

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Butlersbridge** Ref: **51**  
County: **Cavan** Mark: **252**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **28/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	39
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>252</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Butlersbridge is a very attractive little village that has benefited greatly from the new road – leaving the village intact and with more character. Much has been done to enhance this benefit and the overall approach is very positive and shows good results. The attention to detail is noteworthy. A comprehensive plan even for small villages is very important as it focuses minds on priorities and enables a structured approach to be undertaken over a few years. A plan also serves as a checklist to assess how progress is being maintained. The plan was mentioned in last years report and it is important now that this should be undertaken.

### **The Built Environment:**

The village style of the buildings is very attractive. The streetside dwelling houses and businesses side by side gives a real lived in appearance to the village and this is assisted by the lack of traffic now on the roads. There are two housing developments currently underway which are causing some disruption to the appearance of the roadsides. The buildings construction on the entrance from the main road has resulted in a very unsightly frontage – but this is only temporary and will be resolved in time. It is important that the committee keeps a watchful eye on such developments to ensure the sites are well finished and landscaped before the developers leave the site – frequently advance brochures advertising such building programmes indicate very attractive finishes which are not always completed. The church is a beautiful building and nicely set in its surrounds. Stone features prominently in the village and the river bridge area exhibits some nice stone work. The old creamery tin building is attractively presented with the smart red and green painting. The school is well cared for as is the community centre. Buildings are well presented along the village streetside and the high standard of paint and general décor is to be commended.

### **Landscaping:**

The most prominent feature of Butlersbridge landscape is the great number of mature trees especially on the

Cavan road where the chestnuts look beautiful. Trees are very important and the new tree plantings were noted. Anywhere there is an opportunity to plant additional trees this is welcome as it is important to have continuity from generation to generation. The trees admired today were planted by past generations who could never have hoped to see the trees in their present mature state. We owe a similar legacy to future generations. The grass verges are well cared for and the considerable amount of work required in keeping all the grassed areas along the Cavan Road is commendable – this looks very well. Gardens of houses contribute well also to the overall landscape. The containers placed around the village and by individual house owners give a good impact of summer colour. The flower pots need constant attention and good credit is due to all who care for them.

#### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The riverside area is very attractive and it would be marvelous if walkways could be established. The comments in relation to this idea are noted in the entry form. The work at the lake is rewarding and offers good potential. More ideas are needed to develop this aspect of the village and the competition so that a fuller experience can be gained from the natural environment.

#### **Litter Control:**

There is very good litter control in the village and surrounds with only small amounts of litter noticeable. The efforts of the committee are paying off well. The litter patrols and litter gathering daily shows dividends. Litter bins were noted. Less passing traffic probably contributes also to the improved litter situation.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The programme ongoing in the school where litter is being segregated is a very good approach. A bring centre will be a very welcome addition to the village and will give further encouragement to recycle. Campaigns to reduce and to recycle waste would be very helpful and these in conjunction with recycle centres would be appropriate to the cause. This aspect of the competition is about concentrating both on the need to choose materials and methods that avoid producing waste and to consider environmentally friendly ways of dealing with the waste that is generated. A campaign of awareness with both homeowners and business people needs to be started to give an understanding of the importance of waste management and recycling. Compost heaps can be made for green materials, avoidance of using materials that do not degrade easily and separation of the various materials so that they can be recycled.

#### **Tidiness:**

Butlersbridge can be said truly to be a tidy town. With the exception of the disruption of the building sites there is a very tidy aspect to the village. The new footpaths were noted. There is a well organized approach in the village. The church grounds and the river bridge areas look very tidy as does the village centre.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Both the streetside residences and the single house developments along roadside look well and are well cared for. The new housing developments will present a new challenge to the village which undoubtedly will be met well. The many new houses built within the fabric of existing houses in the village help to retain the integrity of the village and are very welcome.

#### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

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#### **General Impression:**

Butlersbridge presents a very attractive picture and there is a comprehensive approach to the management of the village. Congratulations for the efforts that appear to have brought many aspects of the village together to give such a pleasant result. The challenge of incorporating the new buildings and any further such estates hopefully will be met without any loss to the integrity of the core of the village.