

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Puckane**

Ref: **636**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **192**

Category: **B**

Date: **05/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	23	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	31	30
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	192	185

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form, 5 year plan and sketch map of the village which was much appreciated by the adjudicator.

The 5 year plan, which was put together on foot of suggested recommendations in last years report, is very practical and achievable.

It is hoped that the level of cooperation from the local community will continue as it is critical to achieving success in the competition. It is also very important to foster good relationships with the County Council and other agencies such as FAS.

The Built Environment:

The standard was quite good with most premises presented to an acceptable standard.

The road surface in parts of the the village is rather rough.

It would be worthwhile for the Committee to explore with the Council the possibility of getting it resurfaced next year. It would make such a difference to the village infrastructure.

The cobbled footpath is a nice feature and could be extended to all of the village, this may not be practical but it is worth considering the idea in tandem with the resurfacing of the road.

Slattery's Garage is a very modern building that enhances the village, although one associates such buildings with bigger towns

The Church and school were in good condition despite the rough surface of the near both. The pump feature could be brightened a little and made into more of a focal point in the village. Peg and Pats Cottages were very much admired even though this adjudicator is not usually a fan of rendered walls. McGrath's Pub, which looked as if it had been recently painted, and Kennedy's Village Store were both well maintained. Credit is also due to GAA Club which had its grounds in tip top shape with an exciting under age hurling match taking place in the evening.

Landscaping:

The landscaping arrangements were pleasant on the eye and indeed they were well stocked with manageable shrubs, perennials and some colourful annuals. The Grotto which was cleaned up could do with a little more imaginative planting. The pump feature, as stated in the last section, needs a bit of a revamp to make it more of an attractive focal point. Congratulations to individual householders who have developed such nice individual gardens

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Committee deserves credit for responding to the suggestions in last year's report, which advocated getting someone on board who had knowledge of the wildlife of the area. If this develops into an actual practical project do get the local school involved. Children will always show enthusiasm for something when given encouragement and recognition by their elders.

Litter Control:

The standard was good except for some litter at the Grotto area. The entry form states that new litter bins are on the way and they are needed as Puckane is busy village especially during tourist season. Preaching the message of litter control is an ongoing process.

Tidiness:

Weed growth was evident at road edges, this was due to the uneven surface of the sides which allowed weeds to germinate. The poster of the defeated Euro election candidate looked forlorn and faded and some local part activist should take it down. Overall the standard was quite good and the clean up evenings should continue on a regular basis. The GAA club also responded to comments in last year's report, and as stated in an earlier section looked very well.

Residential Areas:

The standard was very good in this category with the estate of houses at the back of the school being very well maintained and looked after with care. It is good to see residents of this estate make a collective drive to present their area in such a manner. The Rent An Irish Cottage scheme on the Ballinderry end of the village was also kept well, with common areas very tidy. It is not always easy to get everybody enthused about Tidy Towns, usually the practical work on the ground is done by a few. The committee should become representative of the residents of these housing areas, in that way the issues that give cause for concern can be addressed and solutions offered if possible.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The entrance from Nenagh has some very impressive residences with nice gardens. These coupled with the work that has been done on the verges,

hedgerows and the newly built wall makes for a pleasant entry to the village.

The Lough Derg sign needs to be cleaned and restored to its original state.

The Ballinderry entrance was also quite good with a new wall under construction opposite the well presented green area.

The Dromineer entrance was also well maintained with clean side areas and verges cut back in line with accepted guidelines.

General Impression:

Puckane did very well at first time of asking last year.

This year the Committee has responded well to both the observations and recommendations stated in last years report.

The Village looked very well on what was a sunny afternoon,

Keep up the good work.