

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Fenagh** Ref: **1440**  
County: **Carlow** Mark: **201**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **01/08/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	12
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>201</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Fenagh was entered as part of the drive by SuperValu to work with communities to approve the environmental standards of their areas through participation in the National TidyTowns Competition. Areas were entered on the basis that they fall within the catchment area of the nearest SuperValu store and this 'baseline assessment' is intended to provide a basis on which progress could be made over the coming years through partnership with residents, businesses and local agencies. As such it should not be interpreted as a critique of the area but rather an opportunity for everybody to work together to make their hometown a better place to work, live and visit. As part of SuperValu's strategic approach to sustainable development in the area, a nominal mark has been given to reflect this. Further marks will be awarded in future years where more tangible TidyTowns structures are developed and local environmental plans prepared and implemented.

### **The Built Environment:**

Fenagh must be unique among Irish villages in that there is neither a Catholic Church nor a school in a village of this size. The Church of Ireland building and the adjoining cemetery are the only vestiges of religious practice. Both Church and cemetery look very well cared for. But Fenagh is also unique in its long terraces of cut granite, running most of the way to the village centre. Built in 1860, these buildings are a proud reminder of times past and are proudly presented by the present generation of inhabitants. The old village pump is tastefully remembered in its granite surround. The estate across the road, though not as old, compliments this beautiful street. The Hunters Rest appears freshly painted and adds to the colour of the area with its hanging baskets. The Community Centre and car park also looks well.

### **Landscaping:**

Tremendous landscaping work has been ongoing in Fenagh for many years. The Fás worker was busy maintaining the little roundabout. That area is a lovely introduction to Fenagh, the little piece of sculpture

adding to the picture. The half barrels of colour break up the long fence into town. Many of the residents add to the splash of colour, as does the Hunters Rest. Lovely. As one approaches the bridge it is as if the energy levels are now running low. The utility fencing at the GAA grounds is an opportunity in waiting for landscaping. Landscaping at Wellbrook Lawn illustrates the TLC that is administered to Fennagh. Lovely and well done.

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

With so many hedges, a river, a surrounding countryside, Fennagh has great potential in this section. There may be someone in the community who has a special interest in the wildlife area who might be your designated wildlife expert.

### **Litter Control:**

In your submission next year make sure to list the measures you take to maintain Fennagh litter free. Do you enlist the assistance of the school attended by the local children, do you plan clean-ups. There is no evidence of dumping but some litter especially at the bridge.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

Well done on the Bring Bank which is neat and well maintained. In order to make further progress in this section it may help to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. This booklet may help you to focus on projects that would be suitable for you. It would also help differentiate between waste management and waste minimisation.

### **Tidiness:**

Despite all the construction Fennagh presents as a tidy village. With so much construction going on, now may be the opportunity to bury the cables that line the skyline. The only areas that are a bit untidy are the open area opposite the Hunters Rest. The surface gives an unkempt appearance. The black spot is surely at the bridge. Even graffiti grows back from the stone bridge. The entrance to the GAA pitch is also a bit rough.

### **Residential Areas:**

Fennagh is a developing village with much construction happening. Stand alone houses are being constructed in the heart of the village and will bring new life to the village. The new estate at Woodglade does much to enhance the village. The proposed landscaping also augurs well for this estate. The housing is set back from the road as is the case with an older estate up the street. This estate looks beautiful, protected as it is by the beautifully maintained and colourfully landscaped green. One hopes for the same effect for Woodglade. Wellbrook Lawn and the estate beside also express a deep sense of pride. But the jewel in the Fennagh crown is the granite terraces on the way from Bagnalstown. The lovely houses are bedecked with colour creating a fabulous splash of colour on the grey granite backdrop.

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

The roads into Fennagh suggest that a cared for, well maintained village is approaching. It is important that road verges are well maintained and that hedges are trimmed. For the most part this is the case. Home owners add colour and care to the roads into Fennagh.

### **General Impression:**

Little Aberdeen, a lovely experience. Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition. One hopes that your involvement will help bring more people on board to further beautify Fennagh.