

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Carrigallen** Ref: **424**
County: **Leitrim** Mark: **211**
Category: **B** Date(s): **25/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	23
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	27
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	10
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	211

Overall Development Approach:

Carrigallen is welcome to the National TidyTowns Competition in this its 50th Anniversary year. Thank you for your submission; well done on your involvement with all sectors of the community and with your liaison with schools, success in the TidyTowns Competition is based on the community working together to a common goal. We note your plan to develop the Mass Path for amenity and wish you success in its implementation. The town enjoys an attractive layout and overall presentation however at the time of adjudication there was a lot of work in progress and a number of sites awaiting development. Log on to the TidyTowns website at www.tidytowns.ie for useful information on participating in the competition.

The Built Environment:

The area behind the garage at the crossroads which appears to have been an old Esso garage is an important focal point in the town and hopefully will be developed appropriately in the not too distant future. A number of buildings were presented to a high standard, the Kilbracken Arms Hotel, Mitchell's Bar and Restaurant, the Day-Care Centre, the Garda station, and both churches together with the national school. The town centre is made up of handsome two-storey buildings the majority of which are well painted in an attractive colour scheme. Shopfront windows are attractive but some are spoiled by the indiscriminate positioning of window stickers and posters, try to discourage this. Try to eliminate redundant and dated signs.

Landscaping:

The Lakeside Amenity area at the entrance to the town from the Cloone Road is nicely developed and landscaping is attractive. Tree-planting behind the Barley Field residential development is noted also and landscaping on the road to the church is acknowledged and admired. Planting is suggested to enclose the commercial premises located beside the Jet Wash premises. Your maintenance of green areas around the

town is excellent and flower displays in hanging baskets and other containers were admired. Favour native species in future planting schemes as these are supportive of wildlife

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

It is good to note your close liaison with the local Gun Club who advise on threats to wildlife such as illegal dumping and wildlife work necessary. The environs of the Handball Alley are poorly presented. A survey might be undertaken to identify existing flora and fauna and the results featured on all- weather vandal-proof interpretive panels at locations around the town; this will serve to promote community awareness of wildlife and will also offer an opportunity for protection in the event of future development.

Litter Control:

Well done on your regular clean-ups and the support you receive by the schools, the schoolchildren deserve a big 'Thank You' for their work. We note your regular contact with community wardens regarding the dumping of large items of waste such as machinery, cars etc and your activities regarding having these removed as quickly as possible. The overall standard of litter control within the town was good at the time of adjudication with not too many lapses. You might consider the undertaking of a litter survey to identify the type and source of litter, this will enable you to devise better litter management strategies. No doubt all your litter collected is segregated for recycling.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on the recent Clean-up with the Foroige students and their work in segregating collected materials. The recycling point itself was neatly presented however weed growth in the immediate environs were unsightly. The ultimate goal under this heading is to reduce the amount of waste produced in addition to recycling so at some stage a Community Waste Audit might be undertaken to establish the amount of waste being produced and to devise strategies to minimise this.

Tidiness:

Sporadic outbreaks of weed growth were noted at the Lakeside Amenity area and fly-posting featured on a litter bin here. It is good to note you have the help of the FAS workers to maintain footpaths and that you are working with the county council to complete the stretch footpath opposite the Church of Ireland premises. Modern Design Hardware is poorly presented, as it occupies an important site in the townscape it should always be presented to a high standard. A few untidy sites on the Killeshandra road into the town were in evidence however we note that you are working with owners of sites to have them tidied up or redeveloped. McGees Garage and other buildings look untidy as do a few corrugated roofs.

Residential Areas:

The Barley Fields residential estate together with the Church Manor estate look very well and infill development in the town centre was admired also. Houses located opposite the Garda station also enjoy a good presentation. The rear facade of some houses which face onto the main street could be improved. Well done on the maintenance of green open spaces in estates.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

We note the planned residential development for back areas and look forward to its completion as this will be one less problematic site in the town. It was good to note that the town centre is mostly wirescape free with only a small amount remaining and that street furniture particularly lamp- standards are attractive. Overall the quality of road surfaces and footpaths are quite good however some poor road edges are still in evidence. A speed limit sign was obscured by a overgrowth on the road to the church and the same point can be made in relation to the nameplate on the Moyne road. The church car-park looked well but landscaping here was in danger of being overtaken by a quite long weed growth. Are the Christmas lights left up throughout the year? It suggests neglect which we know from your submission and performance is not the case.

General Impression:

Carrigallen has experienced a lot of residential development in the past few years and a growth in population, hopefully new residents will take over responsibility for the maintenance of their own areas and become involved in the Tidy Towns movement. The overall appearance of Carrigallen is one of an attractive town where work in progress is still a feature but we look forward to its completion and to charting your progress from there.

