

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Camolin**

Ref: **499**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **207**

Category: **B**

Date: **16/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	207	201

Overall Developmental Approach:

It is gratifying to read that you still receive help from Wexford County Council and also, most importantly, your local community for your efforts. Thank you for the map and the plan which were most useful on adjudication day. In the case of the plan, however, the recommendation is that centres will set these out on a three year basis identifying what they can do annually within their physical and financial resources. Success in the competition does not come overnight but careful planning and attention to detail can bring success on a year to year basis. You received an in-depth report from the Adjudicator last year. The following therefore is by way of comment on further perceived progress this year and should be read in tandem with last year's report.

The Built Environment:

Your public buildings - Church and Cemetery, Post Office, Church of Ireland and picnic area, National School, Day Care Centre, etc. are being very well maintained and were presented nicely this year. The picnic area at the Church of Ireland is a very nice addition. Commercial premises also looked well but the comments made last year by the Adjudicator regarding signposting is still applicable. Some derelict closed-up buildings in the main street are still a problem. You should consult with Wexford County Council on these as under the Derelict Sites Act they have powers to approach the owners with a view to maintenance.

Landscaping:

Some very nice floral displays were to be seen throughout the village both in terms of landscaping, hanging baskets, containerised plants and window boxes. This created a lovely atmosphere around the village - congratulations to all concerned. Part of your planning could be the designation of other areas throughout the village for landscaping purposes. There is a tendency to put emphasis on flowers but the planting of trees and shrubs should not be lost sight of, particularly in the case of the later as they will give some colour to the village on an all year round basis. Perhaps this is an area where Wexford County Council can be of assistance to you.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your comments regarding additional bird boxes and working with local school children under this heading have been noted and the Adjudicator looks forward to seeing further progress next year. Perhaps there is some qualified or interested person in the locality who would be able to help you with such a project. You can also consult with Duchás or its successor.

Litter Control:

Generally litter control was quite good on adjudication day. Unfortunately there was some evidence of minor littering in side streets and in one of the housing estates. Perhaps some additional litter bins might solve the problem. This is an important aspect of the competition and needs constant monitoring.

Tidiness:

The village was presented in a neat and tidy manner, but in general some of the comments made in last year's report are still applicable particularly with relation to derelict sites, weed control and signposting. Nevertheless a good effort is being made to keep the village neat and tidy and this reflects greatly on the interest which your residents and commercial premises have in the preservation of their environment. Well done to all concerned.

Residential Areas:

Housing estates again looked well this year with open spaces being well maintained. The new housing estate at Annesley Court will be a very nice addition to the present stock. Your involvement of Resident Associations in your activities is to be commended. As well as the housing estates, many of the individual houses had lovely gardens in full bloom on adjudication day and were a joy to behold. This individual effort is crucial to success in the competition and those concerned are to be applauded for it.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There would appear to have been an improvement in this area this year particularly in relation to the approach roads. In many cases, grass verges looked very well having been recently cut. This too is an important part of the competition as the approach roads tend to set the tone for the rest of the village. Road surfaces are very good. Pathways are being well maintained but off-road parking areas, in some cases, are somewhat pot holed. This perhaps is another item which you could discuss with Wexford County Council.

General Impression:

Camolin suffers from a huge amount of traffic but, nevertheless, manages to present itself in a very pleasant way and is showing some improvements every year. As mentioned earlier in the adjudication, planning and attention to detail is the secret of success and, in this respect, the Adjudicator looks forward to returning to Camolin again next year to see further progress.

