

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrigallen** Ref: **424**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **205**
Category: **B** Date(s): **22/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	23
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	27
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	10
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	205

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Carrigallen to the 2007 Tidy Towns Competition. It is good to read that you have a sizable committee of 12 people and that you have agency support. The adjudicator notes that again this year a 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan was not submitted with your entry. This was suggested by the adjudicator in 2006 also. You will find that the preparation of such a Plan will help your future planning and assist in the development of a more coordinated approach to Tidy Towns

The Built Environment:

You have made progress on some derelict sites and this is most encouraging. It is recommended that the road boundary wall at the school be painted and the gates also need to be repainted. The newly developed playground looked really well and is being neatly maintained. At the Community Centre the old wheel feature is interesting and presumably this came from an old local Mill. A number of properties along the Main Street caught the eye and these included Mitchells, The Credit Union and the Charlie Farrelly premises. Indeed that side of Main Street looked quite well and a good range of colours have been used here to good effect.

Landscaping:

The hanging baskets are quite effective and add a nice splash of colour along the Main Street, The long shrubbery between the Church and the village centre looked well again this year and is an important aspect of this busy approach road. The landscaped area opposite the Church is providing good cover and helps to break up the car parking area effectively. The beautiful sloping landscaped area above the Lake looked well again this year. However the Angling Map here needs to be replaced.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is great to see that you have been able to preserve the 'Mass Pass' during recent estate development near the Church. So often important aspects of local history are demolished during development. The adjudicator would like to wish the school well with their Green Flag application and hopefully this will be successful. The sign-posted access to the lake was really disappointing. Briars and closing in and branches are also obscuring access to the lake. The high grass along the middle of this laneway may be potentially damaging to cars and needs attention. The fingerpost at the top of the lane is rusty and needs attention. The car park at the lakeside is equally disappointing. A lot of litter was noted here and the car park area had a lot of weed growth. Have you considered having a wildlife survey of Carrigallen carried out?

Litter Control:

Litter control on adjudication day was not especially good and litter was noted in a number of areas not all directly connected with ongoing construction work. These areas included the lake car park, at the back of the Fair Green estate, on the Mohill road and at the Bring Bank Centre. A little litter was also noted in the Church of Ireland grounds on the left hand side inside the gate. The Bring Bank Centre itself was very poorly presented. The official signage was absent and high grass and weeds were present along the sides of the units. It is so important that such facilities are kept in prime condition in order to encourage people to use them. The approach road down to the Bring Bank Centre also needs to be resurfaced.

Waste Minimisation:

It is encouraging to read that the school is involved in recycling and that your committee engages with the Local Authority on recycling as well. It would have been interesting to have been able to read of some of the detail of these initiatives. As a priority it is recommended that the presentation of the Bring Bank Centre be substantially upgraded as quickly as possible. The Race Against Waste booklet circulated to all Tidy Towns Committee in 2006 has many ideas on waste reduction that may be of help to your committee.

Tidiness:

Weed growth at road boundary walls was present in quite a few parts of Carrigallen. At the Health Care Centre weed growth was present at the low wall by the road. The very untidy laneway by the side of the Bank also needs early attention. Along Church Road some untidy open spaces were noted on the right going out from the village. At least two and possibly three apparently abandoned cars were noted in the village and these should be removed from public view by the owners. At McGees Garage on the Longford road consideration might be given to the painting of the metal door in a bright colour and the repainting of the white front elevation.

Residential Areas:

The surfacing of the estate on the Killeshandra Road will hopefully happen soon, and the work on the access to the Barley Field estate has been noted. At Church Manor no landscaping apart from the grass area was noted and this gave a rather stark appearance. Surfacing is needed here also. The Fair Green development effectively continues the street line here and the infill development sits well with the overall character of the village. Some road boundary walls need repainting on Church Street. At Cois Locha the area on the left above the lake is quite rough and needs preparation and seeding. This can be done now and does not need to wait for estate completion by the builders. At Cluain Alainn weed growth at roadside kerbing is a problem and the large green area here needs substantial landscaping. At Barley Field the metal railings would be improved if painted possibly matt black and road boundary walls need attention. At Breadagh the overall presentation needs upgrading.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Generally approach roads were mixed in presentation. The Mohill approach highlight is the beautiful area overlooking the lake that is maintained so well. No work appears to have taken place on the approach road into Breadagh and likewise the Church Road approach needs attention. On the Longford road the new banks are greening up well.

General Impression:

You will find that a planned approach to your Tidy Towns work using a 3 Year Plan will be of great help to you in the years ahead. The adjudicator would like to wish you well in your work for Carrigallen in 2008.