

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Taghshinny**

Ref: **418**

County: **Longford**

Mark: **168**

Category: **A**

Date: **08/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	22
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	17	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	168	165

Overall Developmental Approach:

Taghshinny is welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2004; thank you for your submission. We note with interest your use of the the Community Employment Scheme and liason with Longford County Council. It is good to note the support you receive from the local community. Again, we encourage you to prepare a plan for the next three - five years and to submit this for next year's competition. The village appears to lack a Community Park; perhaps the site on the right hand side of the road on entering the village would be appropriate for such a development. A community park helps to promote community cohesion.

The Built Environment:

The church is well appointed in the village centre and nicely presented, as is the school and its grounds; the colour scheme of the school premises was particularly admired. The difficulties posed by vacant buildings is appreciated; hopefully this situation won't pertain indefinitely. The entrance to the The Glebe is stately and the building itself is excellent. A number of low-rusted roofs could be improved. Both the beer signs and petrol pump at the pub are visually problematic.

Landscaping:

The presentation of the grass verges both leading into the village and within the village itself is

excellent. Young trees appear to be establishing themselves well. Look for every opportunity to expand your tree planting programme and choose native deciduous trees rather than exotics as the existing Cordyline looks a little out of place. Flower displays throughout the village were admired.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We note with interest your comment regarding the lack of wildlife in the river due to the presence of mink; perhaps there are woodland habitats in the environs of the village; we encourage you to get schoolchildren involved in identifying as many habitats as possible to promote awareness of wildlife and its value to the life of Taghshinny. As noted above, the village would benefit from the development of a Community Park.

Litter Control:

Well done to all who participated in the National Spring Clean Week. Litter control was excellent during adjudication. Your decision not to have litter bins in the village is questionable however you do not seem to have a litter problem. If you engage in other litter control activities we would love to know of them.

Tidiness:

Inappropriate weed growth did not present a problem during adjudication and the absence of posters was noted also. Some buildings and outhouses could be improved. Both the beer barrels and the gas cylinders beside the pub looked untidy.

Residential Areas:

There are many fine houses and gardens some of which have their original sash windows; traditional features of buildings should be retained upon refurbishment so encourage residents in this respect; a vacant dwelling located across from the pub features some fine door details which hopefully will be retained, perhaps its sash windows could also be reinstated.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Grass verges backed by well maintained stone walls, and nameplates in good condition are an attractive feature of Taghshinny. It is difficult for a stranger in your area to find their way to Taghshinny from Coalhill even with the aid of a map. Perhaps the County Council might be persuaded to provide finger post sign-posting between the two villages. The old forged iron railings located opposite the 'Glebe' entrance and to the roadside of the premises located beside the school should be refurbished and retained.

General Impression:

Taghshinny is an attractive little village with many fine features; it is a pity to see so many vacant buildings, hopefully this trend will reverse. The workload which falls on the remaining residents is appreciated and their commitment to the environment is unquestionable. Thank you for your continued participation in the Tidy towns Competition.