

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Mohill** Ref: **435**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **204**
Category: **C** Date(s): **22/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	32
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	22
Waste Minimisation	20	12
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	204

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Mohill to the 2007 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for comprehensive press cuttings that gave an interesting impression of life in the town. With 12 people your Tidy Towns Committee is large by national standards and that is great. You have appropriate agency support as well. The adjudicator notes that a Tidy Towns Work Programme or Plan was not submitted this year with your entry documentation. All towns and villages are strongly recommended to have a simple straight forward 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan for their area. This Plan is prepared by your Committee in consultation with the appropriate local organisations and agencies in the Mohill area. It should be no more than seven to ten pages long. The purpose of the Plan is to guide the work of your Tidy Towns Committee and others over the short to medium term. Your Plan should detail year by year the work that your committee and supporting organisations and agencies intend to carry out each year. It is recommended that you do not have too many objectives each year – perhaps 4 or 5 key projects are adequate. In November of each year your Tidy Towns Plan should then be advanced by a further year and the year coming to an end can then be dropped from the Plan.

The Built Environment:

The refurbished Fire Station has a great colour scheme complimented by the landscaping to the side. The major development in Hyde Street was underway on the day of adjudication and this major infill project will make a positive difference to that street. Hopefully the colour scheme will be appropriate. The completion of the Gordon Complex is noted. You have succeeded in reducing the overall number of derelict buildings this year and this marks great progress for your committee and Mohill. The repainted Clarkes Hotel looks really well and the colour scheme here is exactly right. The building now fits really well into the streetscape. Congratulations to the owners on this initiative. On the Carrigallen approach the school up on the right is extremely well presented and an example to all of good presentation. The presentation of the Modular Panel Systems premises has been enhanced by effective landscaping at the building and at the roadside areas. On

the Drumlish road the ESB Sub-Station roadside presentation can be improved; perhaps screening is a possibility. The long wall at the GAA needs to be repainted and work was in progress on forming a plinth to the wall on adjudication day. The Enterprise Centre building would be enhanced by the repainting of the low concrete block walls at right angles to the main structure. The Civic Amenity Site was excellently presented with a good colour scheme and excellent landscaping. Some well painted buildings were noted along the Main Street. It is good to see some of the stone facades surviving along the street but it is a pity that the ground floor stone elevation has been lost in most cases. Are there are plans to re-open or re-develop The Usual Place premises. On a temporary basis it needs painting pending a new future. The National Irish Bank premises would also benefit from repainting especially at the entrance area. Do try and discourage the erection of plastic or projecting signage that detracts so much from the streetscape. At the Garda Station the lower portion of the main elevation would benefit from repainting.

Landscaping:

The hanging baskets noted in various locations add some colour effectively as does the landscaped area at the Library. Good landscaping was noted just before the Drumlish junction where the mature trees are really beautiful. The new landscaping on the Drumod approach at the new housing development was looking well on the day of the visit.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The reclamation of a section of the river at Castle Street for wildlife makes a good contribution to wildlife. The presence or absence of wildlife in a river is frequently a good indicator of water quality. The Castle Street river area was attractively presented on adjudication day with good landscaping and the Ducks enjoying the sunshine. The bred feeders that you have provided will also help to retain birds in those areas. We look forward to seeing the school wildlife survey.

Litter Control:

The monthly litter pick-ups is a great way of keeping on top of litter control though a more frequent patrol would be even better. We look forward to having details of the litter awareness programme for the schools in due course – an excellent plan as are the public meetings that you have held. Some litter was noted outside the Council Yard on the Carrigallen approach. Litter was again present in the landscaping just before the Drumlish junction and on the Dromod approach to Mohill. A little litter was present in Hyde Terrace and on the Fenagh Road. Much litter was an unfortunate feature of O'Carolan Court.

Waste Minimisation:

The repeat of the public meetings and leaflet distribution again this year was a useful exercise. The Civic Amenity Centre was excellently presented both inside and outside. The landscaping carried out here helps to soften the impact of a service that is not the most visually appealing. 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:

On Causey Street the garage here with the pumps would be improved if this large building could be painted for the 2008 competition. Generally the town appeared to be quite tidy and this reflects great credit on the whole community. The standard observed in 2006 appears to have been maintained again this year.

Residential Areas:

At Hyde Terrace consideration might be given to the painting of the railings. On the Fenagh approach road the stone houses with the hanging baskets looked quite colourful. Good landscaping is a feature at the entrance to O'Carolan Court however the larger green area that surrounds the lovely mature trees was uncut. The Cappagh Estate is quite attractive and the difference in levels here adds to the overall design. Excellent trees planting at Shannagh Grove caught the eye but further in towards the back of the estate much work still needs to be done. In the centre of Mohill attractive well painted and presented private houses were noted at the Dromod junction.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Drumlish approach road verges and banks were in need of cutting. Some good verge presentation was noted on the Fenagh (Green) road. The banks were uncut here and this is excellent as it provides for the needs of wildlife. The banks and verges on the way up to the amenity centre were badly overgrown. This is unfortunate as it hardly provides inspiration for the uses of the fine Civic Amenity Centre. Generally the presentation of the Carrick-On-Shannon approach road was not good. However the landscaping of the high sloping bank below the Church on the other side of the road was excellent. No recent work appeared to have been done on the Treanmore approach.

General Impression:

Mohill is making progress and the adjudicator would like to wish you well with your Tidy Towns Plans for 2008.