

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Inniskeen** Ref: **556**
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **250**
Category: **B** Date(s): **02/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	35
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	34
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	250

Overall Development Approach:

The Inniskeen Tidy Towns Committee of nine are commended for their monthly meetings during the winter months and then fortnightly as the spring approaches. Your ongoing co-operation with Monaghan County Council and Monaghan Partnership will be critical into the future as you progress in the competition. It is also refreshing to note that the children from the village play an active part in your activities and are no doubt a huge help when it comes to litter picking. This adjudicator is glad to note that you were happy with the 2007 results and hopefully you'll be pleased with the 2008 marks also! You should consider preparing a three year plan in order to increase marks in this section. It need only be a few pages long detailing new projects each year and continued maintenance in existing areas. The completed application and map were of great assistance during adjudication.

The Built Environment:

The Church of Mary Mother of Mercy was admired for its crisp appearance and well landscaped grounds and car park. The heritage monument indicating Kavanagh's birthplace looked well. McNeelo's is presented to the highest standard with fresh paintwork and pretty window boxes. The adjoining building was still undergoing renovation and we look forward to its completion. Magees and Duffy's too looked well. The Pitch and Putt Clubhouse, Credit Union, Patrick Kavanagh Centre and School are neat in appearance. The playground was brightly painted and no doubt a much used facility in Inniskeen.

Landscaping:

A number of incidental landscaped areas were admired at various throughout Inniskeen. Colourful seasonal blooms added a welcome splash of colour at 'Kavanagh's Birthplace'. Finnegans cross was nicely presented. What appeared to be a new diamond shaped flower bed was prepared at Dun Ard but had not yet been planted. Maintenance work was ongoing at the pitch and putt course as the adjudicator passed and is a credit

to those who maintain it.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Fane River Walk is a wonderful amenity to have in a small village like Inniskeen. You expressed that you have run out of ideas with regard to this section of the competition. Have you considered conducting a flora and fauna survey - perhaps the school children could help? It may also prove useful to contact the county Heritage Officer or Environment Officer for assistance. Last years report indicated that you intended to conduct research into a wildlife sanctuary opposite the new church - is this still going ahead?

Litter Control:

Your committee were out in force as the adjudicator passed on a showery morning, and indeed the standard of litter control was excellent. A few pieces were evident along the Fane River Walk and in the river itself. Many of the bins in the village had been recently whitewashed and were spotless.

Waste Minimisation:

There is considerable scope to improve marks in this section. For instance, do you segregate litter from your regular litter picks and bring them to a local recycling facility? Does the school participate in the Green Flag Programme? As mentioned earlier the County Environment Officer should be able to assist you in this area. Please let us know if you hold the public meeting on recycling and reducing waste as indicated in your application form.

Tidiness:

The red and white public seating and village signage was cleanly presented. The signage at the Community Centre (mentioned by last years adjudicator too) and Troscan was quite faded and would benefit from a fresh coat of paint before TidyTowns 2009. Similarly, the gate into the Fane River Walk displayed algae growth and should be cleaned before next years competition. The sign along the walkway had the same problem. A damages metal fence at the bridge should be repaired or replaced as it is quite dangerous in its current condition.

Residential Areas:

The cottages beside the Credit Union looked well and on in particular was admired for its pretty floral display. A rose Garden was in full bloom opposite the Credit Union and was greatly admired. The residences in Dun Ard are for the most part neat in appearance. You are commended on your gardens competition which no doubt is a great motivator in the village to take pride in the appearance of ones property.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads are well presented throughout Inniskeen. In particular, neatly maintained verges were noted on the side road from the Mary Mother of Mercy Church. Footpaths are generally weed free and in good condition. The new footpath at Dun Ard looks well but the road was a little rough in places.

General Impression:

You are congratulated on your continued success in this competition. It was a pleasure to visit Inniskeen and you progrss will be keenly observed in the years to come. Well done!