

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tullow**

Ref: **289**

County: **Carlow**

Mark: **234**

Category: **C**

Date: **13/06/2004**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2004 | Mark Awarded 2003 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 41                | 40                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 36                | 35                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 22                | 21                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 29                | 29                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 13                | 13                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 26                | 25                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 32                | 30                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 7                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>234</b>        | <b>227</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Your development plan makes very interesting reading and thank you for it and for all the other information sent with the entry form. It was obvious on adjudication day that many infrastructural changes have taken place since last year to the benefit of Tullow and its local community. It proves what can be done when FAS, LEADER, Carlow County Council, Carlow Tourism, your local schools and your residents work together for the betterment of the local community.

### The Built Environment:

Your public buildings were again very well presented this year and there has been a noticeable improvement in the presentation of the 1798 Monument on the Bunclody Road. Some dereliction and abandoned buildings are still with you, but it is noted from your report that this matter is being dealt with. Your stone walls, which are a feature of the town, again looked very well and in some cases refurbishment was noticed. Not unlike last year the presentation of commercial premises varies. Some are excellent, other need refurbishment and it was noticeable indeed that one or two were being repainted on adjudication day. There is a considerable amount of building particularly, in the new house area, going on in Tullow at the moment which can be somewhat unsightly but this has been allowed for. These houses will add greatly to the stock of residences and it is noted that you are already lobbying the contractors for Tidy Towns support. Well done.

## **Landscaping:**

The idea of the "floral route" is an excellent one and although only recently established was very evident. This is an idea which other centres could copy. Well done to all concerned. Landscaping throughout the town was again of a very high standard this year as was indeed was the efforts of individuals through the provision of tubs of flowers, hanging baskets, window boxes etc – a great addition to your Tidy Town effort. Do bear in mind, however, that the more of this type of landscaping carried out – the more maintenance is involved. Think, therefore, in terms of the planting of trees and shrubs which, in many cases need less maintenance and give some colour on an all year round basis. The town was ablaze with colour on adjudication day and great credit is due to all concerned.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Although not to be seen on adjudication day, great credit is due to your local school for the provision of nesting boxes on the island. Your wildlife proposals are excellent as a result of which the adjudicator looks forward to seeing further progress under this heading next year.

## **Litter Control:**

Bearing in mind your comments regarding the difficulties you are having in this respect – litter control throughout the town was quite good. Unfortunately, there were some cases of minor littering particularly in side streets which, in the context of the overall effort, is unfortunate. However you can only keep trying and as Tullow succeeds further in the competition perhaps it will create a greater awareness of the problem.

## **Tidiness:**

In general, the town was presented a very neat and tidy manner. Dereliction has been mentioned but, in the main, commercial premises appear to have entered into the spirit of the competition which together with your residents reflects, once again, their interest in the preservation of their environment. Great credit is due to all concerned.

## **Residential Areas:**

There are many new housing estates (some uncompleted) in Tullow and while they were not all visited – those that were have a very high standard. It is important that they maintain their open spaces to the same level as the existing estates which, once again, are doing a very fine job in terms of planting, grass cutting and general tidiness, a very important aspect of the competition.

## **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Tremendous work has been done on resurfacing since last year and this was very evident on adjudication day. Approach roads in general are being well looked after with, in some cases, evidence of strimming. Pathways are being well maintained and in all this great credit is due to your County Council and your FAS workers for the standard which has been set.

## **General Impression:**

Compared with three or four years ago, Tullow has achieved a remarkable improvement for which your committee, acting on your own behalf and as a coordinator of other services, can take a lot of credit. However be aware of the fact that it gets increasingly more difficult, from here on it, to gain extra marks in the competition which will only come about as a result of careful planning and attention to detail. A big "well done" to all concerned in 2004.

