

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **SALLINS**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 25-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	22
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22
General Impression	10	4
TOTAL MARK	300	167

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed questionnaire which was helpful during the course of adjudication. Try to highlight completed projects on a map for next years adjudication. There are a number of developments taking place in Sallins this year which took from the overall appearance, building work was taking place e.g. road works on the approach from Clane and also housing development taking place. You have a very nice unique feature with the canal passing through the village and is something that you should ensure is protected. Try to encourage more projects, even one or two per year, that would help make a difference to the town. Also, try to get residential efforts involved in projects on the committee. The adjudicators look forward to the submission of your detailed five year work programme for next year. Good luck for 1997.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As already stated above, the canal offers an important wildlife habitat. Try perhaps to consider designating part of the canal as a wildlife area and encourage the development of wildflowers etc. here and try to put up some information plaques on the wildlife along the canal for visitors, e.g. to the side of Westwood might be one area to consider. Also, nature trails along the canal could be developed. There is potential for greater nature conservation, a good starting point would be to identify wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what type of birds, animals and fish etc. these attract. You could invite local environmental experts and groups to advise you and provide you with specialist information you require.

LANDSCAPING

Under this category, there were mixed impressions created in the adjudicators minds on their visit to Sallins. It was nice to see flower tubs on the path between Doyles and the Post Office - well done in this regard, try to maybe expand this. The shrubbery near the Maxol Station would benefit from more attention. The grass margins were not generally well maintained on the Clane approach road. The grass is very good outside Eurowest Factory tree planting was noted closer in. Well done. The canal overall was very well presented, particularly on the Naas side of it, with cobble locking and tree planting helping to improve the overall appearance. The Pitch and Putt Course was well presented.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Painting is needed in a number of premises. There are several examples of good effort but also there are several premises that could be improved. Some premises which deserve a mention include the very attractive white Church - well done, together with the improvement in the presentation of Flanagans Mill. The premises opposite St. Brigids Terrace was also very well maintained and landscaped. A lot of premises would benefit from painting, for example, Clarkes Kitchen, Harbour Inn etc. The GAA grounds were well maintained. The front of Eurowest was well presented apart from minor sprinklings of litter but weeds (ragwort) were noted to the side of the building near the canal. The adjudicators would especially like to commend the presentation of the car park and platform at the railway station. Well done - an excellent presentation here. An excellent effort was also noted at Wards.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is not a major problem in Sallins this year which was good to see. The only area where it was noted was by the pump and picnic areas at the canal. Try to consider putting in litter bins with closed tops to avoid crows attacking them. Generally, a good effort under litter control.

TIDINESS

The adjudicators made allowances for the fact that road works were taking place on the Clane approach

road. Having said that, there is a good tidy appearance, apart from the presentation of some buildings. Weeds were particularly bad in some areas which also took from the overall appearance. The pump area near the GAA would benefit from painting, as would the bollards at the canal, and some signs. But generally, the canal area was also neat and tidy, apart from one or two outbreaks of litter - perhaps due to crows.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential areas were good generally. The first park on the approach road from Clane was very well maintained, well done, just try to remove the weeds from the kerbs as they take from the overall appearance. St. Brigids Terrace is an excellent presentation, well done. Good individual effort was also noted on the side street, for example, to the GAA with one or two premises also noted on the Naas side of the canal. Both Osberstown and Osberstown Drive were well presented with tree planting and flowers noted at the entrance in the latter.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally, a very average presentation here with none of the approaches particularly standing out as being very positive. On the approach from Clane, it was generally disappointing - even allowing for road works that have taken place, significant additional landscaping is needed. Try to watch the weeds outside premises (perhaps owners might consider adopting a spot and taking care of these areas). Opposite the first park, there was a very bad building of residential houses was taking place here. On the approach from Naas, some weeds were noted at the bridge. In the long term, you might address this in your detailed five year work programme how the approaches can be improved as there is potential here. Tubs helped overcome the appearance at the bridge. Try to encourage more of this. Overall, the Naas approach was quite tidy. The Main Street was well maintained.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall, a number of areas of improvement have been noted this year. However, there is a need for a concerted effort. The adjudicators feel that this might best be served in the preparation of a practical five year work programme which might include one or two projects that could be developed over the space of two to three years. The adjudicators look forward to further visits to the town and try to make more use of the canal as an amenity area.