

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Cadamstown** Ref: **547**  
County: **Offaly** Mark: **247**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **06/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>247</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for the very well documented application form and excellent sketch map of the village and the immediate area that was very helpful identifying places of interest.

It was nice to re visit the tranquil village of Cadamstown after many years absence.

The Committee of 8 has built up good relationships with Offaly County Council ,Leader and particularly FAS and the village has benefited from the partnerships.

It is also noted that the community holds the competition in high regard as it makes people have a sense of pride of place.

There was no update on the 5-year plan and this was a pity as it would have acted as a benchmark but it did not create inconvenience.

### **The Built Environment:**

There are some very simple but effective changes that have made the built environment in the village even more attractive to the visitor.

The addition of a cobble lock area and provision of new seating against the backdrop of the stonewall at the main bridge,as well as looking well allows one to rest or consult the main map and maybe plan a walking trip through the Sliabh Blooms.

The old mill is now a visitor attraction and the good will of the landowner has to be commended here. So when you visit Cadamstown take note of the "Respect the property notice

The Church set in lovely grounds was in very good condition but the boundary wall needed to be dashed to keep it fresh looking.

Dempseys Pub is an ideal hideaway and it was in splendid condition on the day.

The private residences were all maintained and presented in a very tidy fashion and the compact and well-run

tea and craft shop offered the visitor the option of a quick cuppa and sandwich.  
The post and rail fencing in a number of locations added to the overall look of a rural village in secluded in a wooded setting.

### **Landscaping:**

The picnic area was the essence of simplicity, nicely laid out with appropriate wooden benches, post and rail fencing and green area that has low growing and low maintenance shrubs.  
Why is the gate a different colour to the fencing maybe I am being nit picky here but it does strike you as slightly odd.  
The stone flowerbed with bird feeder at the excellently maintained bring bank gives the facility a very tidy look. One hopes that the area behind this bank will be tidied up soon.  
The River Bank landscaping is sight to behold and a credit to such a small community, it has been considered for a Landscape Award.

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

The nature trails are a major contributor to the promotion and the preservation of various forms of wild life in the area.  
It is fine having these in place but they have to be tended to and verges cut in away that supports the attraction of various wildlife species.  
Doing the basic maintenance on these requires resources and the input of the local people is critical so well done to one and all.  
There is a sense of appreciation of wildlife in what is an area of great environmental significance and one that attracts many visitors all year round.

### **Litter Control:**

The Village is small but even at that the standard of litter control was very high.  
The ongoing litter control programme that you have in place is paying off.  
Keep up the good work and once again a good mark for a job well done.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

The recycling centre for the village is ideally located and well managed.  
It is important to spread the gospel of better waste management and the booklet included with original application package offers one ideas for and examples of Race Against Waste projects.  
Do encourage the school children to become involved in this process.

### **Tidiness:**

The tourist signs on the bridge needed to be examined as it seems as one or two are beginning to rust.  
There is an also an ongoing "small problem" that is in a central position in the village and the adjudicator is aware of the circumstances how this came to be where it is, but it looks as if all will be resolved in the near future.

### **Residential Areas:**

The village has extensive rural charm that one associates with inner Ireland,  
Rural dwellings are one of the main components of this charm and in Cadamstown all residences were very well presented in a simple but delightful fashion.  
Each and every householder in the village can be duly proud of their homesteads

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

The entrance from Clonaslee was enhanced by superb stonewall with verges cut and hedgerows treated to encourage wildlife conservation. In actual fact strimming was being done that morning !  
Entrance from Kinnity not as appealing as above but still very well maintained.  
The link roads and back areas were all basically well looked after very little sign of untidiness.

### **General Impression:**

Cadamstown is worth a visit for tranquillity alone and there were two American ladies just relaxing after a spot of trekking along the Sliabh Bloom Equestrian Trail.  
The Village has continued to do well in the competition every year and this year was no different.  
The adjudicator intends to come back to do a spot of walking later in the year