

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lecarrow**

Ref: **335**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **203**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	28	25
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	19
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	15	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	21
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	193

Overall Developmental Approach:

Lecarrow is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included your planned work programme, it made interesting reading and we wish you well in its implementation. We would be particularly interested to hear of the outcome of your liaison with the heritage group and in identifying and highlighting the heritage of the area, perhaps you could submit information on this aspect of your plan for next year. Well done on your fund-raising activities and in eliciting the help of the community and hopefully your liaison with the local authority, Board of Works and Inland Waterways will bear the results that you wish for.

The Built Environment:

Coffey's Bar and Lounge, Coffey's Foodstore and Kelly's Bar and Lounge are all beautifully painted and look most attractive and inviting from the main road. It would encourage the casual road user to stop and spend time in your lovely village. A set of solid gates could be provided for the commercial yards on the road to the harbour to provide greater enclosure.

Landscaping:

This is your strong point in the competition. Landscaping is most successful around the village and on approach roads and you have achieved the perfect balance between mature, semi-mature and

young trees, thereby ensuring a valuable heritage for future generations. You have also achieved a good balance between bedding plants, permanent planting and planting for seasonal interest. This must take a lot of labour and you are commended in this respect. Green verges and green areas in general are being maintained to the highest standard. More colour is suggested for the banks along the N63 located just across from the shops and the access road to the harbour. Young trees are maturing well at the Community Centre and the flower boat in the car park at the harbour is a nice touch.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The river was clean at the time of our inspection and the canal harbour was beautifully presented and planting and other facilities here were noted. Ducks were an added feature. The wildlife area beside the stream was appreciated, has the area been surveyed? Perhaps flora and fauna of this area could be displayed on an all weather, vandal proof information panel. We are interested to know the outcome of your investigation into the source of profuse weed growth in the river which has an adverse effect on cruisers.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent, we note your intention to erect signs on the main road to advise motorists re littering from their car, again we are interested to see how this progresses and what the results will be. Well done to all involved in picking litter and emptying bins.

Tidiness:

The old mill is neatly boarded up and the boarding is brightly painted. Are there plans for its redevelopment in the near future? Some weed growth was noted in the curtilage area of St. John's Community Centre. It wasn't a big problem but it is something that needs to be watched. The derelict remains of a cottage on the road by the Community Centre was noted. Well done on the recycling point in the car park, it was being maintained in a tidy manner. Perhaps a stone plinth could be built for it.

Residential Areas:

An undeveloped garden to the house beside St. John's Community Centre almost obliterates the view of this beautiful house from the public road. The cottages located across are charming, it is a pity about the derelict remains next door. The majority of residential properties enjoy an excellent presentation. Keep reminding residents regarding the importance of looking after their curtilage areas which include boundary walls and entrances.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

New street lighting has been noted and most items of street furniture look well. A lot of resurfacing is necessary within the village, especially the public car park at the harbour which is quite badly potholed and the access road to here. We would be interested to hear the outcome of traffic calming measures on the main road. At the time of adjudication traffic was speeding through the village. both the school and playing pitch should be signposted. Your namestones look well. We concur that auctioneers signage is excessive.

General Impression:

The overall impression of Lecarrow is one of an oasis on a very busy thoroughfare which is well worth a visit. Good luck to the community in implementing your plan and we look forward to charting your progress over the coming years. Congratulations on a substantial increase in marks.

Second Round Adjudication: