

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Donohill**

Ref: **123**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **199**

Category: **A**

Date: **23/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	
The Built Environment	40	30	
Landscaping	40	23	
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	
Litter Control	40	32	
Tidiness	20	16	
Residential Areas	30	21	
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	
General Impression	10	7	
TOTAL MARK	300	199	

Overall Developmental Approach:

The adjudicator was interested to note that you are in the process of requesting an Area Plan from Tipperary South-Riding County Council and hopefully this will be forthcoming in the not too distant future. Your Five Year Strategic Plan reads well, and is clearly set - out, showing your objectives and the intended dates by which you wish to achieve these. The adjudicator was also interested to hear of your involvement in the Golden Mile Project and wishes you all the best with this. Perhaps for next year's competition, you could draw, by hand, a map clearly indicating the buildings and roads within the village, highlighting the areas upon which you are concentrating. That submitted is really more of a small scale land zoning map and proved to be not quite as useful as a hand drawn one might have been, on the day.

The Built Environment:

Stone walling is a strong feature within the centre and along approach roads. Do be careful, however, not to remove the render from vernacular village buildings, as these were traditionally, meant to be rendered. Removal of the plasterwork, to reveal the stone beneath is not only incorrect from a conservation point of view but can lead to problems with water penetration, as the stonework was never intended to be exposed to the elements. The shop looked fine, although its signage will need painting up before next year's competition, and the gable appeared a little flaky. Crosse's Pub was well presented. The freshly whitewashed walls at crossroads created a good impression. The school looked extremely well in a peach colour, with its green flag proudly flying outside. The

adjacent Church should be painted up before next year's competition, although its boundary wall appeared quite fresh. The community centre was also fresh but its sign should be painted before next year.

Landscaping:

The Motte area was well presented with its statue on top. The car parking area at the Church, with its stone planted beds dividing the car parking spaces was admired, as was the attractive planting in behind. On the Tipperary Road, the relatively new ash trees, seat and planted beds filled with lavender were admired, although it was felt that the concrete post and rail fence jarred somewhat. Could you consider other ways to prevent access to this area such as large stones? The simple monument of the cross was admired. The cemetery on the hill contains much history and heritage of the locality and it is therefore extremely interesting.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Although your plans to create a wildlife area once the Tip Head is decommissioned is to be applauded, this is not going to take place for another five years! In the meantime, you should develop this aspect of the competition further by working with the local schoolchildren. Perhaps a member of the committee could meet with the teachers in order to work on potential joint projects in this area? Consult your Tidy Towns Manual for possible wildlife projects.

Litter Control:

Litter control was generally quite good on the day. However, even one or two papers are extremely obvious in a centre of Donohill's size and, therefore, you need to be ever - vigilant. Some litter was apparent at the crossroads and more was scattered along the road to the school.

Tidiness:

Weed control was a problem on the day, at the base of the Church boundary wall, at the bench on the Tipperary Road and at the kerbside to the new houses. Graffiti was also a problem on the road sign leading from the school.

Residential Areas:

Houses along approach roads were generally well maintained. The new houses, with their colourful displays of pots outside, contributed well to this category of the competition.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Cappawhite Road the grassy banks had been cut back and hedgerows were fine. Potholes, however, created a bad impression and you should approach the Council to deal with this problem. The road appeared a little overgrown. The Nenagh Road was fine, as was the Tipperary Road.

General Impression:

Donohill is a most interesting village with much to offer the visitor in terms of its fascinating history. It was a pleasure for this adjudicator to visit for the first time.