

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Daingean**

Ref: **673**

County: **Offaly**

Mark: **212**

Category: **B**

Date: **06/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	41
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	21
Litter Control	40	17	19
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	212	210

Overall Developmental Approach:

Well done to Daingean on another very good presentation this year. Your three to five year plan for the Daingean area is commendable. It takes a planned approach in a realistic manner and you are wished the best of luck with its implementation. Daingean is a very pleasant village with much to offer. The canal is a wonderful amenity and is very well presented.

The Built Environment:

There are many fine premises in Daingean. The church is beautifully presented, as is the school. The church car park is well presented with baskets and tubs. It is in need of surfacing however and the wall it shares with the church needs to be painted. The hotel in the middle of town is a lovely building. The courthouse is in need of cleaning/painting. The cobbled area in front is nice, but litter detracted from it on the day of adjudication. The gate and litter bin in the corner needs to be refurbished. North Offaly Development Company's building is well presented. The Blackthorn Pub is really well presented, what a shame about the houses either side of it. Your plans for the Church of Ireland church are excellent and best of luck in achieving them. The garda station wall is in need of painting and there is a lot of litter around here. The entrance to Sanderwood Stone is untidy and the seating and green area up from here is overgrown and uncared for. The graveyard is well presented. The wall of the GAA pitch could be painted.

Landscaping:

The canal area is a fantastic amenity and is very well presented. The approach roads look very well with trees doing nicely. Flowerbeds beside the church and in front of the courthouse and across from the garda station are complimented. But the effort most complimented is that made by individual houses and premises throughout the town. Baskets, boxes and tubs all add fantastic colour to the town and give the impression that people are interested and that they have a good amount of pride in their town. Well done to all.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The adjudicator looks forward to the project around the Church of Ireland church. The canal is indeed a haven for wildlife. Your submitted plan for wildlife is excellent and it is a very exciting stage for the town. The adjudicator enjoyed the seating area along the canal and the walks and this area has been nominated for the waterside award.

Litter Control:

On the day of adjudication, litter control was very poor. In front of the courthouse and along the garda station wall were particularly heavy. Along the main street the incidence of litter was high and in parts along the canal. Some of the bins are in need of refurbishment. It is good to note that you have plans to work with the children. Litter is a very difficult problem to control and you need to be vigilant about it on an on-going basis.

Tidiness:

Road surfaces and broken footpaths detract from the appearance of the town under this heading. Some derelict or uncared for buildings also give the impression of untidiness. It is important for the Tidy Towns to ensure that the basics of litter control and tidiness are taken care of. Attention to detail should help to improve your marks under these headings. The bridge after the garda station is not a tidy entrance to the town.

Residential Areas:

There are many fine houses and residential areas in the town. A huge effort is made in some areas. The houses down the road by the side of the garda station were really well presented with many houses sporting beautiful garden or basket displays. Coologue is a mixed effort with some people making an effort while others don't try at all. The new houses just off the main street looked well as did many of the fine houses on Main Street itself.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Some of the roads are in need of surfacing works. Footpaths and kerbs are in need of upgrading in many areas. Continue making representation to your local authority regarding these issues.

General Impression:

Daingean is a lovely village enjoying a beautiful setting on the banks of the canal. The effort made by residents and the committee is very evident and a proud and well cared for impression is portrayed. Daingean has a lot of potential in the Tidy Towns competition. Keep up the good work.