

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **HOLYCROSS**  
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	28
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	19
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	17	15
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>211</b>

## **Holycross, Co. Tipperary North**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

In last years report the need for a 3/5 year plan was emphasised and this was been included with the entry form for 2001. This is a very wide ranging, innovative document with good ideas and we look forward to seeing these being put in place in the future. However, we would suggest that some more work be undertaken on this document to put a time scale on each project and list the actions needed to achieve completion, together with a note of costings and possible sources of funding. We note that you state that phase I will commence this summer and that in fact contact has been made with a number of Agencies in this regard.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Of course, the dominant building in Holycross is the fine restored Cistercian Abbey with the rest of the village clustering around it and benefiting from its majestic presence. In relation to the Monastic Museum in the old Church of Ireland we note from your entry that phase 2 has been completed. However, during our visit there did not appear to be any work taking place here and in fact the gates were closed and the whole site had a rather derelict appearance. As this is such a central site no doubt there will be strenuous efforts made to complete this project in the shortest time possible. With regard to other items in the built category, on the Littleton approach the stone wall on the right hand side would benefit from removal of ivy and recapping. At the Post Office the signage here needs repainting. The Abbey Tavern on this approach is well presented, neat and tidy. The Garda Barracks on the Tipperary road was poorly presented with the doors needing restraining and the concrete flower trough outside rather unkempt.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The large green area was immaculate and gives a wonderful introduction to the village. Here work was in progress on the shrub planting on the day of adjudication. The tree planting throughout the village is maturing nicely and providing a very pleasant aspect. The riverside park/picnic area near the river was nicely tended. On the Littleton approach at the name sign this area was rather overgrown and old tulip plants still in the flowerbed here. The native tree planting on this road again provides a pleasant introduction to Holycross. The hanging baskets on the bridge are very colourful. However, as mentioned in previous reports be careful not to "over prettify" the village which lends itself to larger landscape projects. In the same way, the tubs under the trees opposite the Sue Ryder houses should be removed if not overflowing with plants and colour, which they were not on the day of adjudication.

The rose beds near the Post Office were admired and it was noted that the long grass was being cut at the holiday cottage scheme. The shrub border on the Tipperary road is very well laid out and looked extremely well. In general it should be noted that work would want to commence well before June to have planted areas looking there best during adjudication.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The many planted green areas and riverside sites contribute in this category.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Mostly good throughout the village. The basketweave covering around the litter containers in the Abbey area are appropriate in this setting. However, there was a very poor broken bin beside the telephone kiosk by the riverside park. Also, there was some litter in the river and in the side channels here. The car park of the Inn near the riverside was tidy and litter free. At the car park outside the Abbey there were rough areas beside the kerbs and these contained many cigarette butts – further on these areas had been covered with tarmacadam and no doubt there are plans to complete this work throughout.

## **TIDINESS**

Outside of the items mentioned in other categories the village presented a tidy and weed free appearance throughout.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The private houses around the village and surrounds mostly contribute to the tidy town's efforts. The housing estate on the Tipperary road was well presented but some of the surround walls here needed repainting. A bungalow at the top of the Green was undertaking major landscaping work which no doubt will enhance this property on completion. On the Cashel approach new houses are in construction – hopefully these residents will join in your efforts in the future.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Mostly good throughout with well presented signage. Road works were taking place on the Cashel approach and no doubt verges will be completed to a good standard here.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

This is a village that has the potential to progress significantly in the Tidy Towns Competition. Making sure that all work being done in the village is to the highest standard possible will assist in this progression.