Environment:

The Church and Cemetery again looked well this year as did the Community Centre and School. Monuments in the village – the Millennium Stone, the Monument and the John Tracey Plaque are very nicely presented as is the Celtic Cross. The fountain in the main street could do with refurbishment while the one in the Common area looks very nice indeed. All of these are very nice features and were much admired. It is gratifying to read that Waterford County Council intends to progress a solution to the problem of derelict sites. Hopefully this will happen in the near future.

Dromana Gate looks very well. The railings which were newly painted last year are in need of a washing. Walls throughout the village are most attractive and the building of new walls in the Dromana Gate area was noted. Those topped with flowers and blossoms looked exceptionally nice.

### **Landscaping:**

The Common is just delightful. What a wonderful display of flowers, shrubs, trees and plants of all kinds beautifully laid out and maintained to the highest standard. The open spaces there also reflect great credit on all concerned. The whole area was just a joy to behold. Nice landscaping was also to be seen in the Quay area and indeed throughout the village in tubs, window boxes, hanging baskets and, as already mentioned, on walls. This is a wonderful effort which deserves the highest congratulations. Very nice seating was to be seen throughout the village but some was in need of painting.

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

Hopefully your Rock Walk will be a reality in 2006. In the meantime the Quay is a lovely wildlife area and would lend itself to stocking with, for example, ducks and swans as has been done in river areas at other centres in the competition. The School grounds would also lend itself to the provision of nesting boxes and feeding tables for birds and, overall perhaps, somewhere in the village, you could consider erecting a wildlife board showing the location of such developments and what there is to be seen in terms of species in the area. In the event the Tidy Town Handbook will be of value to you in terms of advice

### **Litter Control:**

Villerstown was again litter free on adjudication day. Another wonderful effort by all concerned.

### **Tidiness:**

A lovely atmosphere prevails throughout the village which was again presented in a very neat and tidy manner. Building works were noted which, in turn, cause some untidiness but this will pass and has been allowed for in the adjudication.

### **Residential Areas:**

Both Woodview Close and Riverview Estate show further improvement and houses there are being well maintained as are their open spaces. The landscaping and maintenance of open spaces at Riverview Estate were much admired and reflect great credit on the residents there. All of this adds greatly to the appearance of Villerstown and to your Tidy Towns effort. The new estate at Cois Gleanna is progressing nicely and, when completed, will add further to the very nice infrastructure of the village. Individual houses throughout the village also looked well again this year. Many had lovely gardens in full bloom which added greatly to the ambience of the village. Another great effort and contribution by your residents.

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

Approach roads are nicely presented and road surfaces and pathways are being well maintained

which reflect great credit on your Local Authority. The lovely mown areas on the road from Riverview Estate to the Quay were delightful and made a lovely connection between the two areas. Your "Welcome" signs create a lovely impression on the way into the village.

### **General Impression:**

The village continues to blossom in every sense of the word and reflects greatly the tremendous interest which your residents have in the preservation of their environment. Continue to maintain to a high standard what you have already achieved but, as already mentioned, do plan to add further to your stock and, in the process, advance further in the competition. A visit to Villerstown is always an enjoyable occasion and this year was no exception.

### **Second Round Adjudication:**

Villierstown is a very important estate village and thus the retention of its essence is essential of particular concern should be the sensitive planning of new developments. The Cappoquin approach through the formal gateway is wonderful although the avenue immediately preceding could be better maintained. The very impressive grass mowing of the distinctive greens was noted. The older houses which have been well maintained are especially commended. Regrettably dereliction is a problem which hopefully in the not too distant future will be overcome. There is scope for further exposing of stone walls to reveal more of the heritage of the village.