

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rostellan** Ref: **107**
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **255**
Category: **B** Date(s): **03/07/2007**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2007 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Overall Development Approach | 50 | 41 |
| The Built Environment | 50 | 24 |
| Landscaping | 50 | 42 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 50 | 28 |
| Litter Control | 50 | 34 |
| Waste Minimisation | 20 | 5 |
| Tidiness | 30 | 18 |
| Residential Areas | 40 | 24 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 50 | 31 |
| General Impression | 10 | 8 |
| TOTAL MARK | 400 | 255 |

Overall Development Approach:

Your major fund-raising success enabling you to purchase the 'ride on' mower has yielded substantial dividends. The extent of the grassed areas, the wholly appropriate planting has lifted your Centre substantially. This is despite the very large traffic volumes with which you have had to contend. Thank you for the completed entry form, detailed plans and the most helpful map.

The black white kerbing needs to be re-painted or at least washed as it has suffered badly from traffic spoil. Your success in eliminating the illegal shooting at the wild life Lake is indeed a triumph. However, for continued success this will require constant monitoring. Your efforts to have the lake designated a natural heritage area are applauded and we wish you success.

The Built Environment:

The old Post Office and the Village Shop (1898) were exceptionally well presented. The Rosstellan Antiques Store caught the eye although it was closed on the day of adjudication. McCarthy's Bar – Johnny Macs looked very inviting and was well presented. The imposing, stand alone fine entrance gateway on the approach road is intriguing. A brief explanatory panel would be welcomed by visitors

Landscaping:

A major improvement and success in this category. The extensive grass cutting, the palm trees, each require superlatives to be adequately described. Your decision to group shrubs and trees together is a very good strategy, adding considerable interest and enhancing their individual survival rates. The tables and chairs in

the picnic areas were delightful. Individual house gardens at Lake View and beyond were very well presented. The addition of the stone surrounds to the flowerbed and individual trees has greatly enhanced them. We liked especially the tall roses which worked magnificently against the backdrop of the elevated stone wall.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The superb monument to the cormorant – thank you for the picture of its installation - is full of interest and very appropriately sited. The information panel at the picnic area and on the other side of the bridge adds considerable interest to the wildlife story of the area. You might consider designating a particular weekend in late October/November as a viewing weekend for the wintering birds. Congratulations on your success in eliminating the illegal shooting and continue the efforts to have the area designated as a Wildlife Heritage location.

Litter Control:

The Centre was practically free of litter with just the occasional falling from grace. There were pleasant litter bins, suitably located and appropriately designed.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on the engagement with the local School and the response received from there. The village currently does not have a 'bring centre' for recycling and the Committee might explore a suitable location for this and then re-approach the County Council.

Tidiness:

Small amounts of spoil disfigured an otherwise near perfect presentation. The grass cutting at the picnic areas was less than achieved elsewhere. But these are minor points concerning an otherwise very well presented Centre.

Residential Areas:

The terrace of houses, choice of windows notwithstanding- were freshly painted and a few had excellent hanging baskets. A major development of new houses on the hill is currently in course of construction. The entrance, of fine stone walls is wholly in keeping with the materials used by other houses in this area. Lake View is an excellent new house in course of construction at the 80 km. signs. These houses on this road have splendid individual gardens. Throughout the remainder of the village many of the houses were well-presented and painted but standards did vary from this ideal.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The presentation of the roads from Whitegate and Cork are of a very high order. There is a case to be made for establishing a very clear-cut entrance to the village and this needs to be thought through if there is to be a desirable separation point for you with the surrounding, rural countryside. The extensive planting and the treatment of the grass verges are indeed ideal.

General Impression:

Your Committee are approaching the task of Village enhancement in a structured, professional and effective manner. All associated with this splendid presentation which is reflected in the increased marks you have secured this year, are applauded for their efforts and urged to continue their upward march.