

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Redhills** Ref: **57**  
County: **Cavan** Mark: **240**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **25/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	38
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>240</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

There was mention in last year's report of your work programme but none appeared to have been submitted with this year's application. If you do have a work programme it's important to submit it each year in order that the adjudicator can see your plans for the village and assess your progress in achieving them. Your application form was a little lacking in detail in some areas. You would appear to have a high level of support from the local community and a good number of members on your committee.

### **The Built Environment:**

Most of the buildings of the village were well maintained on the day. The bright houses that address the Green, including the Health Centre were cheerful in appearance. Maguire's Shop (and bar?) was fresh with creeper clad gable and interesting mural. The gabled structure of Redhills Car Sales could be repainted before next year's competition - particularly its side wall. McCaffrey's was quite fresh and the planting in this location was admired. The low stone wall to the front had been broken through and a temporary fencing on concrete feet put in to replace it - a more permanent solution should be found. The GAA clubhouse building was reasonably fresh and its grounds well maintained. The roadway leading to it was a little potholed and rear areas of the Main Street viewed from this location were a little neglected. The creeper clad Garda Station was admired.

### **Landscaping:**

The Village Green is the focal point of the village and was well maintained with grassy areas, bins, seating, pump and monument to "the Playboys". The landscaped spaces on approach roads were also well cared for, particularly the rose garden on the Cootehill Road/Cavan Road junction. Timber tubs filled with flowers were noted throughout. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, tree planting will pay dividends in years to come and a mix of permanent planting and floral displays will ensure the village looks good year-round. The picnic

area and freshly painted pump with traditional railing surround looked marvellous on the Cavan Road.

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

The wildlife area was well maintained with informative board. Plans to provide extra bird boxes area a good initiative. Have you considered putting together a wildlife survey as suggested by last year's adjudicator? Once you have done this you should consider a wildlife management plan, for the various habitats in your locality.

#### **Litter Control:**

The standard in this category was very good, with little being evident. There were a few papers on the roadway leading down to the playing field, more at the bridge and a single bottle at the crossroads. Some of the bins were in need of a wash or repaint, but were in generally good condition. Provision of new bins on the Scotstown and Belturbet Roads are commendable. The litter rota is obviously a success!

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The bottle banks were well maintained on the day. This category of the competition also relates to how you handle your own waste material. Do you segregate the litter that you pick up on the roadsides? Do you compost the green waste from your landscaping projects? It is also important that you keep the local community informed of the options open to them in terms of waste minimization. Contact the Environment Officer in Cavan County Council for ideas for furthering this aspect of the competition.

#### **Tidiness:**

There are many tin roofed outbuildings in prominent locations in the village which should be re-painted in their traditional red colour. There were quite a few in the vicinity of the Village Green.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The village houses on the Main Street looked fresh and well cared for, for the most part, with attractive hanging baskets and window boxes. Houses and gardens on approach roads also looked well. The whitewashed cottage, with roses and adjacent tree with whitewashed surround on the Cavan Road looked extremely well. The retention of its original windows is highly commendable. The gatelodge and entrance to the estate on the Cavan Road looked very well. A lovely old dormer windowed house on the Clones Road looked very well.

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

The approach roads to the village were generally very neat and well maintained on the day. Signage in places was a little neglected – the village nameplate on the Belturbet approach was a little grubby, but new trees at this location were noted and admired. The stone carved nameplates indicating townlands are an attractive idea. New stone walling on this road is a good initiative. The stone walls of the Redhills House Estate make attractive boundaries. The village nameplate on the Clones approach could also do with a repaint before next year. Lamp standards were admired.

#### **General Impression:**

Redhills is a lovely peaceful village which was a pleasure for the adjudicator to visit for the first time.