

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 24-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	33
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	33	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	18
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	26
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	221	206

Birdhill, County Tipperary N.R.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The documentation submitted by the Committee including map showing work undertaken during the year is impressive in its conciseness and relevance. We note that your "Planning for the Future" goes up to the year 2000 and no doubt next year planning will commence for 2001 onwards. It is obvious from the work undertaken in the village and from your comments that there is very good co-operation between the community, business premises and all Agencies.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

In regard to the main business premises of Matt the Threshers, the Coopers and Tipperary Crystal all of these are well presented. On the Limerick approach the building behind the telephone kiosk has loose slates which present a rather untidy appearance. The area at the Railway Station appears to have ongoing work in progress at present. There are temporary structures here - no doubt in due course these will either be taken away or replaced with more appropriate permanent structures.

LANDSCAPING

The large areas of roadside landscaping are commendable and provide a pleasant scene for drivers on the Limerick/Dublin road. The approach roads are also well landscaped. At Matt the Threshers, two black barrels containing planting should be replaced as the metal hoops have fallen off the barrels. Also, we would suggest that the wall at the rear of the Car Park here be softened by the planting of some creepers. Tipperary Crystal is nicely landscaped and the Coopers Pub has provided good outdoor seating. The one area in the village now needing attention is the Railway Station. Whilst the flowering tubs placed on the platform are colourful, the hedge needed to be cut on the way in to the Station, the ground was rather rough in patches and the large flower bed needed weeding at the time of adjudication. As mentioned above, there appears to be work in progress here and no doubt when completed you will be encouraging those responsible to landscape this area to the high standard in place throughout the rest of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

We noted the designated conservation areas and also that you have requested all householders to undertake work to encourage birdlife in the vicinity.

LITTER CONTROL

The village was litter free on the day of adjudication. However, three full wheelie-bins were situated in the middle of the Tipperary Crystal car park, thereby rather spoiling the good landscaping of this premises and also in view of customers in the coffee shop. Perhaps an area of this car park could be designated for these bins and screened off.

TIDINESS

In general the village was tidy, neat and weed free throughout.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All private houses are contributing fully to the committed Tidy Towns approach in this village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main approaches and also the side approaches are very well maintained and all signage was clean and well presented.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A village where the residents and business outlets obviously have a commitment to maintaining and improving their surroundings. To date the achievement has been considerable (especially in view of the amount of passing traffic) and we look forward to Birdhill's continuing improvement in the Competition in the years ahead.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (07/08/99)

The attractive village of Birdhill looked well and has maintained its own distinct character despite the extremely busy level of passing traffic. The recessed seat with its curved timber surround and the marigolds in timber tubs by the village nameplate sign were greatly admired. The village was virtually litter free apart from the odd paper to the roadsides. Matt the Threshers looked as well as ever in an attractive peach colour – as indeed did an outbuilding further along the road. The Coopers looked very fresh in deep red. And the attractive landscaping to the front and back of the Tipperary Crystal Design Centre looked magnificent. This is an aspect of your presentation that you obviously relish. The attractive rosebeds opposite Tipperary Crystal were admired and the abundance of permanent planting is to your credit. The Foodstore will hopefully be developed in time as it looks quite unfortunate

at the moment. The simple presentation of the pump with its adjacent bench was admired.