

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Nenagh**

Ref: **330**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **212**

Category: **E**

Date: **04/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	212	209

Overall Developmental Approach:

The thirteen strong Tidy Towns Committee of Nenagh would appear a little small for a town of its size! Many thanks for your maps which were most useful on the day. Your Three to Five Year Plan clearly outlines your objectives, but you have not yet set a date for their achievement. Nenagh is a town with much heritage to be proud of, in terms of its numerous fine buildings and structures such as the graveyard and gateway on Kenyon Street, preserved archway, Abbey and freshly painted crucifix in the graveyard and also its Tower, Nenagh Castle and Courthouse. It is a town which has the potential to do extremely well in the competition, provided its targets are reached.

The Built Environment:

The commercial and civic buildings of the town looked reasonably well on the day. The magnificent old cinema - the Ormonde was greatly admired as was the Catholic Church, with its freshly painted silver railings. Work was underway at the Courthouse and the Garda Station looked extremely well in stone. The old Lecture building, however, which currently houses an insurance company, was in a poor state of repair, as was the facade of the Ormonde Hotel on Kenyon Street which appeared a little flaky at the base, the railings to the Health Centre were rusty and the gate to the ACC Bank was quite flaky. Some magnificent wrought ironwork was evident to the surround of a doorway on Pearse Street and this building also sported its original up and down sash windows, which was highly commendable. The old chimney at Goughs was being restored on Pearse Street and the clever signage to Country Choice was admired. There is a good use of the Irish language throughout the

town, of note being Michael O'Coileain and MacMathuna's. O'Connor's Kenyon Street Market was admired for its traditional sign, but a portion of it needs to be restored. St. Mary's secondary school was greatly admired with its stone wall and well maintained grounds.

Landscaping:

The tubs and flowers throughout the town and judiciously placed seating areas throughout, were greatly admired. An unusual sculpture was noted clipped to the building at the VEC initiative. The Train Station looked well and its mature trees to its boundary were admired, although perhaps some more landscaping could be considered to the central car park area in order to somewhat divide up this space. Your work in relation to having a Horticultural Module involving a number of different groups within the community, is to be commended. The monument to athletic achievement outside the Courthouse was admired. Perhaps the schools and Library beyond the Courthouse would make ideal locations for additional landscaping projects?

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is an aspect of the competition that you could expand upon. You should involve the local school children in a number of potential projects. These could take the form of different projects varying from the building of bird tables, bird boxes and bat boxes to the study of wildlife habitats in the area or even the sowing of a wild flower garden. Consult your Tidy Towns Handbook for further ideas for developing this aspect of the competition.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day could have been better. One or two papers were evident on the Thurles Road, quite a lot was seen in the near the Rugby Club and on the Borrisokane Road, in the vicinity of the Army Barracks. A light scattering was also evident throughout the town. The new stainless steel litter bins were greatly admired. Litter is a problem which involves constant vigilance, in order to counteract this endemic scourge.

Tidiness:

The sign to the rugby club appeared to be faded and could possibly be replaced. In terms of street furniture, the bollards outside the Chinese takeaway beside the West Tipp VEC Initiative were in a bad state of repair. A stone wall along the Nenagh Road was broken in a number of places and should be repaired. Do discourage plastic signage and encourage its replacement with ones of a more traditional timber variety - a proliferation was evident on the Shopping Centre. Quite a lot of dereliction was evident in the town centre, and particularly on the Dublin approach - your work in relation to these is commendable. The Nenagh Showgrounds appeared to be quite neglected, unfortunately, although its magnificent cast - iron gateway was greatly admired. The Army Barracks appeared to have one building in an abandoned state of repair and looked unfortunate.

Residential Areas:

There were a number of attractive houses and gardens on approach roads - one on the Thurles sported a most marvellous rose garden. In terms of housing estates, Brookville Green was well maintained and generally housing estates looked quite well. The terraced brick street houses opposite Northville are most unusual in a provincial Irish town and were well maintained. Brookville estate looked well and the central area of Millersbrook looked well although its entrance area needs additional work.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Thurles Road is a long lead into the town. Although it was quite overgrown further out it was

slightly better closer to town. The welcome sign was greatly admired. Do try to strike a balance in terms of the presentation of approach roads - they shouldn't look wild and overgrown but instead should have a natural appearance. In terms of street furniture, the post boxes on both Kenyon Street and Pearse Street appeared very flaky. An empty overgrown area beside the roundabout on the Borrisokane Road looked unfortunate.

General Impression:

Nenagh is a vibrant and busy town which has a wealth of architectural and historic heritage which it is maintaining to the highest of standards. However it has a number of areas that will need to be concentrated upon in the coming year. These have been outlined in this report. Good luck with your future work.