

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Boherlahan** Ref: **632**
County: **Tipperary (South)** Mark: **236**
Category: **A** Date(s): **09/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	37
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	24
Residential Areas	40	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	236

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, which included a three year plan which was most helpful to the adjudication. The committee are to be congratulated for co-operation with other agencies such as FAS and the Community Hall committee, together with your engagement with the teacher and pupils of the local school. It is noted that the net is widening in relation to applications for development assistance and no doubt this approach will continue to pay handsome dividends. Boherlahan is a charming Irish village with a rich history and retains many of the characteristics of vernacular Irish architecture.

The Built Environment:

The focal point of Boherlahan is the Bianconi Mortuary Chapel and adjoining Church and their superb grounds. The Liberty Tree, commemorating the 1798 rising, planted by T.J.Maher in 1998 is maturing nicely. This area of the village contains a visitor's information board and a Bianconi plaque which creates a nice point of interest. The Church car park with its maturing trees and shrubbery creates a nice avenue effect at the entrance to the Church. We note your plans in relation to Hennessey's Pub and look forward to your successful intervention here. The pub and its adjoining premises enjoy the best characteristics of rural Irish architecture. The raised lettering was particularly admired. The remainder of the village core buildings, the Parish Hall, Health Centre, shop and garage were neatly presented. St. Isadora's National School looked particularly well while its colour scheme and lettering were striking. It is to be hoped that your co-operation with the GAA will prove successful.

Landscaping:

As already mentioned the lawn in front of the mortuary is one of the highlights of the village. This in turn

contrasts well with the surrounding landscaping to the car park area. The many fine strands of young trees look well and it is to be hoped that your ongoing plans in this area will continue.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your plan to involve St Isadora's pupils in identifying the wild life associated with the pond should prove highly educational. The results could then be illustrated on bi-lingual, wildlife information boards providing a further interesting information point in the village. The bird boxes in the attractive park adjacent to the village pump were noted.

Litter Control:

On the day of adjudication the village was litter free except for one small area close to the recycling centre and another close by the planning notice for the Longfield Park Housing Scheme. Your co-operation with FAS workers and the voluntary efforts of your committee are paying handsome dividends in this regard.

Waste Minimisation:

It was noted in the past there have been problems with the maintenance of the 'Bring Centre'. On the day of adjudication, bins were again full and some overflow had occurred. Perhaps the committee would give some consideration to further contact with Tipperary South Riding County Council to request a more regular servicing of this facility. It is to be hoped that the programme for waste minimisation will be developed in the coming years and that more initiatives in the Race Against Waste booklet will be adopted in the future

Tidiness:

Notwithstanding the disruption caused by the ongoing constructions in the village, the overall appearance was one of tidiness. We look forward to the completion of these developments.

Residential Areas:

Matt Talbot Park has a beautiful linear roadside boundary presented to a very high standard. The seating and street furniture, together with the shrubbery and mature trees looked very well. Many of the private gardens together with the hanging baskets displays were admired as were those of the adjoining, nicely designed, 7 house scheme. The new stone walls here are a fine addition. The Longfield and West Meadows would benefit from substantial tree and shrub planting, and this approach would accelerate their integration with the village. St Joseph's Avenue, with a neatly trimmed hedge along its approach has some very attractively presented individual gardens. Construction opposite is well advanced and these nicely proportioned houses should look well on completion.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Cashel approach road looks particularly well and the wide grass margins were neatly presented. The maturing roadside trees and shrubbery were impressive. The wall of the GAA pitch could do with some softening, perhaps some ivy. The flower box at the entrance style looked well. As previously mentioned the village core area has a high standard of surfacing, particularly at the Church car park and adjoining area. The village pump is an attractive feature.

General Impression:

The historic village of Boherlahan is undergoing much development at present. The hard work of the committee will no doubt pay huge dividends in the years to come.