

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tubber**

Ref: **469**

County: **Offaly**

Mark: **231**

Category: **A**

Date: **09/08/2003**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2003 | Mark Awarded 2002 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 43 | 41 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 30 | 30 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 35 | 35 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 18 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 34 | 32 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 21 | 21 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 27 | 28 |
| General Impression | 10 | 8 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 231 | 226 |

Overall Developmental Approach:

The overall developmental approach you have taken for the village is well planned and informed. You are complimented on the amount of information you have provided and the way in which you have presented it. Tubber obviously has a very active community and the community appear to be very proud of their village. From reading your application it is apparent that Tubber is a very pleasant place to live. While the competition has given you focus, the people living here in such an environment reap the real benefits of the efforts you have made. Well done on your activities and keep up the good work. One in five people (or 20%) of the population living here is directly involved in the Tidy Towns effort – what an achievement!

The Built Environment:

The church is probably the most visible building in the village and is presented to a very high standard. Is there a reason that the cap of the wall has not been painted? The school is also very well presented as is the community centre – are there any plans to surface the car park? The Cat and Bagpipes is beautifully presented and the low building (shed?) across the road is kept to the same colour scheme as the pub. The clubhouse at the GAA grounds is excellent, as is the picnic area.

Landscaping:

The flowerbeds on the main road are beautiful. Both are colourful and well tended. The car park area is also presented to an excellent standard. The planting at the base of trees adds colour and the pump is a lovely feature. The planting at the gable end of the shed on the Tully Road is complemented, as is the bed further out the road. You have done very well under this heading. You have added colour, but you have not overdone the effort. Well done on the number of trees you have planted. These will be a great asset to the village, both in the medium and long term. Your landscaping efforts from the GAA grounds to the village are highly commended.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on inviting the Wildlife Officer to visit. It has indeed raised your awareness of wildlife. Due to your rural location with many green fields and mature trees, you have no doubt, an abundance of wildlife. Do you have any plans to survey the area to identify species? This is a project the school could help with. In the long term interpretive boards could be displayed for wildlife and heritage in the area.

Litter Control:

On the day of adjudication litter control was excellent.

Tidiness:

The village presents itself very well under this heading. Some houses are at different stages of development and the latest ones will eventually landscape their gardens and build or paint walls, which will help the overall impression of the village. Some road signage needs to be cleaned or replaced.

Residential Areas:

The majority of houses are presented to a very high standard. Try to encourage residents to be aware of weeds, boundary walls and all areas of their premises visible from the public road.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Road surfaces in some areas are in needs of attention. Continue to liaise with Offaly County Council regarding this issue. If the planning permission being sought on the Tully Road for new houses is granted the road will have to be upgraded. All approach roads are well maintained and presented and the wells are a lovely feature. The junction at the school needs to be resurfaced.

General Impression:

The general impression of Tubber is very favourable. An obviously active and proud community, you have presented your village well. Keep up the good work.

Second Round Adjudication:

Tubber looked magnificent on the day of second adjudication. Neatly trimmed margins backed by maturing hedgerows, together with young trees and colourful flower displays, are evidence of a community with a deep commitment to the environment and to their village. Both the church and the Cat and Bagpipes property looked exceptionally well and the school is also well presented. Work in progress on a new stretch of footpath near the Cat and Bagpipes was noted. New housing development which is in the course of construction will increase the population of the village; we wish the committee every success in assimilating new residents into the Tidy Towns group. Nameplates were admired, as was the delightful waterpump feature. Well done on work accomplished with the Wildlife Officer, We anticipate the results over the next few years with

enthusiasm.