

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Crinkle** Ref: **530**  
County: **Offaly** Mark: **208**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **22/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	39
The Built Environment	50	27
Landscaping	50	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	11
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>208</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

The adjudicator who was on his first visit to the village would like to welcome Crinkle to the 2006 Tidy Towns Competition. Crinkle is a most attractive friendly village with a very interesting historical past and it is good that you are developing projects that have an historical theme. You have a very large committee of nineteen people and good agency support. Your publicity approach seems to be very good also. The five year Plan for the period 2006 – 2010 was most interesting and the time has now come to move this on by a year to cover the period 2007 to 2011. Thank you for the before and after photographs that gave such a clear indication of your achievements during the year.

### **The Built Environment:**

The adjudicator would like to congratulate the two property owners on Barrack Street who carried out premises improvement during the year. This marks an important contribution to enhancement of the Crinkle. The new wall at Whiteford and the wall repairs opposite will blend in well with the existing walls in this area. The Superstore retail frontage would be improved if the signage was changed and perhaps the owner(s) can consider this for 2007. The adjudicator was interested to read of the research programme on the old Barracks to be carried out in 2006 with the National School. Did this project ever start? Hopefully the suggested information panel on the history of the barracks will be provided for 2007. The Thatch premise was again beautifully presented this year and is a real landmark feature of Crinkle. The storage area on School Street with the steel gates looks a little untidy and would be improved if screening panels were attached to the gates and the gates painted. There are a few derelict properties in Crinkle. Can you get permission from the owners to blank out the windows and doors with marine plywood? This can then be painted matt black and window glazing bars painted in white. Doors and door panels can be treated in the same way. As a temporary solution to derelict property this is quite acceptable from a Tidy Towns point of view.

**Landscaping:**

The completion of the planting of the Hornbeam trees on Military Road is impressive even at this stage when the trees are very young. The adjudicator did not feel that the summer planting at the base of each tree added to the overall appearance of this road as it looked rather out of place and artificial. The trees really speak for themselves and make a fine visual statement without embellishment. Your committee may wish to revisit this issue for 2007. The plan to sow some Irish Oak trees at the Military Cemetery is interesting but do get professional advice before doing so. Does Duchas need to be consulted on this project? The small landscaped areas on the sloping bank and the foot of the barracks wall added some colour here that was effective. Young trees were noted in the small landscaped area near the school and these are maturing nicely.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The development of the footpaths in the Military Cemetery has certainly opened it up and makes access so much easier for the general public. The information panels here are very interesting and add much interest to a visit to this cemetery. Have you considered carrying out a wildlife survey of the Crinkill area?

**Litter Control:**

Your litter control policy was read with interest but unfortunately on adjudication day there were a number of black spots. Some litter was noted on Cemetery Road and occasionally around the village. However the litter outside the old Military Cemetery and inside was very bad. There seems to have been a decline in litter control since last year's Report.

**Waste Minimisation:**

This is a new category in the Tidy Towns Competition introduced in 2006. The purpose of this new category is to encourage Tidy Towns Committees and the community that they support to get involved in projects that will reduce waste and encourage recycling. Marks can be gained by Crinkill for the promotion of best practice. This can include community guidance on methods of reducing waste, segregating litter during clean up events. You could also consider a partnership with local firms and businesses to encourage them to reduce unnecessary waste.

The school seems to have an active waste minimisation programme. The segregation of litter after clean-ups is another important contribution to waste reduction.

**Tidiness:**

Some graffiti was noted on the concrete wall opposite the entrance to The terrace housing estate and this needs to be removed urgently as one piece of graffiti can quite often lead to another. Watch out for casual weed growth where kerbing meets the road surface. This problem was noted on School Street.

**Residential Areas:**

The Competition for the best kept house is a great way of increasing community involvement in your Tidy Towns work. On Cribben terrace the adjudicator was of the view that the summer planting at the base of the avenue of trees did not add a lot to the overall effect here. Some weed growth at kerbs was noted at Hawthorn Drive and good individual private house presentations were a feature in the village especially along Barrack Street.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The excellent bilingual signs throughout Crinkill were much admired and help to preserve some of the history of this interesting village. The presentation of approach roads generally was quite good again this year.

**General Impression:**

Crinkill is an interesting village with so much history and it is most encouraging that the history of the Barracks is being researched by the school children and we look forward to seeing the results of this. Good luck with your ambitious list of projects for 2007.