

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Shanahoe**

Ref: **317**

County: **Laois**

Mark: **217**

Category: **A**

Date: **18/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	33
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	217	217

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your entry to Tidy Towns 2003. Your map proved most useful on inspection day. It is nice to see new developments such as the new shrub bed along the main street. A 3 to 5 year development plan is recommended.

The Built Environment:

School building and grounds look well with fine mature trees lining the boundary wall. The school has a nice entrance and attractive murals on playground shelters. The Connecting footpath to the graveyard is in good condition. The grave yard itself is well maintained, with 4 tubs of flowers and a litter bin at the entrance gate. The community hall beside the church has a very colourful planter of flowers at the base of the gable wall which is adorned with a horse and carriage mural. A modern church building, its grounds and car park are nicely presented. A nice small house stands at the back of what was Malone's Service Station.

Landscaping:

The approach from the Mountrath road has fine big hedges and sumptuous growth both left and right. At the village sign there is cut verge both left and right. It probably could be trimmed. Shanahoe sign could be cleaned or repainted. There is a nice little planter of roses on right hand

side.

Along the Killaney road there is a nice water pump feature on the right hand side. On the return road to the village the verges are nicely trimmed, with their selection of mature trees before meeting the main road just beside the post box. There is a really nicely presented planter of flowers which runs from Malone's 'fuel pumps' to the church and its car park. There is also planter of flowers at the bottom left of the church car park.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The little wildlife park needs sign /interpretation. Slates are coming off the roof of the old cottage and there is growth around the chimney. The grave yard is well presented. Walls have ivy screening developing nicely.

Litter Control:

As would be expected for a village of its size there was little litter in evidence on day of visit.

Tidiness:

On the exit out towards the Dublin road is a broken farm building. There is some kerb side weed near the Abbeyleix road. The entrance to the house opposite the wild life garden requires weeding.

Residential Areas:

There is a mixture of residential and farm buildings in the village. There is a creamery collection point and some of the residential properties have very nice gardens. Along the Killaney road is an attractive garden, the gate posts to which are mounted by piglets. Towards the centre of the village is an old country style house with an outstanding garden .

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The new gates to Shanahoe Farm and the Lodge are impressive. Walls generally, old and restored, are excellent. From the Durrow approach, a new wall has been completed to the right at the cross roads. Continuing closer to the village there are nice walls on both sides.

The approach from Durrow to Shanahoe is pleasing with the Shanahoe sign in a cut verge with trees and wild roses screening a link wire fence to the left. On the right there is a cut verge coming up to the 30mph sign with a planter of flowers. Beside the cottage on the Durrow road is a water pump feature with seats and flowers on and at the base of the wall. The entrance from the Abbeyleix side looks fine with well maintained verges.

General Impression:

All in all Shanahoe looks very attractive with a number of new buildings, and the stone walls are very impressive.