

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWPORT-TIPPERARY NTH**
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-01-2002

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 39 | -- |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 29 | -- |
| Landscaping | 40 | 29 | -- |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 17 | -- |
| Litter Control | 40 | 23 | -- |
| Tidiness | 20 | 12 | -- |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 21 | -- |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 26 | -- |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | -- |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 203 | -- |

Newport, County Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for entry form, map and typed up concise three-year plan. This documentation is exactly what is required every year now as part of the Competition. In fact, the adjudicator found that Newport at present is in the throes of major road works in connection with the upgrading of the sewerage system. Whilst no marks were lost because of this, it was difficult physically to get around the town to assess projects. We note that you are endeavouring to obtain a 24-hour Garda presence in and also some new blood to assist in the Tidy Towns effort. Both of these aspirations are worthwhile and would be beneficial for the town.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

From any approach road to Newport, the Church stands out as a landmark and it was good to see it so well maintained with colourful flower beds adjacent. Most businesses in the town were also looking well, including Gleasons Bar and Ryans Foodmarket & Newsagents in the Square. However, the dust from the road works was permeating the whole town and so buildings were not looking their best – again, marks were not deducted because of this. Other premises and areas noted under this category were the Garda Station, where the flower containers were admired but the wooden fence needed restaining or painting; Newport Creamery and Newport Community Centre, where some softening planting would be advantageous; the Bridewell, Coffey's Garage, the Maxol Service Station, the Schools on the Killoscully and Limerick roads which were all well presented. The IOCTS building on the Ballinahinch road was quite well presented but painting of fascia boards and gates was needed here. Also on the Ballinahinch road Noreen's Unisex Hair Salon was rather poorly presented. The entrances to Newport Motors and to Pairc Cuimneacain Pdraig Ui Rian were well maintained and neat and tidy. At the Newport Enterprise Centre the Shannon Development sign was being painted at the time of our visit. The new brick built shopping arcade beside the Enterprise Centre was looking well.

LANDSCAPING

The riverside park, developed in 2000 beside the old handball alley, was visited and admired. Some signage to let people know that this amenity is available would be good as it was quite difficult to find the secluded entrance. Other planted areas around the town and on the approach roads were well maintained.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

We note that in year one of your plan, presumably 2002, controlled hedge cutting and planting to attract bird and animal life has taken place. We also note that you are planning an Autumn Awareness programme for Primary and Secondary Schools and this is to be commended.

LITTER CONTROL

The "Don't Rubbish Tipp" signs on approach roads were noted. Mostly the town was litter free except for a sprinkling of same on the Murroe approach and also in the riverside park, where there was quite an amount of litter – mostly food and drink related.

TIDINESS

Whilst the major road works are taking place it is practically impossible for the town to look neat and tidy. However, kerbs were weed free throughout. Newport Enterprise Centre, unfortunately, has a rather untidy appearance.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Individual houses, infill housing in the town and the various housing estates were mostly well presented. On one of the few fine days to date in 2002 it was good to see householders cutting grass and painting roadside walls during our visit.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surfaces were either dug up or poor throughout. However, this is only on a temporary basis and no doubt when the work is completed this will alter. Some speed signage is also poor and needs refurbishment or replacement. In view of the towns proximity to the Clare Glens we would suggest that a signpost to this scenic attraction be placed in the town centre.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

This year Newport is in a state of transition. However, there is no doubt that the work at present taking place will be of benefit to the town and therefore must be welcomed. We wish you well in your future endeavours.