

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Templetuohy**

Ref: **309**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **195**

Category: **B**

Date: **29/07/2005**

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2005 | Mark Awarded 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 37 | 36 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 28 | 27 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 28 | 27 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 18 | 17 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 22 | 22 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 12 | 12 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 22 | 22 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 21 | 21 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 195 | 191 |

Overall Developmental Approach:

Templetuohy Rural Development Group seem to have a small committee with seven members - do you think you can increase your numbers in order to gain extra help in your hard work? You seem to get a high level of support for your fund-raising draw which is reassuring. Many thanks for your map which was most useful on the day. Your Development Plan briefly outlining Years One to Three was very simple - presumably we are in year one is 2005 in this document? This adjudicator feels that you should be a little more specific in relation to what you plan to achieve within the town. Perhaps you should look at it in terms of the different categories in the competition and what you plan to improve upon within each of these - more specific tasks rather than general ones!

The Built Environment:

The large yellow Hall in the centre of the village with its external staircase appeared a little grubby in its prominent location. However, other public buildings such as the stone Church with its imposing entrance area and boundary wall looked well as did the School. The Garda Station was very fresh and the Medical Centre was fine. In terms of commercial premises, Guilfoyle's was very fresh, Fitzpatrick's looked well but should remove its plastic projecting signs and replace them with ones of a more traditional timber variety and its Christmas lights were still up in June! Campions and the Food Market were fine and Everards looked extremely fresh in its corner location.

Landscaping:

Millennium Park was much admired, with its attractive planted beds filled with lavender and its metal benches and freshly painted village pump. The graveyard was well maintained with a fine well painted crucifix and attractive boundary wall, leading you around the corner. Entrance gates were in good condition but the area of pebble-dashed walling in between these and the stone wall was in need of painting. The new hedging planted at the GAA grounds is coming along well. The stone planted beds filled with flowers were admired throughout the town. The magnificent tree lined road leading to the Church and GAA grounds is a fine imposing one.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This adjudicator was somewhat puzzled by your wildlife area, as indicated on the map as it appears to be the front garden of a house and is it accessible-is this the case? Since the local school children are already involved in the Green Schools initiative perhaps it would be advisable to work in conjunction with them on a number of wildlife projects such as a wildflower garden or the building of bird and bat boxes and bird tables etc. 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 was reasonably good for a town of Templetuohy's size. However, there were a number of problem areas. Although on first impressions the roadway and entrance area to the GAA pitch seemed to be litter free, as last year, there was evidence of litter and cans which appeared to have been there for some time and which looked unfortunate. Quite a few papers were evident on the Urlingford Road, a single bottle was evident on the Templemore Road and papers were visible opposite the Medical Centre.

Tidiness:

Don't forget outbuildings when considering the overall presentation - a tin roof to an outbuilding on the Rathdowney Road was in need of a fresh coat of paint, in its traditional red or green colour. The recycling area was quite neat - perhaps you should consider some landscaping in this location in order to fit it in more discreetly with its environment? Do discourage fly posting, as it can give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance. A rough area adjacent to the graveyard looked unfortunate, with evidence of litter and the dumping of building materials in this location.

Residential Areas:

Generally, as last year and the year before, this category of the competition was a little bit inconsistent - many houses were extremely good while others looked quite neglected in comparison. Street houses in the town centre generally looked well. The houses on the Thurles Road looked well, as did the ones beside the Church, with their attractive landscaped space with new trees. A charming houses opposite the graveyard was admired with its stone boundary wall. However, some of the boundary walls on the Urlingford Road were rather grubby and a couple of the terraced houses in the town centre were a little bit grubby in comparison to the others that were brightly painted. Do ensure that the two new housing estates that will be constructed in the town are suitably in keeping with the town's character, in terms of their use of materials and landscaping. An attractive rose garden to a house on the Rathdowney Road was admired. In terms of housing estates, Orchard Crescent and Ard Mhuire looked well, as did the housing estate with the play house on its open space.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The standard in this category of the competition could have been better. On the Thurles Road, the verges seemed a little overgrown and the town nameplate was obscured by this overgrowth and appeared quite grubby. The ivy should be removed from the stone walling in this location and any

broken areas should be repaired, as it is a rather fine wall. The Templemore Road was not quite so bad, but it was rather overgrown by the nameplate which was also very grubby. Directional signs in the village centre appeared rather grubby too. On the Urlingford Road the nameplate was cleaner with an attractive planted bed adjacent to it. This road affords the visitor view to the Church beyond but appeared a little overgrown. On the Rathdowney Road, the standard was better, although the sign was a little grubby.

General Impression:

Templetuohy is an attractive town which continues to perform well in the competition. It was a pleasure to visit on adjudication day and the adjudicator enjoyed the pleasure of experiencing the evocative smell of turf smoke while walking through the town on a summer's day!