Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Littleton Village**	Ref:	**565**
County:	**Tipperary North**	Mark:	**205**
Category:	**B**	Date:	**18/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	30
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	32	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	13
Litter Control	40	30	29
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	**300**	**205**	**199**

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the completed application form and sketch map of the village.
The Committee of 10 is very active and seems to get good response from the local community.
Although a lot of improvements have taken place in the Village over the years it still would be worthwhile putting together a basic work plan for the next 2/3 years.This would allow individual committee members take ownership of segments of the plan.

The Built Environment:

The level of transient traffic through Littleton is quite immense and this indeed does create problems in terms of keeping premises looking well during bouts of bad weather.
Despite this the standard in this category was quite good with the vast majority of premises both private and public well presented.
The addition of legible street signs made it easy for a visitor to find places.
This is an example for other sized villages and indeed some large towns who have no street identification whatsoever.
On the negative side there is a proliferation of unsuitable signage,mostly plastic ,to seen in the Village centre
The Committee should seek the advice of the County Architectural Section to find out how to go about putting in place a mini village renewal proposal that would address issues such as signage.
The Turf Club Pub on the corner could do with a make over and do away with that garish neon sign.

On the positive side public buildings such as the RC Church,St Kevins National School, Church of Ireland,Garda Station and the Muintir Na Tire Hall were all presented to a good standard.
Like wise commercial premises such as Fitzpatrick's Butchers and William Maher's were very well presented.
There are many fine examples of well appointed and newly refurbished private dwellings in the village.

Landscaping:

The important thing in any planting or landscaping plan is to ensure that the proper mix of trees,shrubs and both annual and perennial flowers are selected.
This has been achieved to good effect in Littleton as saplings planted on the ouskirts some time back are now maturing.
There is a nice selection of shrubs and perennial flowers with annuals adding that splash of instant colour to the centre of the village.
The mixed shrub bed at the New Street junction was excellent.
This planting has been complemented by some attractive private gardens,hanging baskets and window boxes.
St Marys Church of Ireland was singled out for mention last year and this year the area in question was at its best.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

For the last few years successive adjudicators have made reference to the lack of any input on wildlife on the entry form.
Could the Committee give consideration to initiating some form of basic programme in conjunction with the school,otherwise there will be no improvement in this category.
Littleton,like other similar villages in Ireland, has so many natural wildlife habitats that it would be a pity if some action is not put in place.

Litter Control:

I am am aware that the Committee has taken action to encourage good litter control.
The standard was mixed some bins were overflowing and one estate was very littered.
One can only keep spreading the gospel of anti litter and also try to instill this ethos in schoolchildren.

Tidiness:

The fact that the Village is on the main N8 does not help its cause when it comes to tidiness. In actual fact the Village Centre was very tidy and free of any weed growth or farm related residue.
Unfortunately one estate was very untidy and maybe the committee could appoint someone from this estate to help improve matters.
The local GAA Club need to make a better effort to help the Tidy Towns cause as the area around the car park was weedy and generally untidy.

Residential Areas:

The standard in this category was very good and this has been the case over the last number of years.
The effort of residents,who have done their utmost to project a good image of their particular estate or terrace, deserves to be noted.
It would be unfair to high light one above the other ,suffice to say that good work was done by all.

The particular estate alluded to in a previous section has its good points,and will with encouragement and good example from others improve in the upcoming years.
Keep up this collective effort as it is major contribution to the what the Tidy Towns is about -community spirit and pride in place.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main entrances from Cashel and Urlingford were presented to a very acceptable standard although there was some weed growth evident on the Cashel side.
The trees that were planted some years back are now maturing rapidly and will offer good cover in future years.
Road surfaces on both the Thurles and Killenaule Roads a little uneven and rough otherwise entrances were fine.
The back road near Old Church of Ireland was impressive with verges cut back against a backdrop of established trees and well appointed fencing.
The name and directional signs were for the most part in good condition and legible,one or two ie Coolmore sign near the aforementioned Church need to be repainted or indeed replaced.

General Impression:

The Committee is working hard to get the message of Tidy Towns across to the community and Littleton is benefiting from this collective effort.
Most people pass through Littleton because of its location and its proximity to the Horse and Jockey Hotel.
It is a pity that more visitors do not stop and investigate the inner village which has its own attractions.