

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Slieverue**

Ref: **85**

County: **Kilkenny**

Mark: **223**

Category: **B**

Date: **15/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	27
The Built Environment	40	38	38
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	19	19
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	223	221

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that a work programme had not been submitted with your entry to this year's competition, despite the comments made by last year's adjudicator. You mention in your wildlife section that you propose to have a plan for next year. Presumably this would relate to the overall developmental plan and work programme? You did not enclose a map of your village either which would have been useful on adjudication day. It is essential at this stage in the competition to formulate a coherent work plan in order that you can monitor your progress as the years go by and aid the adjudicators in their assessment of your village.

The Built Environment:

The simple rendered church looked very attractive, set in magnificent grounds with its black and gold railing set on a stone plinth to the front. The school building opposite will need painting before next year's competition, as will its boundary wall. The other school on the far side of the village was maintained to a higher standard. The two pubs Lyons and Stapletons looked well although a third pub appeared to have no signage. Do discourage the use of plastic signs and replace with ones of a more traditional variety. The shop was fine.

Landscaping:

The open space to the Ashgrove Estate and the large green space opposite were well maintained. The pump and trough looked extremely well. Both the public premises and the B&B's contribute well to this aspect of the competition by maintaining a high standard to their grounds.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You have promised to lodge a work programme in this regard for next year's competition. Do ensure that you do so, as it is an essential part of the competition, at this stage. Wild flowers such as wild roses and daisies were admired in the hedgerows on the Waterford Road.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control could have been higher on the day. Given the size of Slieverue, every item of litter is all the more evident. Litter appeared on the Waterford approach in a number of locations, at the Ashgrove Estate and on the New Ross side of the village. Despite this, the village centre was generally quite free of litter, remarkably.

Tidiness:

The village has a quite neat and ordered appearance. One minor bone of contention would be the abandoned garage and shop near the village centre. Hopefully this will be bought and occupied in the not to distant future.

Residential Areas:

Houses on the Waterford approach road were somewhat inconsistent in presentation - some of the boundary walls were quite grubby and some appeared to be rather neglected. The B&B's on this road contribute strongly to this aspect of the competition. The houses closer to the centre of the village on this approach road were maintained to a higher standard. The Ashgrove Estate looked well and the charming cottages opposite the church and near the school were greatly admired. The gardens to the Orchard looked quite pretty and colourful in their central location.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Waterford approach road is a long lead into the village leaving the committee a large area to monitor. Therefore it is somewhat inconsistent in its presentation with areas further out quite neglected and those closer to the village maintained to a higher standard. In terms of signage the junction sign on this side of the village was quite unreadable, due to overgrowth and the speed limit sign was quite grubby. On the New Ross approach road the standard was better. The attractive planting of marigolds on the entrance kerb off the main N25 was greatly admired. The townland / district signs throughout the village and along approach roads were greatly admired.

General Impression:

Slieverue is an attractive centre which has all the necessary ingredients to do extremely well in the competition. This is provided you have a coherent strategy and approach in the form of an essential work programme to aid your work!