

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rosemount**

Ref: **612**

County: **Westmeath**

Mark: **216**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	38
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11	11
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	216	211

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator would like to thank the committee for their completed application, plan, synopsis and map. It was very useful to see areas of possible concern, e.g. damaged stone wall highlighted on the map as necessary work identified or in progress. It is also good to hear you are about to draw up your second five year plan, obviously a well focussed and determined committee! On the day of inspection Rosemount was looking very well and the efforts of the Committee to maintain its natural lush state were visible.

The Built Environment:

The Church was once again in excellent condition and the local community must be proud of the now completed church roof. The cemetery was unfortunately very overgrown and in need of attention. This area must be a priority to enhance the surrounds of the fine church building. Kellys shop and Stiles Garage look very well, however a wooden door to the left of the shop needs repainting. The school was once again immaculate-well done.

Landscaping:

The landscaping is very pleasant and it is good to see from the plan that more shrubs and wild flowers are to be planted in the village to enhance its overall appeal. The red geraniums at the

pump looked very attractive as did the ivy growing on the stone walls. The new flower bed and low stone wall were under construction on the day of inspection and will be an appealing addition to the Mullingar approach. The Beech Lodge area is in need of some form of weed/grass control. The Saw Mill was well screened by lovely mature trees and the wall of the GAA pitch is very nicely planted.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Unfortunately, the wildlife signs were still not visible to the adjudicator, have they been erected? The lush and rich abundance of trees and hedging and the maturing ivy on the stone walls are a wonderful habitat for wildlife. There appeared to be quite extensive use of chemical weed killer throughout the village; maybe this is something that could be reviewed?

Litter Control:

There was no litter evident on the day of inspection - well done! It is good to hear you are now working with the local National School and Youth Club on litter control. While the bins are in very good condition perhaps you might look to the County Council to replace them with a more attractive style of bin in the next 5 year plan. The immediate recycling area by the GAA Pitch looked very neat, however the gravel pile could do with being layed or removed.

Tidiness:

The village was generally very tidy, however the Ballymore approach road could do with some attention. The roadside verges were overgrown and the area behind the stone wall (identified for repair) is quite overgrown. Again, the extensive use of total weed killer left areas of the village looking untidy; perhaps one that would kill weeds only would be more suitable or was it intentional to kill all growth for future planting? The barrier area or the left approach road from Dublin needs to be cut back. Overall, however a good category.

Residential Areas:

Very Impressive - it is abundantly clear that local residents are committed to maintaining and enhancing the attractiveness of their own surrounds and the village - well done to all! There are a number of relatively newly landscaped lawns which will no doubt further enhance the natural rural appearance of Rosemount as they mature over the coming years.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Overall, all approach roads were well maintained. The left side of the Ballymore road was in need of some attention to gain additional valuable marks. The seating area was a very nicely presented feature.

General Impression:

A lovely rural village with plenty of potential to do very well in the competition. The village looks very well and was a pleasure to visit. Keep up the good work!