

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Williamstown** Ref: **321**
County: **Galway** Mark: **250**
Category: **A** Date(s): **08/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	250

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for filling out the application form and giving details of work done and future work planned. It is evident that you take great pride in the appearance of the village. We are pleased that you have included a three year works plan with your submission.

The Built Environment:

Public buildings looked well this year including the Garda Station. We feel that the petrol pumps outside of Feeneys should be removed along with the price sign for unleaded petrol and diesel. The church and gardens are well maintained and the paving at the front of the church is attractive. Tarneys Taverns sign is now ready for replacement and the pub across from Gerry Coffeys Auctionners could also be painted. We did not spot a green flag flying at the school on adjudication day but we noticed the recently planted beech trees on the school road. The yard down the old bog road is unattractive and would benefit from screening. We acknowledge that both WFS and Matt Gerraty's are displaying tidy yards however we feel the fencing would benefit from planting to make these yards more concealed. You have good facilities within the Williamstown Sports Field and Complex and we acknowledge your efforts in the provision of the childrens playground.

Landscaping:

A number of small landscaped areas throughout the village catch the eye and we particularly refer to the Crescent with its trees and decorative planters and planting at the entrance to the Sports Field is attractive. We liked the heritage map in the village is informative to the passer by. The trees on the Main St are appealing and prove how beneficial tree planting is to the village.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Bog Road Nature Trail is a fantastic amenity for the local community. The signs along the bog walk are very informative, well presented and among the best seen this year – well done.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent on the day of our visit and everybody involved must be complimented on a totally litter free presentation.

Waste Minimisation:

For next year we note that you are going to continue to encourage the Community in relation to recycling and composting. We are also pleased that the community is going to participate in the Local Authority Prevention Demonstration Programme. We would be interested to learn about your involvement in this Programme in your submission next year.

Tidiness:

Your problem here relates to overhead cables and poor road surfacing. We also feel that there is excessive signage at both the Texaco/Mace and Centra Shops and we welcome your proposals to encourage traders to remove plastic signage. We also welcome you plans to engage with the company with the storage yard on the Bog Road, we think the provision of screening along the screen security would suffice in concealing the yard. The traditional lighting in the village is attractive.

Residential Areas:

You have some new residential developments in the area; this gives you the potential to recruit more volunteers from the residents of these houses and other of one-off housing on the approach roads. The houses in the village centre are generally well maintained and in particular we liked the houses in the Crescent and an ivy covered house on the main thoroughfare.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Your work programme in terms of approach roads is self evident with grass verges maintained, and tree and shrub planting together with colourful displays and the welcome signs creating a positive first impression. Continue your negotiations with the County Council for the provision of traffic calming measures in the village.

General Impression:

The members of the Williamstown Tidy Towns are working hard to maintain the village. We are pleased that you have developed a partnership approach with a number of other bodies, local traders and the County Council. Overall you should be pleased with your efforts and we offer you best wishes for the 50th anniversary of the competition next year.