

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Athleague**

Ref: **720**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **191**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	26	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	191	187

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission and sketch map of the village, and welcome to the 2004 competition. Again this year there has been no mention of a work plan which is a pity since Athleague has been increasing its marks each year, however with no plan I concur with last years adjudicator it can hinder you from proceeding much further. A simply plan of work for the next two to three years is sufficient and will help to keep the momentum going.

The Built Environment:

The majority of the buildings within the town are presented to a high standard. I note the restoration of the Mill Wheel. It would be nice to see the windows of the mill boarded up and painted brightly. The Connacht Gold building requires cleaning and possibly painting, and there were a few pallets and plastic thrown on the ground outside these premises. The wall and gate of the graveyard require cleaning and painting. The Church, Community Hall, Bridge House and Angling Visitor Centre were all nicely presented and some houses were freshly painted

Landscaping:

The landscaping throughout Athleague is maturing nicely. The shrubbery at the Angling Visitors Centre looks well, but I would like to see grass cut in graveyard adjacent. The bed at the corner

looked well with petunias in full bloom, and grass well maintained. The park at the bridge was particularly admired. Landscaping and new trees were just going in the approach road by An Craig Estate, which will greatly enhance this approach once matured. Be mindful of grass and weeds at base of walls and kerbs.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Suck River is a key focal point in your village, it is good to see that a marked way has been developed along the river bank. It is the obvious place to develop a wildlife project ie. Map/sign detailing species of fish, birds and other wildlife native to this area, and should be considered.

Litter Control:

Litter control in general was quite good during our visit. Keep up the good work.

Tidiness:

Watch out for weeds along boundary walls and kerbs. With many new houses going up, rubble etc. detracts from overall appearance. Grass in graveyard at Angling Centre overgrown. It is good to note that you have a weekly community clean up.

Residential Areas:

The new housing estate "An Graig" is looking well with residents putting in a good effort. It was a pity that the common grass area was not cut. Residents on the main street have also put in effort with many having window boxes and hanging baskets, and have houses freshly painted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach road from Roscommon looked particularly well with new planting. Be mindful of the natural stone walls mentioned in last years report, if revealed and refurbished they would add significantly to the town. Some of the back areas still need improvement.

General Impression:

Athleague is a lovely village with great potential, you have again achieved much over the past year, and this is reflected in the increase in marks. To go further you will need to put together your work plan, and pay attention to details. I wish you well and keep up the good work.