

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Myshall** Ref: **42**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **267**
Category: **B** Date(s): **16/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	43
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28
Litter Control	50	28
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	267

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome and well done Myshall on your Tidy Town's application. We congratulate your committee on its achievements. Your good map and accompanying 'Discovering Myshall' were very interesting and well presented.

Myshall is an old traditionally styled village with good quality churches and graveyards. It also has a national school. It has been improved with a lovely water garden which is the introduction of the Sli walk. We note your close liaison with agencies and businesses and also the activities with school children. We would have liked to have been in Myshall for the vintage steam rally.

The Built Environment:

Much credit is due to you for your conserving of the churches and graveyards. We will agree with you on your application for both the old Romanesque church and the Adelaide Memorial Church with its lovely high tower and steeple which forms a landmark in the middle of the rolling Carlow countryside. Also noted was the beautiful presentation of the Catholic Church and graveyard, the work at the school, the roadside houses and pubs all of which are very attractive.

One house has been demolished in the village and is presently a building site. Also of importance is the old dry stone wall with an orchard behind which forms one wall of the car park of the community centre. Street lighting, seats and play areas have been added this year in the park and are a welcome addition.

Landscaping:

There is a very high standard of landscaping throughout the village including in particular the new park which is excellent, with bridges to allow access across the park to the old gate that leads to the medieval graveyard

next door. The community centre is an ugly building and not in keeping with the neighbouring buildings and softening is further required, maybe by placing a dry stone planter similar to the one in front of the high stone wall in front of the orchard.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on the inclusion of natural trails and walks which start in the new park in Tobar Brid park and go up into the hills above. We note that you plan to continue with more in future. We note also that the pond area is totally natural for habitat, and new notices on wildlife and plant life are attractive and informative and also that your school has a Green Flag.

Litter Control:

On the day of the inspection there was virtually no litter in the village. The bin banks and skips were also clear of any rubbish outside. This good presentation comes from full participation and hard work from all involved, including school children.

Waste Minimisation:

To perform to a high standard under this heading it is necessary too encourage all sectors of the community to survey the amount of waste generated by themselves and to formulate strategies to minimise the amount produced, as opposed to simply collecting waste for recycling. We anticipate a performance of excellence under this heading in the years to come given your track record to date in every other respect. The race against waste booklet included in this year's Tidy Towns pack contains a number of good ideas on this.

Tidiness:

There is very little litter in the centre or environs. Shop signs generally were in good condition but Nolan's pub had perhaps too many. We note your intention to get rid of poles and wires. This will require new street lighting and underground cables. Special arrangements must be made between yourselves, the County Council, the ESB and Eircom. Good luck with working on these issues.

There is no evidence of graffiti. Traffic management appears safe but signs need maintenance. Store signs are of good quality. There was no weed growth on kerbs or reservoir areas.

Residential Areas:

Some do not have entrance names for recognition. These should be in two languages. The estates generally were tidy with timber fences and old hedgerows retained in places. Owners are generally maintaining their gardens with a few exceptions. Communal open spaces could be further developed as useable recreational spaces.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Presentation of approach roads was very neat and verdant in the lovely Carlow countryside. The Borris road uses high conifer trees to screen the GAA grounds approach. There are also attractive views of Adelaide Church at the top of the town. Streets are also well maintained and attractive in the centre of the town. Connecting roads and lanes have been greatly upgraded in the new part and Tobar Brid, and are good quality with access to the hill behind. The road bridge is well presented and the footbridges fit well into the landscape.

General Impression:

The village has a traditional Carlow granite stone character. This has been complemented by the modern style park erected in the last few years. It would be of benefit if the orchard could be restored and the facades of community hall including the gate could be softened. Well done also on doing recent work in such a vibrant manner.