

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Nurney** Ref: **43**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **245**
Category: **A** Date(s):

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	245

Overall Development Approach:

Well done Nurney on your entry for Tidy Towns 2007. The village is very clean and tidy with few volunteers. We note also your involvement of local school children, and note that the school has undertaken to take charge of the road adjacent to the school. Well done on your annual field day. We also note your conservation of wild life and plants submission which was interesting.

The Built Environment:

The village centre consists of a mix of single and two storey houses with an attractive traditional diamond shaped square with good traditional facades on three sides. The house on the corner of Leighlinbridge road and Main Street steps back up Main Street. This should hopefully be restored.

There are very attractive homes on both sides of Main Street which in the most part have been built in scale with the rest of the village. There is a very attractive school and church within the village. The road downhill going north also has attractive old farm buildings.

There is a well disguised tin shed with a sleeper planter box in front of the old wall, which very effectively hides the shed.. Further there is a need to disguise an ugly shed and concrete block wall on one side of the main street.

Landscaping:

The village is very attractive with well maintained approaches on all sides, each with an attractive 'Nurney' boulder in Carlow granite. The trees and the native hedge rows have been retained and we note the wide variety of plants present which encourage wildlife. The Tinryland road approach has lovely new planting. Your floral displays were admired. There was nice planting along the school road, but perhaps you should maintain part of it as a height which enables views of the lovely adjacent countryside to be seen.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Well done on your new wildlife plan which clearly depicts and helps understand the habitat of all local species. We support your efforts in providing a space for wildlife beside the church. Perhaps a walk through the village might be appropriate.

Litter Control:

The village was litter free on the day of inspection. The bring bank appears to be working well. Well done on your continued involvement of school children and litter patrols.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on your leaflet drop on such a wide range of recyclable materials to such a wide range of interested parties and businesses. We hope the school will do well on the Green Flag project.

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:

We noted the pot holed condition of the widened part of the Tullow road (at the entrance to the local authority housing) at the Bring Bank which the County Council might repair.

There are too many signs which are confusing. They are also poorly maintained and really require painting every year. Also ugly overhead wires should be put underground by ESB and Telecom. The village is otherwise very tidy.

Residential Areas:

There is one older council housing development off the Tullow road consisting of C1970 semi detached houses which are arranged around a grass open space with picnic tables. Gardens and public spaces are neat, attractive and well maintained. The houses in the street are also very well maintained and have good colours in the flowers on display.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There is one older council housing development off the Tullow road consisting of C1970 semi detached houses which are arranged around a grass open space with picnic tables. Gardens and public spaces are neat, attractive and well maintained.

General Impression:

The town is very attractive and a gem in a very attractive countryside. It gives a unified impression in stone materials and remains subtle throughout including new and old areas. It should be easy to disguise remaining eyesores in a similar manner to the one on the Tinryland road.