

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrickboy**

Ref: **419**

County: **Longford**

Mark: **167**

Category: **A**

Date: **08/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	
The Built Environment	40	21	
Landscaping	40	27	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	9	
Litter Control	40	26	
Tidiness	20	10	
Residential Areas	30	20	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	
General Impression	10	6	
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>167</b>	

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Carrickboy is welcome to the 2004 National Tidy Towns Competition. We welcome the newly formed committee to this years adjudication and wish you well for the future. One of your first tasks must be to prepare a rolling three - five year work programme, it is difficult to progress far in the competition without one. We note that you work in co-operation with FAS; you should work also to develop links with your local authority. Carrickboy is an attractive crossroads village which suffers unfortunately from a fairly high volume of speeding traffic. The village centre needs a focal point; the site at the crossroads which is council land might be developed appropriately to serve this purpose.

### The Built Environment:

Quinns Checkout is neatly presented together with its curtilage and carpark area. Flower displays at Bannon's Lounge Bar and shop were admired. The premises here were reasonably well presented. No doubt as the village grows additional buildings will be developed to form a stronger village centre.

### Landscaping:

Your landscaping plan should focus on native deciduous trees as these are supportive of wildlife;

choose permanent planting rather than flower displays as these are less labour intensive and costly. Your Tidy Towns Handbook is a resource book full of ideas for various aspects of the competition not least of all of which is landscaping. Young trees on both entrances along the N5 are maturing well and grass verges were admired also for their neatness. One tree noted on the Longford entrance was broken on adjudication day; this should be reinstated. Perhaps fencing might be planted with hedgerow. Flower displays throughout the village looked well and were admired.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

With the amount of bird song noted on the day of adjudication one suspects there is a wide variety of bird species in your village and its environs; perhaps schoolchildren might be encouraged to undertake a species count. Other appropriate projects might be to identify as many wildlife habitats as possible.

### **Litter Control:**

Congratulations to those involved in the rota to manage the litter problem. Do send in details each year of your litter management activities as these can earn additional marks also. One litter bin located at the crossroads was in need of improvement.

### **Tidiness:**

We note with appreciation your clean-up rota at weekends - this appears to be achieving its objective! A number of untidy, underdeveloped sites near the crossroads have been noted; no doubt these sites will be developed in due course but do try to keep them as tidy as possible in the interim.

### **Residential Areas:**

The majority of dwellings on the Longford road are presented to a high standard. One or two underdeveloped gardens were noted. Encourage residents to be vigilant regarding the presentation of areas to their roadside boundary walls. The dwelling located on the crossroads is an important focal point of Carrickboy and should always be maintained to a high standard; its presentation was good this year. Some boundary walls throughout were in need of improvement.

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

Perhaps grass cutting could be extended for the verge as far as the nameplate on the Ballymahon entrance. Some stretches of roadside edge are in need of refurbishment. Verges along the Abbeyshrule/Longford road could have been managed better. We look forward to the elimination of the wirescape in the village centre at the crossroads.

### **General Impression:**

The village is neatly presented but a little underdeveloped particularly around the crossroads. The lack of a community park or public seated amenity areas is a disadvantage. We look forward to charting your undoubted progress over the next few years.