

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Upperchurch**

Ref: **112**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **192**

Category: **A**

Date: **24/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	
The Built Environment	40	25	
Landscaping	40	25	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	
Litter Control	40	28	
Tidiness	20	13	
Residential Areas	30	21	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	192	

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form which gives an insight to the plans of the Committee for the future. It would have been helpful if a map of the village was included as it was this adjudicators first visit to Upperchurch.

Worthwhile links have been formed with both the Local Authority and other agencies.

The wider community has supported the committee in a very practical manner by providing sponsorship to undertake ongoing work.

The Village will only prosper from this type of cooperation but it is important that the Committee submit a simple overall action plan for the next 3 years.

The Built Environment:

The streetscape of the village has its own traditional attractions and the presentation of buildings was up to a good standard. Residents have kept premises and surrounding areas in a fashion that is in keeping with traditional village architectures.

Murrays Bar seems to have been recently renovated and the owners have retained the traditional look and feel of a rural village pub.

O'Cuinnneains Bar is an impressive building but it needs to be revitalized somewhat and old sign writing should be retained and upgraded.

Oliver Ryan's Bar was well presented with a very tidy frontage also O Dwyer's Shop was well presented but owners should tidy up the area adjacent to the building. The improvement in the basic infrastructure, footpaths and carparking, as part of the village renewal programme has benefited the village in a very positive manner. The Church and surrounding area was very well presented as was the school on the exit road to Pendys Cross. It is a pity that the Old School has been left in such a derelict state, it would be a worthwhile project if the Committee could summon up support to have it restored for practical purposes.

Landscaping:

The Committee should seek advice from the Horticultural Officer North Tipperary County Council prior to putting in place a landscaping programme. There are some excellent examples of planting arrangements in and around the village. Potential exists to further develop areas such as the Borrisoleigh Rd which would complement the existing shrub bed and impressive surround stone work that is already in place. The proposed work under Clar will be critical to improvement in this category.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Committee's intention to engage in a wildlife project is welcomed and I would suggest that advice be sought from Wildlife enthusiasts in drawing up such a project. Try to involve schoolchildren in a such a project as they will bring worthwhile input to the overall effort.

Litter Control:

The standard was good on adjudication day and the benefit of weekly clean ups is showing results. The Litter Programme in conjunction with the School will lay out a work programme for the next 2 years and onwards and more importantly will involve children in the process as they will be the adults of the future.

Tidiness:

The Village was in overall terms very tidy with the exception of some weed growth at the base of a number of boundary walls. Signs were in good condition and visible and new footpaths have given a tidy look to the village. The Recycling Centre near the School was well sited but it is imperative that it is well managed on an ongoing basis.

Residential Areas:

The village does not possess any housing estate of size so in fact the Village is the main residential area. There were some very well presented residences with well kept frontages and in some cases attractive front gardens. The ethos of any village renewal programme is to encourage people to live the village life and it is hoped that in future years Upperchurch will reap benefits by being involved in this programme. It is also hoped that any possible expansion of the village will take into account its size and uniqueness.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The standard of approach roads was mixed mainly because of the condition of road surfaces which

were a little rough in places.

The council should be lobbied via local public representatives to have all entrance road surfaces re tarred.

The Borrissleigh entrance, road condition aside, was a little overgrown.

Internal link roads were in an acceptable state and the main entrance from Pendyes Cross was in very good condition.

New signs for Teampall an Uactarch were very impressive.

General Impression:

It is good that the committee is taking steps to mobilise the community to row in behind the Tidy Towns effort.

To cement that type of cooperation a work plan with achievable goals is required and it is hoped that this will be in place by next year.

Upperchurch has good potential to do well in the competition so keep up good work.