

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballingarry-Tipperary N**

Ref: **159**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **218**

Category: **A**

Date: **21/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	218	216

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was pleased to note the continued help and assistance you receive from the extremely active GAA club. You also appear to have a very good relationship with North Tipperary County Council. Your barn dance to raise funds for the Tidy Towns Competition had actually taken place the night before judging and, given this fact, the village was in remarkably good condition on the day! Your three year plan is in its first year. Do remember to tick off your achievements as the years go by in order to properly monitor your progress. In relation to your plans for the picnic area, perhaps you could reconsider replacing the concrete post and rail fence and using a low stone wall in its stead, this would fit in better with the existing stone entrances you have created.

The Built Environment:

The galvanised outbuilding at Kavanagh's is still in need of attention, as it was last year. The Glue Pot Pub was extremely well maintained and the Top Garage was fine. Noonan's Bar & Lounge was very fresh. The community centre was fine, although it will need painting before next year's competition. The garda station was quite fresh and the post office looked quite charming. Do discourage any remaining items of plastic signage. These should be replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety.

Landscaping:

The adjudicator has already commented on your proposals for the concrete post and rail fence by the picnic area. This area was well maintained and nicely landscaped. However, spraying had taken place at the edge of the verges and therefore dead grass was in evidence here. This should be removed once it appears. The attractive planted area beyond was admired, as were the ash trees on the opposite side of the road.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Do consult a local expert in this regard as they will be able to give you advice on progressing this aspect of the competition, including assistance on the general maintenance of wildlife habitats in the locality. The Tidy Towns Handbook will also be helpful in this regard.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was good, particularly given that your fund raising barn dance had taken place the night before. A couple of cans were noted on the Aglish Road, cigarette butts were evident along Main Street, and a single paper was spotted on the green space on the Borrisokane side of the village. Otherwise, the standard was good. The litter bins are appearing rather faded at this stage and should be repainted.

Tidiness:

The derelict houses in the village give a bad impression. Weeds were noted at the kerbsides in front of Kavanagh's.

Residential Areas:

The green house in the centre of the village was admired, as were the row of houses further along. The derelict stone house, in its prominent position facing the Aglish crossroads, should be restored to its former glory, as it is a fine building. Otherwise houses along approach roads were well maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The new bi-lingual signs were admired. On the Borrisokane Road, the grass verges had been well maintained but, as the edges had been sprayed, dead grass was evident in this area and should be removed. In terms of street signage, the directional sign for Birr was in need of painting as were a number of other directional signs. The Birr Road was in a similar condition to that of the Borrisokane Road. The stone walling either side of the Aglish Road was greatly admired.

General Impression:

Ballingarry looked well on adjudication day but the adjudicator was disappointed to note that a number of issues that had been raised in last year's report were still causing problems.