

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bansha**

Ref: **714**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **215**

Category: **B**

Date: **21/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	215	211

Overall Developmental Approach:

The new committee of Bansha Development Association is wished the best of luck in their future endeavours. Many thanks for your updated plan which stated clearly the achievements which you have realised to date. Your objective for this year was one of maintenance. This was achieved to a certain extent, but for next year's competition you should put together a three to five year work programme outlining your future plans for the town and setting a timeframe against their achievement. As stated by last year's adjudicator, many of the proposals contained within your current plan are dependent on the work of outside parties. Therefore it is essential that you clearly understand what your own objectives are.

The Built Environment:

Most of the public and commercial premises of the town looked well on adjudication day. The Post Office looked extremely well but the Health Centre will need painting before next year's competition. The School looked well as did the Catholic Church. However, some attention is needed to the forecourt area of the latter, as it would appear to need resurfacing. Indeed paving throughout the town was rough in one or two places. Barry's Supermarket looked well but will need repainting before next year's competition. In terms of other commercial premises O'Heney's Restaurant was admired, as was Nellie's Bar and the Express Stop. The Hall is a most unusual building - in particular its most unusual ironwork archway over the gate and its railings. It unfortunately sported broken windows which was regrettable.

Landscaping:

The village green in its prominent location, and as stated by yourselves, is one of the main focal features of the town. It appeared a little neglected on the day, although it was being well used. The grotto looked quite fresh although its gates appeared a little rusty and weeds were apparent at the new beds at the entrance area. Colourful hanging baskets and window boxes were evident throughout, such as those at O'Connell's. The adjudicator was pleased to note that you intend to screen the yard area of Bailey Motors, as the current concrete post and wire fence looks unfortunate and a hedge would certainly improve this area greatly. Planting to the entrance and wall of the GAA grounds looked well and is maturing nicely. The old church and graveyard appeared very overgrown and you should consider making more of the village pump.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The adjudicator was disappointed to note that you had left this section of the application form blank and no reference was made to it in your plan. Do get local schoolchildren involved in projects such as wildlife studies, building bird feeding tables, making bird and bat boxes. Consult your Tidy Town's Handbook for further ideas for developing this category of the competition. The magnificent riverside area is an ideal location for a project of this nature.

Litter Control:

Litter was a definite problem on the day and along approach roads such as Cahir Road, there was a substantial amount in the grass verges. Litter was also apparent on the road beyond the school, at the recycling area and at the grotto. The adjudicator was pleased to note your involvement in the An Taisce Spring Clean in April which encourages the participation of the children. However, this would appear to be a short term temporary measure and something of a more permanent year round nature is essential at this stage. Litter was evident in front of the school, on the Village Green and at the entrance area to the old church.

Tidiness:

Dereliction is a distinct problem, as you have recognised yourselves. The issue of the pink house sounds like it will be resolved in the not too distant future, and it is to be hoped that the derelict Peeler and the Goat Pub will also. Weed control was also a problem by the Bansha Bridge and at the ESB sub-station in this location. It was also a problem to kerbsides of the bridge, on Limerick Road and to kerbsides outside the school. Weeds had been sprayed on the Cahir Road but the dead weeds were yet to be removed. Building materials were stored by the recycling area but you mention in your submission that the County Council intend to move these soon, so hopefully this will not be a problem for next year's competition. Do discourage the practice of flyposting as it gives a rather cluttered appearance. The timber fence in front of the Credit Union should be re-whitewashed before next year's competition.

Residential Areas:

Individual houses and estates generally looked well cared for, as did townhouses and those along approach roads. Of particular note, were an attractive pink house and a green house opposite in the village centre. Galtee View estate was well maintained, for the most part. A charming cottage garden by the village nameplate on the Limerick Road was greatly admired.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The village nameplate on the road to Bansha house was a little flaky and grubby although the hedgerows and verges in this location were fine. The Cahir Road sports some attractive stone walling and was well maintained. The Limerick Road was fine although kerbsides were weedy.

General Impression:

Bansha is a busy and attractive town which has performed well in the competition over the years. It looked a little neglected on the day and hopefully the new committee will have settled into its work for next year's competition. Do formulate a new work programme outlining your plans for future work over the next few years.