

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lixnaw** Ref: **346**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **203**
Category: **B** Date(s): **24/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	35
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	1
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	203

Overall Development Approach:

We welcome Lixnaw to the National Tidy Towns 2007 competition. Thank you for your entry. You have done well with keeping a community feel to your village. We understand that you wish to have more residents participate. Perhaps holding once off working bees such as the one suggested below for the Community Centre would allow more people to be involved without having to commit to long term projects. You could have a community bbq at the end of the day for all those who assisted. You may also be able to have businesses all lend an employee to participate.

The Built Environment:

The school requires some weeding and the front gate needs to be painted but otherwise is well maintained. The Garda station was well kept as was the Church. Generally the shops were very well maintained and painted and the shop owners are to be commended on their efforts here. One beige building that appeared derelict requires some tidying up especially in the car park.

Landscaping:

St Michaels Well is a wonderful community space. We really enjoyed the historic photographs and accompanying information provided in this area. The path was very well maintained. The Denis Hussey plough memorial was very landscaped. The Community Centre would be brighter and more inviting if some landscaping was undertaken. Clogher Drive was well maintained. The grotto was well maintained but there was an orange witches hat in the area that needs to be removed. The Cultural Centre is a wonderful looking building and the grounds were immaculate.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Perhaps the school could look to create a nature walk or install bird boxes to encourage native birds to the village. This is a great way to educate as well as ensuring the protection of the natural environment.

Litter Control:

It is good to see that litter cleaning is being undertaken three times a week and this has obviously had a positive impact on your litter. Foleys and Londis had no litter out the front which is great to see as these type of businesses often have difficulties with high amounts of disposable rubbish. We were please to see your Irish / English sign "Keep Lixnaw litter free"

Waste Minimisation:

Education and assistance in reducing general waste in the community would provide a higher mark in this category. The creation of a community compost that could then be used as fertiliser for village landscaping would be a good undertaking and has been done in several County Kerry villages. Alternatively working with KCC to provide individual compost bins to houses might be another route. Encouraging the school, businesses and residents to recycle through education is also important. Working with retail business to encourage them to reduce packaging they give customers is another initiative you may wish to investigate.

Tidiness:

The boxes and gas bottles out front of Matt FitzMaurice need to be cleaned. A lot of areas need the grass to be mowed but are otherwise well maintained. Painting the Community Hall would greatly assist the visual impact of the area. Perhaps this could be undertaken as a community working bee. Some areas of stone wall would look good cleaned off to display their natural beauty. The areas this has been done look well.

Residential Areas:

The tree plantings in Kilcaragh look great and the street lighting was admired It would be good to look into undertaking similar tree plantings in the other new estates. Clogher drive sign needs repainting but in general this area was well maintained. Clanmice will look good when landscaped. The footpaths in all the estates were in good condition.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The stone walls running alongside the walls were well maintained and assist in keeping the traditional appeal of the village. The paved footpaths in the town generally looked well and were in good condition and well maintained. However, there were some areas of the stone footpath that needed to be tidied up,.

General Impression:

Lixnaw is set in a lovely, tranquil rural setting. Its current residential expansion has been sensitively handled so that new estates do not overpower the existing village. Generally the areas was tidy and well kept and there are some interesting community features such as St Michaels well and the Memorial wall that make this village unique.