

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cappawhite**

Ref: **672**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **221**

Category: **B**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	34
The Built Environment	40	32	31
Landscaping	40	36	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	28	25
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	27
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	221	212

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the comprehensive entry form, the rolling, three year development plan the splendidly notated, detailed map of the town and finally the series of photographs depicting both your successes and a few ongoing problems. Certainly there has to be some concern at the extent of abandoned houses and shops and, wherever possible, these should be restored to gainful use. The centre village success with new kerbing and paving is really significant and the Old Barracks House is a joy. The very fine wall on the Anacarty Road offers a splendid visual entrance to the town but work will be required to the wall on the left which is currently unravelling.

The new in fill house opposite the former Church replacing three old derelict houses is a major success and points the way forward. The substantial mural at the crescent will shortly need attention. Of limited life, murals are most impressive but do call for maintenance over years.

The Built Environment:

Your spectacular success in finalising the new resource centre is most impressive. Please do give attention to the front facing walls and appropriate planting to fully complete the task. The vocational educational school, with its proud history, was very well presented, neat and orderly. The same comments apply to the Post Office and compliments to the house next door with hanging

baskets and window boxes.

Armshaws premises was most attractively presented while the Rose Cottage was a delight. The National School, maintaining its high reputation was well presented again this year while the blue and white, Treacy's Shop was eye catching.

The substantial new Credit Union Office was imposing while the traditional shop front of Fitzgibbons was very pleasant. The Garda Station was well painted and suitably presented.

Landscaping:

The main centre and concourse of the town, now strongly refurbished, is a substantial plus in the presentation of Cappawhite. The splendid new bolder, soon to be inscribed at the Crescent will be an important centre piece at that location. The presentation of the Grotto and flower beds in front of the Cemetery are both extensive and very praiseworthy. This good work has been expanded to incorporate the area in front of the expansion of the Cemetery and continued to the splendid picnic area above it. There remains the substantial task of enhancing the presentation of the long, tall wall in front of the Church at the car park there. Painting it would be perhaps over ambitious but you might consider painting the vertical pillars and the capping stones suitable, wall clinging planting is also recommended to break up the visual impact of this formidable structure.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is an aspect of your presentation which would benefit from a detailed discussion with a local bird or wildlife enthusiast or a ranger from the Office of Public Works. The area around the Crescent, the vocational school, sections of Father Callaghan Park and incidental, smaller locations throughout the village might all be examined with a view to the creation of a suitable wildlife habitat. It is an aspect of the competition, once it is embraced, many centres have found to be beneficial and area enriching.

Litter Control:

Litter is not yet fully under control in Cappawhite but you have made back some of the marks lost in previous years. Additional litter bins particularly at vulnerable points is recommended perhaps sponsored by local business concern. Cappawhite does not have any substantial "black spots" in a litter context but there is a disappointed sprinkling of it at many locations.

Tidiness:

Many elements and factors contribute to this category. Spoil at the base of walls and weed growth can often intrude dramatically into an otherwise pleasing vista. The base of walls at the VEC School for example needs attention while the Anacarty Road was delightfully clear of spoil. The well sited recycling facility at the new Resource Centre was appropriately positioned and was being used in a responsible manner. The extent of derelict buildings, always a difficult issue fully understood and your effort both to have them return to gainful use and, in the meantime prevent it from becoming a negative element, is appreciated.

Residential Areas:

The private housing stock of Cappawhite is well presented. Father Callaghan Park featured a number of pleasantly painted homes with attractive gardens. While the houses opposite were equally well presented. Some private houses on Church Street were particularly well presented and feature substantial and well maintained gardens. Individual houses on the Doon Road also deserve meritorious mention.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The case might be made for the repositioning of the 30mp signs on the Tipperary (Dunohill) Road. At present they tend to give a false start to the village and do not contribute to that desirable, clear cut breach between the village and the surrounding rural countryside. This road in general is very well presented, attractive and with no disfiguring litter. However the road signs at the crossroad are quite battered and particularly the poles require replacing. The stone walls and flowers and the suitably cut grass verges are excellent. The Doon Road village nameplate, raised by small walls is most attractive but would benefit from more substantial planting. Flowering shrubs rather than bedding plants would provide a longer more suitable solution. The Anacarty Road has a delightful bridge over the stream as a natural start point already mentioned, the splendid wall on the right hand side on the approach road is a very positive element. However the village nameplate at this point needs to be refurbished. While the 30mp signs are clean and well presented, the smaller Hollyford Road 30mph signs etc. were neat and orderly and the hedgerows/verges appropriately cut back.

General Impression:

Cappawhite has an enviable success record in collective community action and some of this is very apparent in the success of this year's presentation. The involvement of the wider community in assisting the 16 members of your Committee is all important and their support for your annual table quiz and other fund raising activities and especially the voluntary help during the Spring Clean is particularly to be encouraged. All involved in this enhanced presentation of Cappawhite are applauded for their efforts.