

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrickboy**

Ref: **16**

County: **Longford**

Mark: **170**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/07/2005**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2005 | Mark Awarded 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 20                | 20                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 22                | 21                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 27                | 27                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 11                | 9                 |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 10                | 10                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 20                | 20                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 28                | 28                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>170</b>        | <b>167</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Carrickboy is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission. We note the absence of a planned work programme and would urge you to prepare one as it is difficult to make substantial progress relative to other centres without such a plan. The village is located at the intersection of two quite busy roads, one a national primary route, the N55 Athlone to Cavan and the other the R393 Longford to Ballynacargy Road. This makes it difficult to manage in terms of working in the village as cars do not slow down. We note a traffic calming sign at the Ballymahon end of the village but have not noticed any traffic calming features in the village itself. It must be quite difficult to carry out any kind of Tidy Towns work under such circumstances. Perhaps you should contact the Council again with a view to putting in traffic calming measures. Well done on the support you get through the table quiz and in your work with FAS together with the general ongoing maintenance of your village.

### The Built Environment:

The two shops in the village centre are both presented quite well. Quinns looks as though it has been recently painted and its garage forecourt area is neat. The boulder feature along one perimeter is attractive. Bannons shop looks well also, particularly with its flower displays. The residential property on the third corner on the crossroads looks equally well and the fourth corner which is an undeveloped derelict site is a prime piece of development land and hopefully it will be developed appropriately by the Council in the not too distant future.

## **Landscaping:**

Neatly maintained verges and maturing trees are a feature of Carrickboy at entrances from both the Ballymahon and the Mostrim Roads. Well done to everyone who is responsible for maintenance here, it really is a credit to the community. The Council might be approached with the request to landscape the steep banks at the Mostrum end of the village further as it could make a strong visual impact. The lovely flower container displays were profuse and colourful at both Bannons and Quinns.

## **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

You are located in a part of the country in which there would be a wide variety of wildlife habitats. It is good to note that you have acted on some of the suggestions in last year's report in respect of strategic feeding points. Perhaps you could identify these on your map in next year's submission and give further details so that you can be judged appropriately. Refer to your Tidy Towns Handbook for other ideas on how to compete under this heading.

## **Litter Control:**

Litter control is excellent which is no small task given the location of the village. Keep us informed of your overall litter management strategy and activities as these can be a source of additional marks. Well done on an excellent performance under this heading.

## **Tidiness:**

We note the absence of a recycling point, is there one planned for the future? There are a few undeveloped sites which have an overall untidy appearance but by far the worst of these is the one on the crossroads which is owned by the Council. This will make a big difference to the village if developed appropriately.

## **Residential Areas:**

The entrance from the Longford approach road is the main residential area in the village and the majority of dwellings are presented to a high standard. It would be most appropriate if roadside areas to boundary walls could be grassed and maintained with straightened roadside edges. This would make a strong, positive visual impact on entering the village from this road. Some poor boundary walls were noted on the Ballynacargy entrance to Carrickboy.

## **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Reference has already been made under landscaping to the beauty of the presentation of both the Ballymahon and Mostrim approach roads. Verges on the Longford approach road were overgrown to the extent that the nameplate here was partially hidden. Those on the Ballynacargy road, whilst a bit better than the Longford road, were not up to the standard of the other two. The stone wall on the Longford road with its in-built seat is an attractive feature. A litter bin at the crossroad looked the worse for wear and should be removed altogether or replaced with a better one. It is good to note the lack of wirescape.

## **General Impression:**

The general impression of Carrickboy is one of a pleasant village, offering the travelling public some time out in nice surroundings. Thank you for your continued interest and participation in the Tidy Towns Competition.

