

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Puckane** Ref: **848**
County: **Tipperary (North)** Mark: **215**
Category: **B** Date(s): **13/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	30
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	21
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	215

Overall Development Approach:

The Puckane Tidy Towns Committee are well organised and appear to be able to motivate the community. Good communication with the North Tipperary County Council, FAS and LEADER is also evident. The fact that you are getting more people involved each year and feel that you are learning something new continually is very much in the spirit of the competition. Well done in having your own website – www.puckane.net

The Built Environment:

The built environment in Puckane is presented to a high standard throughout. The two churches, school and business premises such as Kennedy's and the Peugeot dealers were all well presented and obviously care is taken in their maintenance. The Rent an Irish Cottage houses with their red doors and windows are a credit to the company and it was good to see that these were being enjoyed by visitors to Puckane. Mention must also be made of the Cill an Daingean GAA Club which was looking well with the raised flower beds, well painted entrance and the creepers growing on the boundary wall.

Landscaping:

The shrub bed on the Dromineer approach, mentioned on the entry form was visited. When this matures it will be an asset but at present it was rather weedy and a little sad looking – the poor May weather and the too hot June probably affected it. Overall, Puckane is now reaping the legacy of tree planting by previous members of the community and no doubt this legacy will be continued into the future. The tennis courts and green area are a good amenity for the village – the white concrete seating was admired as practical and pleasant to look at. If this is to be a picnic area, are you going to put in tables? The Grotto was looking extremely well and is a focal point in the village. We noted Puckane is on the Lough Derg cycleway and no doubt your efforts are appreciated by the cyclists passing through. The pump feature and planting of the trees on the Nenagh approach were also noted.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The planting undertaken contributes in this category. However, perhaps a wild life project could be initiated with the school. The Tidy Towns Handbook will give some suggestions as to what could be undertaken.

Litter Control:

The litter bins are impressive around the village and on the day no litter was to be seen in the village or on the approaches. It is good to hear that the younger community have been partially responsible for this happy situation.

Waste Minimisation:

Waste minimisation is a new category in the competition. We would suggest you access the Race Against Waste website www.raceagainstwaste.ie to obtain some pointers on where to start. Of course the Bring Banks at the rear of Kennedy's together with your aspiration to have the school participate in the Green Flag project next year, are in fact the correct first steps to be taking.

Tidiness:

Mostly Puckane was neat and tidy throughout and it was good to see a man with a shovel and brush outside his house ensuring it would stay so. However, there were just noticeable kerbside weeds in a couple of areas and an untidy gateway on the Nenagh approach before the speed signs.

Residential Areas:

Private residences throughout the village and on the approach roads are mostly contributing positively to the Tidy Towns effort. Some exceptional gardens were noted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

As you have identified in the entry form, the roads all need resurfacing in and around Puckane. Also the traffic calming measures being sought would greatly benefit the village. Some signage needed to be cleaned, especially an RIC sign near Kennedy's. The approach roads were well trimmed back, neat and tidy.

General Impression:

The general impression of Puckane is that the local community appreciates the village and are working to maintain and improve this special place continually. Puckane has the potential to do well in the competition with a greater attention to detail.