

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cappawhite**

Ref: **62**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **225**

Category: **B**

Date: **11/08/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	37	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	18
Litter Control	40	27	28
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	225	221

Overall Developmental Approach:

Cappawhite Tidy Towns Committee would appear to have a strong working relationship with FAS and the Multeen Tourism Co-operative in terms of the use of their equipment such as tractors and trailers. You are in the middle year of your three year plan, which seems to be a sensible and achievable one. The adjudicator was pleased to note that you had highlighted the works that you had completed to date. Your work in relation to consulting with the local residents on the Cashel Road in relation to the naming of their estate is a good idea, as it will mean that it should have some significance, to the locality. Many thanks for your very clear and comprehensive completed application form and distinct and easily readable map both of which were most useful on the day.

The Built Environment:

The large Resource Centre will certainly be a fine asset for the town. Work is badly needed in relation to the boundary wall of the tennis courts as the low wall was in quite bad condition. Hence the completion of your new stone wall to the front will be an immense improvement! Wimpy's was fine as was the Vocational School with its fresh boundary wall. The Church looked fine, but its rendered elements, such as the tower should be freshly painted, as they appeared quite neglected on the day. Along the main streets, commercial buildings such as Armshaws, Centra, the Old Barracks in bright red, Groovy Gruaig and the Health Centre, generally looked well. Do ensure that render is not removed from traditional vernacular street buildings. This is incorrect, not only from a conservation point of view, but can also lead to problems with water penetration, as these buildings

were not intended to have their stonework exposed to the elements. The attractive traditional render at T. Ryans (currently a house) was admired. At Hayes's Garage each of the buildings require painting before next year's competition, as does the Irish Linen Water Ltd building. The Vocational School was in need of painting and the Parochial Hall sported a broken window. The National School was admired with its new trees at the front and the Garda Station was fine. The mural at the Rose Window at the Old Church should be freshly painted. Weeds were apparent at the front area.

Landscaping:

There is clear and obvious enthusiasm for this category of the competition! In terms of hard landscaping, the central space of the town at the crossroads looked well, with its new paving, seating and lamp standards. The magnificent planting at the graveyard and grotto with its backdrop of the pebbledashed wall, the planted beds filled with a mix of shrubs - both permanent and colourful, including snapdragons, Easter lilies, lavender, pinks, petunias and geraniums - and the marvellous stone walling to the front makes this area quite unique and special. However, some damage appeared to have taken place to one of the statues. The bridge feature to the stone walling opposite the Resource Centre, was noted and admired.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is an aspect of the competition you have clearly taken on board, as you appear to have a number of wildlife projects underway, such as that on the Doon Road, in the grounds of the Vocational School, in the Old Church and opposite the National School. Perhaps these areas could be made more accessible to the general public with suitable information boards, in order that people may see and appreciate the extent of wildlife that is visible in the locality.

Litter Control:

The standard in this category of the competition was quite good, although some was evident opposite Hayes's Garage.

Tidiness:

Dereliction is your main problem under this heading. Hayes old shop and the shed beside it both looked in poor condition. These are fine traditional shopfronts and would benefit from some sensitive restoration to their former glory. The house on the Tipperary Road has been mentioned previously and the petrol pumps you have mentioned yourselves in your application. Weed control was a problem at the paving on the Doon Road, just beyond Hayes's Garage. Besides this the town generally looked quite neat and ordered. The mural mentioned in last year's report was still in need of repainting. The recycling area is correctly sited but should be more successfully screened with some landscaping. There was also evidence of dumping at this location.

Residential Areas:

A grubby gable wall to a house on the Donohill Road creates a bad first impression on this approach - T.H. Ryans adjacent premises appears abandoned? A number of grubby boundary walls and gables on the Tipperary Road should be painted up before next year's competition. The attractive planting at the Crescent was admired - when will its name be inscribed on the stone? A number of attractive houses on the Doon Road were admired, one in particular extending its area of interest to roadside and one with much activity to its garden on the day. Another house will need to complete work to its boundary wall, as it just bare blockwork at the moment.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

This category of the competition was generally quite good but do ensure that hedgerows don't obscure signage. The hedgerows on the Donohill Road were fine but the town nameplate was

obscured by hedgerow in that location. The verges were fine although the road surface itself was in bad condition. On the Doon Road the road surface was good and road signs were fine. On the Nenagh Road the speed limit sign was slightly obscured. Stone walling either side and mature overhanging trees gave this road a great sense of presence and grandeur. The new planted trees will be a marvellous asset to upcoming generations. However, the children crossing sign on this road appeared quite grubby.

General Impression:

Cappawhite is an attractive centre with much to offer its residents. You have made great progress over the years and will continue to do so provided you keep up the level of commitment that is currently shown.

Second Round Adjudication:

Cappawhite is an attractive village with some interesting older properties that still retain some of their traditional features. The approach roads were quite well presented but the verge on the road from Dundrum has been badly damaged by heavy traffic. The repainting of a number of buildings in the village for 2006 will be important and colour choice must be carefully made. There was a good sense of colour in Cappawhite through the number of hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs. At the Grotto the sense of colour and plant texture was impressive as was the nearby wildlife area. However in the wildlife area the repeated colour scheme tended to give a feeling of formality not perhaps appropriate for a rural location. A few derelict buildings were noted that detract from the overall appearance of the built environment of Cappawhite. However there is a way in which perhaps you can make a feature of these buildings pending their removal or restoration. Try and get the owners to agree that they will blank out the window and door openings with heavy waterproof Marine plywood. This should then be painted matt black, and window bars and door panels painted in white. This approach as a temporary measure can look quite effective. On the day of 2nd round adjudication litter control was quite poor in certain areas. Large quantities of litter were noted on the Tipperary road. Occasional litter was noted in the Main Street and on the Dundrum approach road. Again there was litter in the Resource Centre car park.