

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Myshall**

Ref: **568**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **228**

Category: **A**

Date: **26/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>226</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you indeed for all the information sent with the entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. It is encouraging to read that you have the support of Foróige, FÁS, your County Council and of course your local residents for your efforts the results of which were to be seen on adjudication day. While the work you are undertaking is excellent it is, nevertheless, suggested that you should develop a three to five year plan identifying what perhaps you could do on a year-to-year basis within your physical and financial resources to further enhance the village. This need not be an elaborate plan or indeed expensive and could be done in conjunction with your County Council, FÁS, local community and indeed any other agencies which you feel might be of assistance to you e.g. Dúchas. In the event you might send a copy of the plan with your entry form next year so that the Adjudicator can have sight of it. You received an in-depth report from the Adjudicator last year. The following therefore is by way of comment on further progress to date and should be read in conjunction with that report.

### The Built Environment:

The Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland, Community Centre, Garda Station and School all looked well on adjudication day and are obviously being well maintained. Walls throughout the village looked well and the village pump is a very nice feature. Perhaps more could be made of it. The Grotto is lovely and is obviously being well looked after.

## **Landscaping:**

The Millennium Park is a lovely feature and continues to improve as is Tobar Bhríde which is a lovely landscaped facility. Flowerbeds, landscaping on approach roads, in particular at the School, creates a lovely atmosphere in the village and all concerned are to be congratulated. Part of your future planning should be to identify other areas which could be landscaped using, if possible, trees and shrubs which will give you some colour on an all year round basis. Carlow County Council should be able to advise you on this. Trees and shrubs which were planted in the past are now maturing very nicely and create a very nice ambience in the village.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your comments under this heading were noted. However it is suggested that a wildlife project should be undertaken and perhaps initially this might consist of feeding tables, nesting boxes and some more wildlife boards (there is already one Tobar Bhríde) indicating what birds and animals can be seen in the locality. This perhaps could be done in conjunction with your school and would be a very nice attraction in the village both for locals and visitors alike. Perhaps there is someone in the village who is knowledgeable on this. Do also talk to Duchas who would be glad to advise on such a project. In the meantime you will continue to receive the same nominal mark as last year.

## **Litter Control:**

While there was some evidence of litter in the vicinity of the Recycling Centre, the village was, nevertheless, practically litter free on adjudication day. This speaks very well of the interest which your community has in their environment and congratulations are due to all concerned. This is an important part of the competition and needs constant monitoring.

## **Tidiness:**

In general while the comments made in last years report are still applicable, the village was presented in a neat and tidy manner and again, great credit is due to your business community and local residents. There is some building in progress which naturally leads to some untidiness but this will pass and has been allowed for.

## **Residential Areas:**

The housing estate generally looked well again this year as did individual houses which are being well maintained and have some lovely gardens which were in full bloom on adjudication day which added greatly to the overall appearance of Myshall. This type of individual effort is very important in a small centre. You cannot succeed without it.

## **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The centre of the village seems to have improved over and above last year. Surfaces are in good repair and pathways are being well kept. Approach roads, generally, are nicely presented. Adjudication normally takes place from either the village nameplate signs or the speed limit signs whichever you opt for. Grass verges should be strimmed from there on in but in line with the guidelines laid out in the Tidy Towns Handbook regarding the preservation of wild flowers.

## **General Impression:**

Myshall is a lovely little village in a very nice rural setting and has the capacity to do very well in the competition. Planning and attention to detail will get you extra marks and the Adjudicator looks forward to returning to Myshall again next year to see further progress made. Keep up the good

work.