

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Hacketstown**

Ref: **197**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **184**

Category: **C**

Date: **13/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	16	15
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	184	181

Overall Developmental Approach:

It is disappointing to see that other than FAS, there is little local assistance by your community for your efforts. Perhaps what is required is a public meeting to which you could invite the agencies mentioned in last year's report to do a presentation. You would however need a plan, but this can be quite simple based over a period of 1-3 years in which you would endeavour to identify environmental problems in Hacketstown which you may be able to do something about over that period. Thank you indeed for all the information given with the entry form. You received a fairly in-depth report last year so the following is further comment on perceived progress to date and should be read in tandem with last year's report.

The Built Environment:

Your public buildings again looked well this year. While derelict sites are still a problem with you, nevertheless there is a substantial amount of new building taking place with will hopefully improve the overall appearance of the town. Your stone walls are being well maintained and are an important feature of the town.

Landscaping:

The large open spaces at Mountain View and Marion Terrace looked well, but needed cutting on

adjudication day. Unfortunately, in many areas, weeding is still a problem. The solution suggested in last year's report regarding trying to eliminate this outside each individual premises still applies. You do not appear to have embarked on any major landscaping project this year but, nevertheless, where presented, tubs of flowers, containerised plants and hanging baskets looked well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Comments made under this heading in last year's report are still applicable and perhaps might be considered for 2005.

Litter Control:

While there was still evidence of some littering this year, nevertheless the situation seems to have improved somewhat, perhaps due to the involvement of your residents and your FAS workers. Additional litter bins would help. This is an important aspect of the competition and should be monitored constantly.

Tidiness:

The adjudicator feels that generally speaking, there has been some improvement in this area this year. Again it gets down to local residents and your local business community coming to grips with the problem where it exists and endeavouring to do something about it in the interest of the preservation of their environment.

Residential Areas:

Housing estates and individual homes looked very well again this year. Some had lovely gardens which greatly enhances the appearance of the town. Well done to all concerned.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general, main road surfaces are in good order. Some side roads are potholed and badly need refurbishment. The tarmac path at Mountain View is broken up and is in a dangerous condition. Approach roads are reasonably well presented, but verges need to be cut regularly. This too is an important part of the competition as approach roads tend to create an impression for the rest of the centre.

General Impression:

There appears to be some slight improvements in some areas this year but no movement whatever in others. Success in the competition calls for planning and attention to detail which hopefully your new committee will be able to apply itself too. A lot remains to be done but some progress is being made. Keep up the good work.