

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Eighter** Ref: **1421**
County: **Cavan** Mark: **195**
Category: **A** Date(s): **18/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	25
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	400	195

Overall Development Approach:

Eighter 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:

I could not find any public building in Eighter, the only business premises that I found was Country Pine Furniture, and this is a small modern display store beside a private house. I understand that the old Post Office was closed down a few years ago, and it was probably located beside the telephone kiosk!

Landscaping:

As this is a townland as distinct from a hamlet or village there was no formal landscaping. There are quite a lot of new houses, which are well landscaped by the occupants.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It could be interesting to conduct a study of the wildlife habitats of the area.

Litter Control:

As I drove around this townland I found that in general the road verges were mostly clear of litter, with only the odd bit to be seen.

Waste Minimisation:

Without details of ongoing community projects, it was difficult to assess the extent of progress being made under this category and I would look forward to seeing whether progress has in fact been made on future assessments. However taking into account the existing council facilities and SuperValu's own commitment in this area, I believe a nominal mark is appropriate for this year.

Tidiness:

This townland is tidy and the only blemishes to be seen are from the obvious disruption of house building, and the finishing off of lawns and driveways.

Residential Areas:

This townland consists of a few farm residences and outhouses, but there are a lot of new houses built in a ribbon development on side roads off the Virginia to Oldcastle road, and these houses vary from two storey to bungalows. There is one formal estate consisting of five two storey houses that are all painted an attractive white. There are tarmac entrances to the houses and a good tarmac finish on the public road outside the estate.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There is no sign post for Eighter and I found it difficult to define where the townland starts and finishes. I understand that the townland runs along part of the main road to Oldcastle from Virginia with side roads branching off to the either side.

General Impression:

It was interesting to visit this rural part of County Cavan, which one could describe as open countryside with unspoilt fresh air blowing across the large lake nearby. You could consider the formation of a resident's association to try to protect you area from destruction by speculative builders and other actions by the County Council. Resident's associations are helpful in building up a pride of place attitude and are also helpful in getting to know new members of the townland.