

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Boyle**

Ref: **343**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **191**

Category: **C**

Date: **09/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	25	23
Tidiness	20	12	10
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	191	182

Overall Developmental Approach:

Boyle is welcome to the 2003 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed application and your plan summary, we look forward to having further details of your plan next year. A handsome increase in marks has been awarded this year following a substantial decrease of the previous year. With some good planning you can get back to where you were two years ago and move on from here but you will need clearly identified objectives set to a time frame. Boyle is a beautiful town enjoying a great location and having an interesting street pattern. In particular the rise and fall of many of your streets add a sense of 'drama' which is interesting. The view of the town on travelling down from Green Street shows the contrast in the built environment of Boyle. Both the old and new and the well maintained and the not so well maintained can be seen with a birds eye view, this could be a strong feature of the town but at the moment it is not.

The Built Environment:

As noted by last years adjudicator many buildings need to be refurbished, this can range from simple painting to cleaning to improving signs. The railway bridges of cut stone are a strong feature of Boyle, the entrance to the SuperValu Shopping Centre is an attractive development and the presentation of the Western Health Board premises was admired as was Brogan's pharmacy. The Garda barracks was neatly presented however the Post Office could be improved. While many buildings in the town have lost their traditional sash windows there are still some left, every effort should be made to retain these upon refurbishment. It was a surprise to see so many dated plastic

neon beer signs in the town. The presentation of St. Joseph's Parish Church and its grounds was a visual treat.

Landscaping:

The amenity development at the Clock Tower in the Town Square is beautiful and indeed numerous seated areas have been noted throughout the town, all of which are being nicely maintained. Landscaping at the Railway Station is maturing well and the wonderful stands of mature trees coupled with neat hedgerow on the French park / Roscommon entrance to the town are quite magnificent. The Marion shrine is charming and sculpture pieces located across from the Abbey makes an important contribution to the cultural as well as the physical environment.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We look forward to receiving details of your proposed wildlife project. It is important to know what wildlife habitats exist in the area, these should be identified so that any possible threats from future development can be ameliorated. The children's Adventure Playground is being well maintained.

Litter Control:

Litter control throughout the town was excellent, congratulations. Some scraps were noted on Termon road. Your anti - litter drives which you undertook in partnership with the county council appears to be paying dividends well done.

Tidiness:

The old garage / shop with its derelict cars near St. Joseph's Parish Church presents a problem under this heading as it looks grossly untidy. Many derelict buildings were noted. We note your activities in this regard and wish you every success. Well done on having a person designated for weed control and on your recycling initiative.

Residential Areas:

Town houses are for the most part well presented, especially those in the environs of the Town Square. The colour scheme of houses on Termon Road was admired together with their recently painted boundary walls. Some weather stained boundary walls were noted to residential properties near the Marion shrine. At the time of adjudication new residential estates were being developed and looked promising, no doubt these will make an important contribution to both the social fabric of the community and the built environment.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

New name plates on approach roads are excellent in presentation and design. There are far too many signs on the French Park / Roscommon entrance to the town. Some street name signs together with posts of road signs need to be refurbished and the height barrier to the car park on Green Street looks quite shocking. Congratulations on achieving a commitment regarding the ducting of over head service cables and on securing a grant for an access road from the Sligo road. An over large service pole at the Patrick Street junction is visually obtrusive and hopefully will be one of the first service poles to be removed. The wire mesh rails to the Railway Station from the main road need to be refurbished as a matter of urgency. Some stretches of old natural stone wall are worth refurbishing and highlighting as a feature of the town. The newly tarmacdamed road located near the school with its soft landscaped areas is a fine achievement also.

General Impression:

Boyle is a town with much potential due to its location its street pattern and its social and cultural heritage. This adjudicator concurs with the observations of last years adjudicator regarding the need to improve the building stock of the town.