

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tipperary** Ref: **520**
County: **Tipperary (South)** Mark: **204**
Category: **D** Date(s): **12/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	28
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	204

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, which included an informative map, the De Jong Report, and the Entente Florale Trail. Tipperary lies in a charming situation on the River Ara in the heart of the fertile Golden Vale, with the magnificent range of the Galtee Mountains conspicuous to the south. The town has a busy ambience with a large amount of traffic passing through the centre. The committee is to be congratulated for their engagement with Tipperary Town Council, RAPID, Bird Watch, local businesses and schools. The results of this co-operation are already paying dividends and the many projects planned are noted.

The Built Environment:

The town proper has a fine stock of traditional buildings and their importance has been categorised in the Nicholas De Jong Report which also outlines admirable objectives for their preservation, conservation and redevelopment. Paddy McEniry's pub and Blackburn House, which is being put forward for the Best Shopfront Award, were well maintained and beautifully presented and Kissane's Pharmacy was also admired. The Tipperary Co-operative building on the Emly road needs screening. The Maid of Erin is nicely presented with colourful flower displays. St Mary's Church of Ireland with its elegant spire forms a series of nice vistas throughout the town. St Joseph's National School and its well maintained grounds, which were being attended to on the day of adjudication, is to be congratulated on its achievement of a Green Flag for the fourth year. St Michael's and St Ailbe's schools had well presented grounds but both bus shelters in this area had been vandalised and the area was somewhat litter strewn. The Clock Tower and Market with a sculptural piece were much admired.

Landscaping:

The development of the Entente Florale route, the RAPID programme and the development of the River Park

bring an opportunity for the enhancement agenda within the town. The bandstand in Redmond Square is set in a well maintained green with show piece flower beds in full colour. The new garages on the Limerick approach road would be enhanced by the planting of some screen trees. The PALL industrial building had some attractive shrubbery at the gates on both sides while the Dundrum approach road was beautifully tree lined on both sides.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We note your plans to enter the Entente Florale competition and wish you well in this project. The commencement of work close by the bridge on the River Ara was noted and this, in conjunction with the adjacent Davis Park offers a tremendous opportunity for a meaningful river walk. Congratulations on your initiative in engaging the support of Tipperary Bird Watch, FAS, and Tipperary Town Council on this project.

Litter Control:

The success of your May-September campaign and the local media promotion of this is evident in the good standard of litter control within the town proper, approach roads and public areas. On the day of adjudication, there was evidence of some discarded litter at Church Well and in the car park to the front of Government Buildings. To the rear of the Post Office quite a number of plastic bottles were scattered on the ground and in the rain water chutes of the roof. Whilst the approach roads were generally good there was a light scattering of litter on some areas of the Limerick approach road.

Waste Minimisation:

Recycling points were neat and tidy and well presented on the day of adjudication. The committee are commended on their initiative in co-operating and supporting the South Tipperary County Council's campaign in this regard. It is to be hoped that your campaign in relation to best practice, school initiatives and working with local businesses will continue apace. It is to be hoped that this programme will be developed in the coming years and that more initiatives in the Race Against Waste booklet will be adopted in the future

Tidiness:

We note your plans to have the Mart relocated to a new site outside the town on the Limerick Rd. Tipperary is a large town with many constructions ongoing and although the overall appearance is one of general tidiness a number of derelict infill and brownfield sites remain to be developed. An area requiring some redefinition and surface improvement together with the possible removal of wirescape is at the junction of the Galbally and Emly roads at the top of O'Brien St. The initiative of Tipperary South Riding in having the De Jong Town Improvement report augurs well for the future and if the outlined objectives are adhered to, well structured redevelopments will ensue.

Residential Areas:

Tipperary has a large array of housing estates that are well maintained in general, augmented by some well maintained and presented streetscapes and individual houses in the inner town. It is noted that there are now 14 residents groups signed up to the RAPID Enhancement Campaign and this initiative is to be commended.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Limerick Road roundabout was nicely planted and looked well. Road construction continues in this area and here again we look forward to the implementation of the recommendations of the De Jong Report. Approaching the town from Emly, the beautiful period ivy covered Canone House was admired. The well maintained hedge-topped stone walls, backed by huge native mature trees and stone outbuildings is part of the rich heritage of rural architecture typical of this area. Near to the entrance to Canone House is a Tipperary announcement sign, set in a well maintained flower bed. Opposite is a lovely widened margin green area which is also beautifully maintained with hedges and shrubs. An area in front of the railway bridge was in need of litter and weed control. The ongoing development and resurfacing of the inner town was noted and the pedestrian crossing from Redmond Park across Davitt St was particularly admired for its attractive flowerboxes and colourful displays.

General Impression:

Tipperary is an attractive town displaying many fine buildings with attractive architectural features and an interesting layout pattern. The structured plan for future developments set out clear objectives for its regeneration and expansion in the years ahead.