

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Caltra** Ref: **191**
County: **Galway** Mark: **246**
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	35
Landscaping	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	9
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	246

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Caltra to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition and the Caltra Community Council is obviously doing good work for the village. On adjudication day major road works were under way. However the adjudicator would like to assure you that this has not impacted in any negative way on your marks for this year. Very basic information was given in the entry Form again this year. It is important under each category to identify clearly any new projects undertaken for the year in question as this is in part what influences the allocation of any additional marks. You mentioned that you would like to meet the adjudicator during the visit but this is not possible for any entry anywhere in Ireland. No 3 Year TidyTowns Plan was submitted this year and you might consider drawing up such a plan for the period 2009 – 2011. You would find it a great help in guiding your work from year to year. Do remember that the TidyTowns Handbook gives great information and suggestions. Both new Committees and those who have been involved in the competition for some time will find this booklet really useful.

The Built Environment:

The Weigh Bridge and the beautiful stone house beside it were excellently presented and this is a most eye catching feature in the village. Good Limestone walls are a characteristic feature of Caltra and they were in a good state of repair. It is important to preserve these walls in a new development work that may take place in the village. An interesting stone faced property was noted at the corner in Caltra. Such buildings at road junctions are especially important in design terms as they readily catch the eye. Again this year the Church and the School were presented to a good standard. Well done to the School on the Green Flag. Are you now working towards a second one?

Landscaping:

The landscaping on approach road was well done but it was the area by the Grotto that was really admired.

The plants and flowers here combined so well with the grey of the Limestone. Hard and soft landscaping does not always combine well but here it certainly does. Other baskets and tubs in the village added welcome additional colour and interest. At the Ballygar road junction it is suggested that at the landscaped area at the entrance to the estate that kerbing be provided here to divide the road surface from the landscaped area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

No projects were identified under this category in your Entry Form. Do consult the TidyTown's Handbook from the TidyTown's Unit as this will have many ideas that would be of interest to your Committee in respect of this category. You mentioned the development of the School Garden in the future but did not give details.

Litter Control:

Again no new initiatives were highlighted in your entry. Some litter was noted on the Fohenagh road but otherwise a good level of litter control was apparent.

Waste Minimisation:

No work was identified under this adjudication category in your entry. Again the TidyTown's Handbook will have suggestions for you to consider. You also might ask to talk to the Waste Minimisation Officer in Galway County Council.

Tidiness:

On the Fohenagh road a field with a number of steel containers was noted and it would be great if these could in some way be screened from view. Coming back down this road towards the T junction a corrugated iron roof on the right needed to be painted. The dumping of materials at the landscaped area at the Mountbellew road junction should be discontinued.

Residential Areas:

Some road boundary walls to private houses needed to be painted. At the estate on the Ballinasloe side of the village excellent landscaping was noted at the entrance. However the large green area in the estate needs additional trees.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Fohenagh road some of the verges were a little uneven but good verges features on the Castleblakeney road. The high trees that line this approach to Fohenagh are really most impressive.

General Impression:

It was a pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Caltra for the first time. Good luck with your TidyTown's projects for 2009 when we look forward to visiting you again. In 2009 we look forward to receiving a comprehensive entry and hopefully a 3 Year TidyTown's Plan for Caltra.