

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Templemore**

Ref: **493**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **203**

Category: **C**

Date: **04/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	41
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	16	15
Tidiness	20	10	9
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	203	198

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was pleased to note that Templemore Tidy Town's Committee has a good working relationship with the Urban District Council. It was also noted that you have had a plan drawn up by your planner, but unfortunately this was not included with your submission. Do ensure that it is with next year's submission. The adjudicator notes your comments in relation to early judging. However, it is essential that you do not depend on the cosmetic effects of floral displays and hanging baskets, but rather invest in long term initiatives such as tree planting and permanent planting, in addition to the essential work necessary in terms of more permanent features such as buildings and paving. The town should look good all year round and not merely in the Summertime!

The Built Environment:

It is obviously disappointing to note that two of the projects on the main square have been held up. There are a number of derelict and abandoned buildings, both in the main square and along the main streets of the town, which is unfortunate. The attractive pub with no name on the corner of the Thurles Road was admired but will need painting before next year's competition. There are some magnificent old shop and pub fronts which should be sensitively restored by means of retaining their traditional features. In particular, T. Maher's is to be commended for retaining its original sash windows. There are a number of projecting plastic signs and curved canopies which should be replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety and traditional fabric awnings. The Church of Ireland was greatly admired, as were the associated stone buildings in its vicinity. Both

the court house and medical centre were extremely fresh and the AIB looked magnificent with its colourful floral displays. Polly's Pub looked pretty in pink!

Landscaping:

The green areas on approach roads and throughout the town particularly in the vicinity of the Garda Training College were greatly admired. The mature trees on the Thurles Road and in these former areas looked quite magnificent. The trees to the main square are coming along well. There is scope for a number of incidental landscaped spaces to rear areas and alleyways.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It was disappointing to note that you had left this section of your application form blank. Consult with local wildlife experts in order to gain information relating to the maintenance of wildlife habitats in your locality. Local schools could also get involved in organising a project on wildlife habitats in the locality. This could perhaps be incorporated with a town walk. The magnificent asset of the riverside so close to the town centre is a bonus and consideration should be given to its development.

Litter Control:

It was pleasing to note that you had requested extra bins and it is to be hoped that these will be forthcoming. Litter was a problem on the Thurles Road, by the boulders at the open green space, and also in the vicinity of the St. Sheelin's College. A lot of litter was also evident on Station Road. Besides this the town was extremely good considering its size.

Tidiness:

Dead grass was noted to the base of some ash trees in front of a timber post and wire fence on the Nenagh Road. Perhaps, in time, this could be replaced with an indigenous hedge such as beech or hawthorn or indeed by a stone wall. An unfortunate site opposite St. Sheelin's College marred this locality. There are a number of yard areas on the Roscrea Road which should be screened from public view or landscaped more successfully.

Residential Areas:

The interesting flat roofed houses at the junction of the Nenagh and Thurles Road were admired. The pretty stone gate lodge on the Nenagh Road was also admired. An attractive rose garden to a bungalow on this road also looked well. Park Road Housing Estate opposite the Church of Ireland had some attractive landscaping to its entrance area, and the colourful council houses on the Roscrea Road were admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The signage on the Thurles Road looked quite grubby but, besides this, the road was well presented. Along the Nenagh Road, the grass had been hacked back but the dead grass had been left behind revealing rubbish in this location. Litter control was a problem here as well as was the dead grass. Speed limit signs were grubby and the bank at the welcome sign was quite weedy and bare. This road was in better condition further from the town centre but deteriorated the closer one got to the town. The Roscrea Road was fine, although its speed limit sign was faded. The "pedestrian crossing" sign in this location was quite grubby.

General Impression:

Templemore is a busy centre, which is continuing to progress in the competition. Good luck with your future endeavours.