

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BIRDHILL**  
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	27
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	28
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>196</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The submitted application form complete with excellent map and detailed landscape plan indicate a committee that is very committed their job. Co-operation between the committee, other local organisations and statutory bodies is obviously very good. The results of this kind of interaction can be seen in and around the village. It looked splendid on adjudication day. The proposed landscaping plan will make Birdhill one of the country's premier villages in years to come.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is such an abundance of trees like copper beech, sycamore, ash, spruce, and oak that these in themselves are major attractions for birds. There are a number of natural little habitats such as shrub/flower beds and hedgerows at the Coopers, Tipperary Trading and in front of the Post Office which attract various insects and butterflies in season. Advice should be sought from nature experts to formulate a programme for the village under this heading.

### LANDSCAPING

The planting schemes were very effective combining shrubs and both annual and perennial flowers with excellent rose beds. All businesses and private residences contributed by the way they presented hanging baskets, tubs and residential gardens. The landscaping undertaken is not obtrusive; indeed it complements the village very much. On the adjudication day all shrub and flower beds were being tended to, Birdhill has one of the most colourful planting schemes in the country and it draws favourable comment from all-comers.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The three most prominent premises in the village looked extremely well so commendations to Coopers, Matt the Thrashers and Tipperary Trading. The splendour of flower and shrub presentation of these three was a sight to behold. The Railway Station and surrounding area could be improved; a little bit of dialogue between the Tidy Towns Committee and Iarnrod Eireann might bring a solution. The Telecom building is untidy; it needs painting and the grass needs to be cut. The sub post office was in good condition and looked like it had improved since last year. The stonewalls built and in the process of construction will enhance the village immensely as they will fit into the overall rustic look. As it stands the refurbished bridge at the OBriensbridge end of the village is very attractive. The foodstore which is now derelict on the Limerick Road entrance is taking away from the overall look of the village.

### LITTER CONTROL

There was no litter evident on the adjudication day; in fact the village looked spotless. I would advocate a few more bins around the place as Birdhill can be quite busy especially at weekends and during holiday periods. Make sure any new bins are of the rustic look in keeping with the rest of the village architecture..

### TIDINESS

The Green area opposite Tipperary Trading Company was extremely tidy with a well designed information board. The entrance to Knockauna Lodge B&B could be tidied up somewhat as it looks a bit too open. Weed control was more than adequate and certain parts of the village had been treated recently.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The village is really the main residential area, and with the exception of one or two houses on the OBriensbridge Road, all private residences were well kept with gardens that were very colourful. As with

last year one or two boundary walls need attention

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Limerick Road approach is very impressive except for the now unoccupied foodstore; some damage limitation has been undertaken by providing colourful flower tubs in front. The Newport Road is attractive mainly because of the hedgerows; also the FAS Horticultural Project building is impressive. The Nenagh Road and O'Briens Bridge Road are also well presented with nice margins that are dotted with flower planting.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Birdhill is one of the busiest villages in the country being on the main Dublin /Limerick Road; it is also one of the most admired; this is certainly due in no small measure to the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee. Individual house owners and business proprietors will react to positive and practical action such as undertaken by the committee. In Birdhill there is a meeting of minds when it comes to Tidy Towns; otherwise the village would not look so well.

#### SECOND ADJUDICATION (15/08/96)

Much has been achieved over the years in enhancing Birdhill. In general, the main road was presented to a very high standard. The Broadford Road has been improved but there is further scope to develop the station area. The FAS vegetable garden is an interesting development. The use of bright paint together with stone makes an effective composition.