

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Boherlahan**

Ref: **523**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **218**

Category: **A**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	16
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	218	212

Overall Developmental Approach:

You are continuing to improve and progress in this delightful village. Thank you for the most professional three year programme presented. It outlines your general developmental approach which is sound mature and achievable before listing your specific requirements and intentions under the various headings.

Like many similar villages Boherlahan is experiencing a substantial housing development programme and these material changes to both the social fabric and the physical environment calls for careful and mature management. Boherlahan has richly demonstrated its capacity to succeed at both. Certainly one can take heart from the neat and orderly way the development sites are already being presented.

Boherlahan is fortunate in that it has very specific start and finish points. The Four Crossroads to the south and the area above the School on the Holycross Road. Strive to maintain these specific start points where possible. In tree planting it is desirable to maintain the same three species rather than have a variety of different types. While the use of planters is not discouraged it is preferable, wherever possible, to use ground planting as being more natural and carrying with it the reality of longer life and easier maintenance. The rose planting by the wall at Hennessey's Pub is a delight.

The Built Environment:

Very fine cut stone walls on the Gouldscross approach to the Four Crossroads is an appropriate introduction to the village. The GAA entrance area is much improved. The School maintains its excellent presentation standard with the new mural in the shelter being an added plus. Pride of place is comfortably occupied by the sizeable Church together with the delightful Bianconi Memorial Chapel beside it. The presentation standards here are of a very high order.

Landscaping:

The most successful planting at the Four Crossroads is applauded. The willow tree planting is equally most appropriate both in setting and scale. The wide grassed verges were looking very well and enjoying a high maintenance level. The planting at the Bianconi Chapel is sheer joy, choice of plants, colour and maintenance all contributing to a delightful vista. The planting in the Church car park is excellent. Suitable ground covering low level shrubs are appropriate while the rose planting, with the backdrop of the fine rubble stone wall is particularly noteworthy. The grounds of the School are significant landscape resource and have been well utilised in this regards.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The decision to create a wildlife resource around the pond opposite the School is delightful, the choice of planting and its location ensures that it will become a significant additional feature in the village. Ensure that there is an adequate supply of wild flowers and weeds in this area to create the necessary food chain to attract and sustain bird life. The nesting bird box near the school is of interest and benefit as well. St. Joseph's Avenue area might also be examined with a view to the establishment of a small wildlife habitat there.

Litter Control:

The village has a good supply of appropriately sited suitably sized litter bins which are being well maintained. Litter was completely absent in and around the School area but small amounts was noted at the entrance to the GAA grounds. Your very high mark under this category indicates the near completed success you have achieved with this aspect.

Tidiness:

Again good success here but with some items needing attention. Inevitably in reports such as this it is the negative items to which we direct attention. The small postbox with its missing door at the Four Crossroads should be either repaired or removed. Some broken signs notably at Electrical Goods, Fitting Sales & Services, did detract. The recycling area was extremely neat while the whole presentation of it was well done. The area around it was delightfully free from inappropriately discarded items. Minor amounts of spoil were noted around the Church area.

Residential Areas:

Bianconi Drive was very well presented with many of the houses in St. Joseph's Avenue achieving a high standard as well. The new housing scheme is not yet ready for occupation but will no doubt contribute substantially to the overall standards in due time. Many gardens were pleasantly presented. A number of individual houses achieved a very high standard.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approaches from all four directions to Boherlahan are of a very high order. Road signage, 30pm signs etc., school warnings are all neat and orderly. The exception being the signs at the Four Crossroads some of whom need painting. The village nameplate on this approach is below the high standards which are the norm for the village. The verges and hedgerows are most suitably cut back and generally project a good first impression of the village.

General Impression:

Boherlahan is one of the most agreeable locations to adjudicate. It is constantly improving and has given attention to each and every aspect of the Tidy Towns philosophy. It conveys a sense of a neat, orderly and cooperative community, with each striving to improve and enhance their village. Truly this historic village, associated with many historical figures is in this generation still in good hands and continuing to improve and enhance the life, setting and circumstances of all its citizens. The Committee and the wider community are applauded for their ongoing efforts and continuing success.