

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Redhills** Ref: **57**  
County: **Cavan** Mark: **236**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **28/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>236</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

The committee number of 18 is a great size for a small village and the results of this enthusiasm show clearly in the standards that have been attained in this village. Great efforts have been made and the village looks very attractive both within the core centre and on the approach roads. Working closely with FAS and the local council is very important in achieving the results required as well as obtaining the good will of resident and business people. The plan provided is very useful and has acted as a guide and an assessment of progress over the years – further planning will set more priorities and help progress. The identification of each road approach to the village and dealing with issues along each approach has served well.

### **The Built Environment:**

The village centre has attractive housing and business premises- these are very well cared for with few exceptions. The walls of the Redhills house predominate the built environment of the village. These lend uniqueness and character to the village and are in excellent condition. There are a number of tin roofed buildings – some of which are in prominent places and a remedy for these would be an advantage. Well painted structures of this type are acceptable but they can get very tatty when they deteriorate.

### **Landscaping:**

Landscaping has been to the fore in your planning approach and this shows great dividend. The meticulously well kept green and surrounds makes a lovely central feature which is enhanced by the tree planting and the seating. The well cared for approach road grass verges were noted and the weed control close to the walls at the verges. The new rose garden on the Cavan road is developing well. Tree planting is so important in all areas to have continuity for trees maturing through the next few generations. Redhills benefits greatly from the extensive array of mature trees on the Redhills estate behind the walls. These contribute greatly to the landscape of the village. These trees too will go beyond maturity some day and there needs to be a

regeneration programme in place to continue this wonderful legacy.

The arrays of containerised plantings around the village give great summer colour to the village and are attractive. Attractive too are the many gardens of houses which can be seen from the roadsides and contribute very well in this regard.

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

The wildlife area and sign board were noted. This area is interesting and it would be worthwhile surveying at varying times of the year to see what could be recorded. School pupil involvement would be helpful in this regard. A winding pathway mown through this area would allow greater access and perhaps a seating area within also. Consult the tidy towns handbook in relation to this aspect of the competition for further development. There may also be nearby areas of interest for nature observation worth investigation.

### **Litter Control:**

The litter control programme appears to be working extremely well and only small occasional pieces of litter were observed. The litter bins are well managed. The newsletter sent to all households and the clean-up evenings are very worthwhile and congratulations on the efforts. The village green looks especially well in its litter free state.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

The bottle bank is in a prominent position and appears to be well used and is tidy. Encouragement in the use of this facility and extension of recycling to a greater range of goods would be worthwhile. Encouragement to people to think about the waste they generate would also help and your local newsletter bulletin would be helpful in this regard. 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:**

Overall there is a very tidy aspect to the village – especially shown by the meticulously clean village green and the walls of the estate and car parking areas. Some new building developments always cause temporary disruption to tidiness. The tin sheds as mentioned above could be troublesome. The surrounds of a house near the village name sign on approach from the Cavan side would benefit from some attention. Under grounding of cables has helped enormously

### **Residential Areas:**

Residential areas are well tended and contribute well to the overall attractiveness of the village. The individual houses along the approach roads enhance the appearance of these approach roads. The village centre with many dwelling homes alongside business premises creates a good mix and a good community spirit. The extensive housing scheme planned will need careful attention so that it does not detract from the village aspect of Redhills and it would be wise to keep a watchful eye to ensure developers leave the site well landscaped and the surrounds in good condition. This new scheme may bring new members and this would be helpful in amalgamating the new with the older parts of the village.

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

Very good efforts have been made with the approach roads and this is evident from the plan and also in reality. The village name signs are attractive and the planting features alongside look well. The roadside verges are well maintained and must require a large effort to keep them to that standard

### **General Impression:**

Redhills appears as a very tidy village with a great central core marked by the village green. The efforts of local people are commendable and whatever approach is taken to enter the village a very pleasant sight appears.