

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dunshaughlin**

Ref: **64**

County: **Meath**

Mark: **211**

Category: **E**

Date: **05/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	
The Built Environment	40	30	
Landscaping	40	31	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	
Litter Control	40	23	
Tidiness	20	14	
Residential Areas	30	24	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	
General Impression	10	7	
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>211</b>	

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you very much for the plan and the excellent map - both of which were a great help to judging - and welcome back after some years of absence. The village is ever expanding - a great deal of work has been undertaken since the village last entered the competition. There is evidence of commitment, energy and perseverance everywhere. Fourteen members is a good number to have on the committee and this can be increased even further with the increased number of houses in the village. Dunshaughlin, no doubt is looking forward to the by pass - as it's name has become linked to the traffic reports. It is now the time to ensure that attractive shops/craft shops and coffee shops are in place in order to attract business into the town when it is by-passed.

### The Built Environment:

The new shops and shop fronts uplift the village and the two pubs towards the Navan end are exceptionally well kept - Carberrys and Peters. Other well presented premises include Sibin and Foleys Forge. The library is a fine building and it is commendable to continue use of such an important building in the village. The wall outside did need a coat of paint. The Garda Station looked very well - well done. The RC church was exceptional - evidence of great pride. It is wonderful for the village to have such a range of amenities such as the Pitch and Putt course, the GAA, the community centre- each of these looked well. St. Seachnaills is a fine old building and there is a nice lead up to it. The industrial estate which offers a range of units was well planted and maintained in most cases though there was evidence of weedy kerbs in some places too.

## **Landscaping:**

The Royal Bloom Festival is an excellent idea and well done on doing so well. The shops along by the Sibir had made good effort with colorful baskets and looked well. There was a mix of tub holder type - some were blue and others aggregate concrete. To give a sense of unity to the village the use of similar tub holders and planting would be advised. The young trees along the Dublin road were noted though they may have to be thinned out as they mature as they are planted quite close. A single species tree of native origin would make greater impact as well as integrating the edge of the village into the surrounding countryside. The planting at St Seachnaills was noted.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

This is a section within which you could increase marks. It was noted that you have used berry bearing trees and shrubs and this does encourage wildlife. It is suggested that you work in conjunction with the schools. Nature studies are part of the junior cycle and projects/programme/audit using the village and the surrounding area can be considered to benefit both the children and the village. A great deal of information is available from ENFO, Andrews Street, Dublin 2.

## **Litter Control:**

Well done on your placing in the Meath Litter league - this must have been very difficult to achieve as there is a huge volume of traffic through the village on a daily basis. A small amount of litter was noted though this was along the main road and no doubt due to the passing traffic. A number of well presented litter bins were noted. The new letter campaign against litter is to be commended and you are right - drawing attention to the fine helps to create an impact.

## **Tidiness:**

This section was good overall, although there were a few spots which did need attention such as the weedy gutters in Eden court. The recycling facilities were noted and the surrounds area was tidy.

## **Residential Areas:**

There a great number of estates in Dunshaughlin. Some of the newer estates such as Supple Park are extensive and some places and pockets did vary in their presentation. Supple Park overall has matured nicely. Estates around the Court and Eden court required additional attention. Manor Court looked well, although some of the planted areas looked as though they were in difficulty due to the dry weather. Good to see that an amenity area in this estate is part of the Village Renewal Scheme. Ardlea and College Park were another two estates that were well presented - well done. In Hillview the entrance looked well - though do take care not to over prettify the place - more plants, the use of trees and shrubs are preferable and also the emphasis on indigenous species as this is still essentially a rural village.

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

The main street has been transformed . The roadworks were prolonged, though the resulting effect was worth the wait. It was also good to note the traffic management schemes in place. Some traffic cones remain though; these will surely be removed. The pavement on the road in the back roads now need attention, particularly along St. Seachnaills.

## **General Impression:**

It is good to see the link between the Tidy Towns and the history of the area. There are a great

number of historically linked buildings and events - perhaps a town/village trail may be of interest - again this could be developed by the local children. Well done on the work undertaken - there is a new impetus - may it prosper!