

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Moynalty** Ref: **580**
County: **Meath** Mark: **290**
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2006**
03/08/2006

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	47
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	39
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	29
Litter Control	50	38
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	38
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	400	290

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Moynalty to the 2006 Tidy Towns Competition. The adjudicator would like to thank you for the most comprehensive supporting document and local brochures that are really interesting. Your adjudicator had not visited Moynalty before and it was a great pleasure to discover the beauty of Moynalty. The setting is sublime with a beautiful river and so many wonderful trees that provide a perfect setting for an excellently presented village. The Development Plan 2006 – 2009 is a well thought out future vision for Moynalty. It is however recommended that for each project that a cost estimated be included together with a clear noted of potential partners that will support each project. Congratulations on your success in The Pride of Place Competition. Support for Tidy Towns is as strong as ever in Moynalty. Indeed at this stage it is really a community supporting their own place through the vehicle of Tidy Towns, and that is a fine motivation. Well done to Scoil Mhuire on their Green Flag status.

The Built Environment:

It is great news that a new Primary School is to be developed and it seems that the new building will sit well in the Moynalty landscape. The overall presentation of the built environment here is of the highest order, and so many superb buildings come to mind. The Village Store and McCormarks are two premises that are superbly well presented. The long private house beside McCormarks like many other property owners has used colour very skillfully. The thought that has gone into other signage is equally impressive and this includes the beautiful sign for The Village Playgroup. At the school here the very high standard of presentation of both the building and the landscaping provides a beautiful setting for educational purposes. At the GAA site a lot of long grass and weeds was noted in front of the road boundary wall.

Landscaping:

It was very interesting to read the very detailed 2005 Tree Survey for Moynalty a few of the finer trees appear to need some professional attention. The work now being undertaken by the 5th class in the Church of Ireland Graveyard area is important and is giving these young people a first introduction to the benefits and needs of wildlife. The new planting in the Threshing Field will eventually bring benefits for generations to come. The Borora River Walk is a delightful area and the information panel and the plaques provide a lot of interesting information that gives so much added value to a visit to this walk. The Ducks seems to be enjoying the river also. It seems that welcome restraining minds has been at work in Moynalty in terms of the development of artificial landscaping. Artificial landscaping seems to be used only where it is strictly necessary such as outside the Church of Ireland entrance gates. The naturally occurring landscaping of the many trees and shrubs is doing the rest. The landscaping on the Kells approach road stands out and this provides an attractive welcome to the village from that side.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Church of Ireland grounds seems to be an excellent area for the wildlife sanctuary project. Some cut grass in the churchyard grounds had not been removed. The concept of the schools Tidy Towns Competition is excellent and hopefully this will lead to some of these students becoming future Moynalty Tidy Towns Committee members. One of the great aspects of the Moynalty approach to Tidy Towns is that it appears to be inclusive of all ages. The Threshing Field is another area with so much wildlife potential and your future plans for this area have been noted and appreciated.

Litter Control:

The Junior Tidy Towns litter picking roster certainly appears to be working. The adjudicator saw two pieces of litter on the Mullagh road but before he could record it in his notes he saw it being picked up! The anti-litter notices on the main approach roads get the message across very clearly to all who visit Moynalty and there is nothing wrong with that approach.

Waste Minimisation:

The segregation of litter after litter clean ups is an excellent contribution to waste minimisation in Moynalty and your work with local business and agencies is commended. We would be interested in having details of that. The grass composting site is another good initiative and presumably the grass is then used for mulching.

Tidiness:

Tidiness is at a high level in Moynalty. It is suggested that you try and get permission to paint your sign poles in dark green. An untidy back area was noted to the side of the supermarket and perhaps this can be screened from public view.

Residential Areas:

Both St. Mary's Villas and Bellair were excellently presented and the watering system behind the timber fencing in Bellair is a great idea. This fencing would be improved if painted matt black. The level of landscaping at both estates is superb and this extends to off main road area also. The area with the trees and concrete path to the rear of St. Mary's Villas was again really presented area and a great addition to this estate. The issues regarding new development are noted and we look forward to seeing what has happened on this in 2007.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Kells road approach to Moynalty is excellently presented and the beautiful colourful landscaping is a great eye-catching feature. Excellent hedging compliments the picture but hedging needs to be trimmed. Hedging also needs some attention on the Carlinstown road where good verge presentation is again a feature. On the Mullagh approach the banks need to be trimmed and the verge presentation here does not have the sharp green appearance of other approach roads. The Kingscourt approach with superb verge development especially on the left hand side of the road.

General Impression:

It was a joy to visit Moynalty for the first time and to see that you have been keeping up such a high standard of presentation for so many years. Congratulations to all involved and good luck with your future projects and

your onward vision for beautiful Moynalty.

Second Round Adjudication:

The second adjudicator was delighted to be back in Moynalty and able to give additional credence to the praise of the first, with whose comments he is in agreement. (He did not find the Mullagh roadside verges especially less cared for than others, though the presence of a sagging post-and-wire fence did not help - that is a small point and does not enter the marking.) Following six weeks with hardly any rain it was remarkable how well cared for the bedding, baskets, tubs and shrubberies were looking - they will clearly still be as good for the Steam Threshing Show. Now that Moynalty has been acclaimed as the Tidiest Village in Ireland, perhaps this is the time to pause and consider what way it should go in the future. Your Development Plan goes into this in considerable detail. It is heartening to read that while you do not oppose housing development you are concerned that it should be well contained and sympathetic to the social structure (as well as to the appearance) of the village. This is an important standpoint. If new houses are built with your approval, be sure to welcome the new residents and involve them in community activities, including the Tidy Towns effort. Incidentally, when revising the Development Plan, you should include target years for the completion of each project defined. Congratulations to all the business people, residents, voluntary helpers and especially children, and to those from the official bodies who gave assistance, on your achievement.