

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Mountbellew**

Ref: **96**

County: **Galway**

Mark: **242**

Category: **B**

Date: **28/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	43
The Built Environment	40	37	36
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	27	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	32
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>238</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for details of your Development plans for the next three years which are comprehensive and clearly sets out your work programme. You appear to be getting excellent cooperation from the community in general.

### The Built Environment:

Public and Commercial buildings are well maintained. The focal point of the town, the Bobby Jo Monument and the area at the Square with new flower tubs looks very well. The work on the cemetery at rear of Church with new gate and railings around the Church with lights are presented to a high standard. The renovation of the Boathouse, the conversion of the Old Forge are excellent examples of old buildings renewed and brought into everyday use.

### Landscaping:

The town has some nice examples of landscaping. Tree planting along the road frontage and on the Roscommon road with well maintained flower beds and the hanging baskets on Bridge deserve a special mention. Green area in Ashbrook needed to be trimmed on adjudication day.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The Leisure Park, River and Lake, Forest area are evidence of an asset to your area and will no doubt attract many visitors.

## **Litter Control:**

Litter control is good in town centre but litter was seen in Leisure Park and at new Forge/Museum.

## **Tidiness:**

Rubbish was dumped beside the Bottle Bank on Tuam Road as containers were full. The pump on the Tuam Road needs painting. The river was clean and very tidy.

## **Residential Areas:**

The majority of the residents in Mountbellew have great pride in their homes with nicely painted houses and well tended gardens, many with mature trees. A few houses along the Tuam Road need repainting of outside walls and gates. Some houses in the Ashbrook and Forest View Estates need attention. Pine Grove Estate was very well maintained with beautifully presented green area and flower arrangements. The house beside Bridge at Castlegar River is nicely presented.

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

Approach Roads generally good with well trimmed verges. Untidy back areas and overgrown grasses behind entrances to gates and behind walls need to be kept in check. The adjudicator understands there are some problems with laying of new footpaths at Square, the entrance to Pairc a Creagain and the derelict buildings.

## **General Impression:**

The efforts of your committee are reflected in the progress that you have made during the year. Good luck with negotiations in trying to solve the problem areas.

## **Second Round Adjudication:**

Regrettably on our second visit litter control was not so good as it was much in evidence in the square and river. The brave contemporary glass frontage of one premises at the lower end of the square is commended. Litter bins tended to be poorly maintained. Great pride in residential properties was evident throughout. Indeed, the standard of grass cutting along the approaches was exceptional but it is considered that bedding plants around trees are superfluous and clutter the simple image of grass, stone and trees. Continuing with trees, it has been stated on previous occasions that there is considerable scope for more street trees and in particular on the pavement surrounding the central carpark.