

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Puckane** Ref: **848**  
County: **Tipperary (North)** Mark: **245**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **19/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	35
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>245</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Congratulations to Puckane for entering the Tidy Towns Competition for 2007. Your frequent meetings, your involvement with Fás and the North Tipperary County Council help to maintain a constant involvement with your Tidy Towns Competition aspirations. Your updated and most informative website must also help maintain your interest. But, at present, your opposition to the rezoning of the 105 acres is bonding you and spurring on to even greater heights. Surely this website is useful in communicating with the community and could be mentioned in your submission. Well done.

### **The Built Environment:**

The village buildings look very well. Your work on the grotto has been well worth the effort. The Rent an Irish Cottages looked beautiful on both sides of the road and add to the pleasant village atmosphere. Kennedy's bar and shop are striking.

The grotto is beautiful. The glass on the colourful map beside the grotto needs to be repaired. The estate beyond the school is very pretty and well maintained and colourful. Beside the grotto it seems that the phone booth grew naturally into its sheltered position. Even though the street looks well, further colour could accentuate its varied character. The Church dominates when one arrives from Nenagh but is well maintained and the parking seems practical. Your project to 'clean up the area' at the monument would be a fitting tribute to the memory of your martyrs. It would be a wonderful way to introduce your village to the visitor.

### **Landscaping:**

The landscaping throughout leads one gently into the village and waves slán at departure. The shrubbery on the way to the GAA pitch is being well maintained and contrasts nicely with the paths and roads around. The playing area behind the Church is an important and well maintained amenity for the people of the estate. While you are understandably frustrated about the green area behind the Rent an Irish Cottages the area is

very well maintained. The seats and flowers draw one down to the tennis courts which are a wonderful amenity in themselves. As one departs towards Terryglass the well maintained amenity area on the left seems so restful and says 'Slán abhaile' without the sign.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your Committee is certainly an ambitious one. The Wildlife and Natural Amenities section is an important one in the Tidy Towns Competition. Therefore, this is an area in which you could exploit the possibilities of village life in the heart of the country. It is good that you are involving the children in surveying the area. That survey will need your proactive assistance. Then the work will really begin.

### **Litter Control:**

Your regular clean-ups are having the desired effect. The village was largely litter and dump free and is a credit to the Committee. The litter bins are well positioned in the village. The North Tipperary County Council wheelie bin was not to be seen but its effects were!!

### **Waste Minimisation:**

The segregated bins were noticed so segregation of waste seems to be happening. It is good to see that the school has signed up to the Green Flag Project. Your involvement in the Tidy Towns Competition is a Race Against Waste initiative and is to be commended. But a further step forward could now be taken through spreading the word in the community on the Race against Waste or through a workshop on Home Composting.

### **Tidiness:**

The street and approaches are beautiful and tidy, with very little clutter. One is struck by the positive impact of the signage for Pocán and for Lough Derg on arrival. Though obvious it is not garish. A sign for the tennis courts was not obvious. Maybe there is no need for one. The sign for the Lough Derg Cycle must be helpful. You mention the need for funding for renewals to paths and surfaces. The absence of weeds and the neatness of the street deflects the eye from the structural defects. Advertising signs by an estate agent are too noticeable. Is there a need for the frequent notices regarding the rezoning? They are all of a campaigning nature rather than informational. They created an unease though they were small and well designed. The only evidence of weeds was at the Church of Ireland.

### **Residential Areas:**

The co-operation of most of the residents is evident from the beautifully maintained and painted houses, and from the lush and varied colours of the front gardens. These houses add so much to the village character of Puckane and help to generate the sense of pride. The residents of the estate by the school are playing their part in the community effort to promote the positive image of Puckane.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The immediate impression when driving from Nenagh direction is that we are entering a beautiful village. The residences are very well maintained and the front gardens are colourful and welcoming. The trees give a stately feel to the approach. The entrance from the Terryglass side is equally attractive. A word with the estate agent about the signs should not impact on his sales but would enhance that approach

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### **General Impression:**

Despite the concerns expressed about the rezoning, it is clear that the Committee are getting on with the work in hand. Puckane is well worth a visit and seems to be a pleasant place in which to live. Good luck in your future battles