

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kinnitty**

Ref: **319**

County: **Offaly**

Mark: **218**

Category: **B**

Date: **09/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	35	34
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	218	213

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for entry form, details of work carried out in 2002 and also your statement that your ultimate five year plan is to finish underground ducting and lighting in order to get all overhead wires removed. While a more detailed five year plan, relating to all aspects of Tidy Towns work in Kinnitty, should be included with next year's entry, the aspiration expressed constitutes a very worthwhile project which would definitely enhance the village considerably in the years ahead. The work undertaken during the year was obvious. The influx of a number of new residents to the village will present a further challenge to the twelve person committee and no doubt you have plans to encourage these new households to assist with your efforts.

The Built Environment:

Most buildings in Kinnitty were well presented including the church with its excellent planting and the community centre. Scoil Naisiunta Cionn Eitigh had also improved. Business premises, including the post office and Glendine Bistro were well presented. However, the derelict and vacant premises in the centre of the village including De Cleirs and another building nearby are now standing out as eyesores. One of these is for sale and hopefully will improve in new ownership, but a strategy to endeavour to eliminate this problem needs to be put in place.

Landscaping:

The tree planting on the approach roads is maturing and giving character to these areas. The new tree planting was also noted. The landscaped areas around the village were admired, especially by the riverside in the centre of Kinnitty, where the roses were a delight.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The wildlife project near the Pyramid was noted. Other planting also contributes and we would suggest that some more berried shrubs and trees should be planted for the benefit of wildlife in the future.

Litter Control:

The new bins looked well and were strategically placed throughout the village. As there was virtually no litter to be seen, it would appear that the provision of these bins is working. No doubt the Committee also keeps a vigilant eye on this situation.

Tidiness:

The village mostly provided a neat and tidy appearance with kerbs weedfree. However, as will be mentioned later, road verges could be improved in a number of areas to give a tidier appearance throughout.

Residential Areas:

As usual, private houses in and around Kinnitty were looking well, especially the house with immaculate hedges and the field with horses quite close to the centre of the village. Householders in general definitely contribute to the Tidy Towns effort and it was good to see a house being painted on the Birr approach on the day of adjudication. As mentioned, it was noted that there are quite a number of new houses being built in and around Kinnitty at present. The housing estate on the Birr approach with the nicely planted green area was admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Welcome to Kinnitty signs are a nice gesture but lose their value if not maintained to a high standard. Also, as mentioned above, some road verges need attention. The street furniture which has been repaired and painted was looking well.

General Impression:

Kinnitty has the potential to do well in the Tidy Towns Competition if the problems mentioned in the report could be solved, especially in regard to derelict and vacant premises. Keep up the good work.