

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Strokestown**

Ref: **338**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **177**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	23	24
Tidiness	20	10	11
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	177	176

Overall Developmental Approach:

You are very welcome to Tidy Towns 2004. Again this year it is advised to formulate a 3-5 year work programme. This can set in place achievable targets and helps to focus the committee on categories requiring special attention each year. Set out some realistic objectives that you can work to. This can help motivate local residents and increase alertness to litter control.

The Built Environment:

Some commercial premises around the town square were noted favourably on adjudication day, with the Percy French Hotel deserving individual mention. Strokestown Park House and St Johns Church are very attractive buildings and a great asset to the town. The derelict buildings on Elphin Street unfortunately detract from the attractiveness of the town center and hopefully a change of ownership will see an improvement in its appearance. The hanging baskets on Elphin Street were noted favourably.

Landscaping:

The tree lined Church Street and the landscaping at the grotto on the Dublin Road were admired on adjudication day. Also of particular mention is the landscaping on the roundabout at the centre of the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The recently opened walks on Sliabh Ban will add greatly to the tourism products in the area. The adjudicator sourced and was most impressed with the detailed guide maps but would recommend sign posts and information for the walks throughout the town.

Litter Control:

Litter on the day of adjudication was quite poor with the area adjoining the Spar shop particularly bad. The road approaching the beautiful entrance to Strokestown Park was also swirling with litter which was unfortunate. The adjudicator welcomes the hosting of an awareness campaign in local schools and perhaps a rota can be established to rectify the problem.

Tidiness:

Again, there was a problem in this category in regards to the forecourt areas of commercial business's. Of particular note is Brogans on Church Street. It was good to see a tidy and clean area surrounding the recycling bins.

Residential Areas:

It is good to see groups being set up in new residential areas. Co-operation with your committee can only benefit Strokestown in the tidy towns competition. Some of the older residential properties on the Dublin Road were in need of repainting, but generally the town performed well in this category.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

It is important to encourage building contractors to keep building site relatively tidy and free of unsightly debris and machinery when they are finished their work.

General Impression:

Strokestown is rich in cultural amenities and is very popular amongst visitors to the county. The implementation of a tidy towns plan and interaction with commercial business's can help tackle the litter problem. Best of luck!