

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Castlegregory** Ref: **438**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **221**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **20/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	28
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>221</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Castlegregory is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission. We note the absence of a planned work programme and encourage you to complete one as this can help to focus your attention and direct your energy and activities in the competition over the next few years. Castlegregory is a beautiful coastal village located on the Dingle Way and is an important holiday destination for both domestic and international tourists. The committee has done well to achieve a fine standard of presentation given the pressures and challenges on the environment and resources in general with the large influx of visitors in the summer season. Well done on gaining the involvement and participation of school children in the three local schools through competitions together with your local fund raising activities.

### **The Built Environment:**

The restoration of the church makes a significant contribution to the built environment of Castlegregory and the conservation of the arch of the castle is most worth while also. We note your future plans for the painting of the church and the resurfacing of the streets pending major underground work. Buildings throughout the village appeared to have been recently painted and all enjoyed a high standard of presentation. Whilst the Pharmacy itself was nicely presented the posters on its door detracted from a good overall presentation. The school and its grounds looked well as did the Fire Station. The church and its boundary wall located on the main street are an important focal point of the built environment and has been beautifully maintained and presented.

### **Landscaping:**

Flower displays in containers were noted throughout the village for their colour, profuseness and the cheerful

ambience they generated. Roadside verges enjoy excellent maintenance and the picnic area together with the large stone is attractive features. Your bilingual signage at each entrance to Castlegregory from both east and west makes a strong statement about the community.

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

We look forward to the completion of your project regarding the installation of interpretative panels depicting the wildlife habitats of Lough Gill. Displays of wild flowers on verges along the Dingle Way Road from the centre were admired for their colour and scent and the profusion here of butterflies. The beach was very clean and given the number of visitors on the day of our visit this is quite an achievement. The GAA grounds and entrance were neatly presented.

### **Litter Control:**

A small amount of litter was noted on the recently cut verges of approach roads together with some noted in the car park of the Spar premises, bags were noted dumped beside the bring bank containers also. Both the road to the beach and the beach car park itself was quite littered. Perhaps more frequent litter patrols are necessary, we note your request to Kerry County Council for the provision of more street litterbins and your intention to organise a competition in the schools regarding litter control and we wish you well regarding these initiatives.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

The bring bank in the car park of the Spar premises has been noted and referred to above. We note your plan to circulate posters in your school regarding litter and recycling and hope that this makes a significant difference. To improve your performance under this heading you should search for new ways of minimising waste, in addition to providing recycling facilities. The Race Against Waste literature included in this year's TidyTowns pack will be helpful to you in generating new projects.

### **Tidiness:**

Well done on the removal of the service poles from some areas of the village; this is a grand achievement. Problems under this heading consist mainly of weedy kerbs, derelict sites and buildings.

### **Residential Areas:**

At the time of our visit two new developments were a work in progress and we note from your submission that you are working hard to have derelict sites redeveloped. Hopefully new residents will be assimilated quickly into the life of the community and will become involved in the care and enhancement of the village of Castlegregory and its environs. A number of boundary walls were in need of attention however stone boundary walls were numerous and most attractive and the new stone houses located beside the Fire Station were admired. Encourage residents to take responsibility for their roadside area immediately outside of their boundary walls, ideally these should be grassed and maintained neatly trimmed with a straightened roadside edge, however they can also be tarmac but should be kept free from weeds and littered.

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

Congratulations on the wirescape free aspect of one road in the village centre, hopefully this will be achieved for your main street in the not too distant future. Many roads were in need of resurfacing and hard shoulders were rough in appearance also together with roadside areas to boundary walls. Your new street furniture was admired which included bollards and finger posts.

### **General Impression:**

The village of Castlegregory enjoys an excellent location and offers the community and visitors fine amenities. The standard of presentation achieved for the village to date is good and we acknowledge the hard work of the committee and the support of the community in over coming particular difficulties.

