

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cavan** Ref: **944**
County: **Cavan** Mark: **258**
Category: **D** Date(s): **03/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	39
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	39
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	258

Overall Development Approach:

Cavan Town is welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition in its 50th anniversary year. Thank you for your submission; the absence of a planned work programme together with a map of the town is noted perhaps these could be enclosed next year? Well done on the commitment you receive regarding voluntary fund-raising activities and clean-ups and the support you have from the Town Council, the County Council and the Chamber of Commerce. It is good to note the Schools Anti Litter Programme also. Cavan Town looked very well on the Day of adjudication.

The Built Environment:

We note from your submission the Architectural Conservation status of Cavan town, well done on this initiative. Other projects completed for this year include the playground at Ard Keen and the Bridge Street Resource Centre. We wish you every success regarding your future projects at Gallows Hill, Con Smith Park and of course proposed work on derelict sites. Public buildings are presented to a high standard and of course the Cathedral and its grounds look magnificent, the Garda Station was very well presented also. The Dunne's Stores development appears large and bland in its street- scape. The Jewellery Design premises enjoys an excellent presentation; a number of shop fronts were in need of upgrading to their fascia signs an example of one being the Cavan Gifts premises. Encourage shopowners to avoid the use of posters and stickers in their doors and windows and where possible to avoid the use of roller shutters at night, there are other more attractive alternatives.

Landscaping:

Container flower displays along the bridge railings at the entrance from the Killeshandra Road have to be

seen to be believed in terms of their profusion and colour. The grounds of Scoil Naomh Felim together with the rose garden at Town Hall Street were admired also. Landscaping throughout the town and particularly at entrances from approach roads were to an excellent standard. Newly landscaped areas at a number of locations round the town have been noted; thank you for the information concerning the specialist maintenance of the monument at Market Square; we look forward to further landscaping projects on both the Dublin and Cootehill roads. Enclosure to a higher standard is necessary for the Breffni Retail Park.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We note from your submission the commencement of a wildlife study and urge you to submit details of this with next year's entry. We would also be interested to know of any initiatives promoting wildlife awareness throughout the Community. Details might also be provided on the maintenance of wetland at Con Smith Park. The Green Lake project sounds interesting and no doubt we will be hearing more of this.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control throughout the town was excellent on the day of adjudication well done with your litter awareness campaigns together with the schools litter programme and activities such as clearing of illegal dumping; these have made an important contribution to Cavan's litter-free status. We wish you every success in your plans for the clean-up of the Cavan River and the car litter awareness campaign, in fact we would be very interested in hearing more about the latter as it is a problem common to most of centres throughout the country. Ensure that litter is segregated for recycling after collection.

Waste Minimisation:

The town seems to have more than enough recycling points. The Recycling Awareness Campaign might now be complimented by encouraging householders and businesses to carry out individual waste audits and explore opportunities for minimising waste. You have not mentioned composting in your submission, this might be an area to explore to enhance your performance under this heading.

Tidiness:

Kerbs to footpaths throughout the town were for the most part grass and weed-free, you're scuffling activities have paid dividends. Well done on the cleaning of existing signs and the provision of new ones together with road markings. Good luck with the proposed community Graffiti Reduction programme and the proposed Clean-up at the Protestant Graveyard. A number of commercial premises were in need of development to their curtilage areas, remind business owners of their social responsibility to pay particular attention to their roadside presentation.

Residential Areas:

Well done on the launch of that 2008 Estate Enhancement Grant and Awards initiative, this has made an important contribution and will continue to do so' to the overall appearance of residential units within Cavan town. Container planting together with a high standard of maintenance to green open spaces is a feature of estates and town houses around the town. Cavan enjoys a variety of dwelling types ranging from detached premises to apartment buildings and it is good to note that many period town houses still retain their original features. The installation of stone cut name plaques in estates will be a welcome addition to Cavan town. A number of roadside boundary walls at the entrance from the Killeshandra road were in need of cleaning/painting.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads to Cavan town were to a high standard of presentation and a number of commercial premises at the entrance from the Dublin road were particularly admired for the quality of their landscaping; other approach roads were admired for their nicely maintained and expansive green open spaces. Welcome signs look well as are street nameplates throughout the town, other items of street furniture such as lampstandards seating and litter bins looked well also. It was good to note the wirescape free aspect of some streets.

General Impression:

Cavan town continues to improve in its presentation in the competition each year. The town is growing rapidly

and this poses many challenges for the committee; perhaps one of the most important of these is to integrate new residents into the life of the community and welcome them into the TidyTowns initiative. It is good to note the Best Youth Project category in your Estate Management Grant and Awards initiative, no doubt this will pay dividends over the coming years.