

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rathanna** Ref: **44**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **233**
Category: **A** Date(s): **16/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	38
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	233

Overall Development Approach:

Rathanna is welcome to the 2006 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed submission including your planned work program. Rathanna enjoys a magnificent setting against the backdrop of Mount Leinster. It was a pleasure to note Si na Slainte walking routes which connects Rathanna to its hinterland and the Mount Leinster amenities. We wish you well in your implementation of your planned work program and look forward to charting your successes over the next few years.

The Built Environment:

It was a pleasure to note your handsome stone buildings in your lovely village, which is reminiscent of your long history. Coady's public house is attractively presented and the graveyard and belltower were admired also.

Landscaping:

Rathanna has scored well under this heading; your permanent landscaping which includes native deciduous trees, shrubs, and hedgerow together with perennial flowers will provide pleasure for years to come and indeed in the case of trees for future generations; well done. Flower displays in hanging baskets were admired for their colour and profuseness; one wall featured baskets on poles whilst the poles on another wall did not, no doubt your adjudication took place a little too early however the adjudicator has an imagination.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on your wildlife panel which was sighted in the church grounds, its information was illustrated beautifully and presented in a meaningful way. We acknowledge your project on the Kiltealy road for the management for the riverbank to allow natural flora and fauna and to reduce invasive gorse, the planting of

riverine plants such as Wildflag and Waterdropworth and the encouragement of birds such as Dippers and Wagtails will enhance the wildlife status of Rathanna and provide much enjoyment for the community

Litter Control:

Congratulations on your runner up status in the Litter Action League in 2005 not to mention being the overall winner in 2006 with the status of being the tidiest and cleanest village in Co Carlow; this is no small achievement. We note your plans for the siting of additional recycling containers for tin cans and paper. The village was litter free at the time of adjudication.

Waste Minimisation:

Your recycling point was nicely presented and its surroundings very clean. As noted above your intention to acquire extra containers for paper, tin cans and other recyclables is commendable and hopefully this will be achieved soon. Your use of a newsletter to encourage people in recycling is commendable; a good strategy.

Tidiness:

Congratulations on eliminating unsightly weed growth at various sites around the village and on your work to remove rubble. Street furniture was clean and well presented with many gates painted.

Residential Areas:

The majority of residential properties are presented to a high standard and the corner property located opposite Coady's public house was beautifully painted and its colour scheme of yellow and white was admired. The boundary wall to the yard opposite the latter residential property was in need of whitewashing; as this latter wall is located on a road junction it should be maintained to the highest possible standards at all times.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Your "Slow- People Walking" sign is an excellent initiative and can only enhance pedestrian safety as it makes motorists aware of possible pedestrians around the bend. Street furniture is nicely presented and the water pump was admired both car parks (The church car park and Coady's car park) are nicely surfaced, landscaped and lined. Stone walls on approach roads and in the village centre were admired for the beauty of their stone work these should be kept revealed as much as possible on approach roads as the large stones which go to make them up are quite handsome. No doubt the overhead service cables/ wirescape will be ducted at some stage in the future. Approach roads are neat in presentation particularly at entrances, and bridge walls were admired.

General Impression:

Rathanna is a gem of a village in beautiful countryside where the entire community appears to be making an important contribution to the environment. We wish you well in your endeavour to have one-foot high granite kerbing put in place for late night traffic at the corner opposite Coadys.