

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Rockcorry** Ref: **613**  
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **268**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **01/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	39
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>268</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

It is great to have the opportunity to welcome Rockcorry to the Tidy Towns Competition 2008. Thank you for your completed entry form. Please ensure to include even a simple hand drawn map indicating the key areas of improvement in the past year, as this makes it much easier for the adjudicator to allocate marks. You should consider providing historical information on the village also as there's an abundance of interesting features and architectural styles. Your committee of seven have quite a large area to cover so no doubt the assistance provided by Fas has been invaluable. You also mention that you run a poster competition – please include some photographs of this and other events you run throughout the year.

### **The Built Environment:**

The Church of Ireland on the Cootehill Road is well maintained and ongoing work was noted at the building across the road. We look forward to the completion of this project. The Clubhouse and grounds of Pairc Naoimh were neatly presented and the Catholic Church on the Monaghan Road was also greatly admired. The Emo Station too looked well. Campbells offices looked well however some of the storage buildings were unkempt. The school looked particularly crisp however the boundary wall could do with a fresh coat of paint. The two water pumps are a nice focal point and are well presented. Like most towns vacant properties and dereliction is a problem in Rockcorry but as you've indicated things are improving and was evident on the day of adjudication. The work completed by Fas on the terraced cottages has made a considerably improvement and it is imperative that this be maintained throughout the years.

### **Landscaping:**

The rose garden on the approach to the Bring Bank was admired and maturing trees soften the streetscape in

Rockcorry. The neatly trimmed grass bank and verges on the Monaghan are commendable and more trees were noted here. The village green was admired and yet more trees add to the overall impression of the village centre. The three flower beds at Campbells Office's should be returned to their former glory.

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

Rockcorry is in the enviable position of having an abundance of wildlife and natural amenities. The river, Dartrey Wood, the picnic area and numerous trees throughout the village were admired. Have you considered a wildlife survey? Perhaps the Environment Officer of Monaghan County Council could assist you with this section of the competition.

#### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was reasonable on the day of adjudication. However, problem areas included the playground and the road to Campbells Office. The area outside the two pubs was strewn with cigarette butts and there appeared to be no ashtrays in the area. Please provide further information regarding collection rotas and your planned to get the local children involved.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The Rockcorry Bring Centre was neatly presented on the day of adjudication and is no doubt a busy amenity. The school children are commended on the recycling of litter.

#### **Tidiness:**

The use of trees throughout Rockcorry greatly assists in a cohesive presentation of the village and this is commended. Ensure that the grills surrounding the trees are being maintained. The grass at the picnic area was neatly cut however the signage was in poor condition. Please ensure that all public signage is replaced or cleaned as necessary. If possible please encourage commercial property owners to do the same, as the signage at the Maple Bar and Fitzpatrick's require attention. The seating area in the village is an interesting feature and should be restored to its former glory as the water feature had dried up.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Dartrey Court was admired for its fresh appearance. The River Rock View development seemed to be nearing completion and is impressive in appearance. The housing development at the playground looked well and many of the semi-detached residences on the Cootehill Road were well presented. It is a pity to see the Griffith Houses apparently vacant although they are still looking good! Are there plans to develop these? The house and garden at Tara really set the standard in Rockcorry.

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

The Cootehill Road is exceptionally well presented with well cut verges, yet more trees. All in all the streetscape is quite good. Some sand and gravel was noted in the environs of the Bring Bank and this detracted from the area.

#### **General Impression:**

We look forward to your continued progress in the Tidy Towns Competition. Rockcorry has interesting architectural feature and natural amenities which, with your committees hard work will facilitate this.