

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Emyvale** Ref: **1042**
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **204**
Category: **B** Date(s): **03/08/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	204

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Emyvale to the 2008 Tidy Towns Competition. Your adjudicator was delighted to have the opportunity of visiting Emyvale for the first time. This is indeed an attractive village though the traffic issues highlighted in last year's Report do not seem to have been resolved. Traffic calming measures are certainly required as a matter of urgency. Do remember that the Tidy Towns 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:

Many aspects of the built environment in Emyvale are quite attractive and it was noted that quite a number of buildings appeared to have been recently painted. This applied to both private houses and retail premises. Well done to those involved on the effort that they made. The Donagh Oratory again this year caught the eye with its simple yet effective presentation. The black and white presentation of Hair Alert is effective. Using a red and white colour scheme the red and white bed and breakfast premises near the top of the village was very eye catching and was so well presented. Some gable walls needed to be painted together with the grey and white building near the top or northern end of the village. The newly painted Pump House near the Playground looked extremely colourful and this is now an attractive feature of this part of Emyvale. The area to the front of the Ferndale building near the top of the village needed to be tidied.

Landscaping:

The 2007 adjudicator suggested additional tree planting and additional trees would make a great difference to the Main Street of Emyvale. The landscaped area near the top of the village at the low white wall is a small area but the landscaping presentation was effective and uncomplicated. In various parts of the village hanging baskets added a splash of colour that was visually effective. Main road landscaping was impressive.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your adjudicator really admired the wildlife area by the attractive riverside. The Wildlife Panel here is most interesting but the metal framework needed to be painted as some rust was coming through. The seats at the riverside here are a great idea but some of the seat supports needed to be painted or otherwise treated. Have you considered having a wildlife survey of the Emyvale carried out? This should examine the plants, animals, trees and insects etc of the area with a view to preserving their existing habitats.

Litter Control:

Litter Control would appear to have disimproved since the 2007 adjudication as litter was noted in a number of areas in and around the village. At the estate opposite the Oratory litter was present and some overflowing litter bins were noted. On the Aughnacloy approach quite a quantity of litter was noted near the 50 KPH signage. A lot of litter was noted in the general area of the Playground and what a poor example this gives to young children. Some litter was also evident at the GAA property.

Waste Minimisation:

This is a relatively new aspect of the TidyTowns Competition and is concerned with the reduction of the amount of waste generated in Emyvale and making sure that as much as possible of the remaining waste goes into effective recycling. Have you considered having a Waste Minimisation Workshop some evening in 2009 that would involve your Emyvale community? The County Council might be able to support such an initiative?

Tidiness:

On the Mullan road the long timber fencing on the left needed to be treated and at the GAA premises the large steel container needed to be painted. A large water pipe here did not seem to be serving any useful purpose. Green corrugated iron fencing near the Riverside Childrens Services building also needed to be painted. Weed growth in this area also needed attention. On the Monaghan approach road two large advertising signs on the verge on the left took a little from the overall presentation of this approach road. Some broken fencing at the junction to Bragan Scenic Drive needed to be repaired. On the Main Street the area to the front of the house under construction looked a little untidy.

Residential Areas:

On the Monaghan approach attractively presented private houses with good landscaping added to the overall presentation along this road. The unnamed estate near the river would be improved by some additional landscaping colour. At the estate opposite the Oratory some work was needed on some front garden areas. At the northern end of the village some excellently presented private houses caught the eye and the majority of these were freshly painted. At Oriel Park some road boundary walls needed to be painted. On the Mullan road well presented private houses featured.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The two main approach roads were excellently presented and the standard of maintenance here was high. The landscaping incorporated into wide grass verges looked extremely effective. On the Monaghan approach a little verge damage was noted at the village sign. Further along the display of the old stone mileage signs are an unusual and interesting feature. On the Mullan road attractive young trees and the narrow grass verge are attractive features. Quite a lot of roadside weed growth was present on the Bragan Drive approach road by the stone wall at the river.

General Impression:

It was a great pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Emyvale for the first time. We wish you well with your TidyTowns plans for the year ahead.