

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Villierstown** Ref: **240**
County: **Waterford** Mark: **255**
Category: **C** Date(s): **04/07/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	36
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	24
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	2
Tidiness	30	21
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	255

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Villiarstown to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. Villiarstown is a very attractive village and the adjudicator was visiting for the first time. Thank you for the simple but effective and helpful map. With a committee of ten people TidyTowns obviously enjoys strong support in the village. The adjudicator suggests that you prepare a simple 3 Year TidyTowns Plan for Villiarstown that will guide your work and progress in the Competition in the period 2009 – 2011. 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:

It was good to note that progress is being made on the derelict sites and in 2009 we look forward to seeing further developments. The Cross is an interesting monument but the adjudicator was of the view that it was being dominated by the white railings. Matt black might be a better colour for the railings the next time that they are to be repainted. Is there any possibility of getting the clock going again as it seemed to be frozen in time at 6.56 pm? The adjudicator noted that work had not been done on the John Treacy stone as suggested by last year's adjudicator. Can you make this a project for 2009 as this great sportsman deserves much better? One of the attractions of Villiarstown is the extremely wide main street and this gives character to the village. The combination of colours used at the School is very effective.

Landscaping:

No new projects were identified in your entry form for this year. The adjudicator suggests that you keep your landscaping as natural as possible. The area at The Green was much admired where hard and soft landscaping combine very well together. The contrast of the grey Limestone and the colourful plants is effective. At the village cross-roads the small landscaped area with the white railing caught the eye. At the top

of the village the extensive grass areas with the trees was very well presented and is a nice introduction to the village from that side.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Hopefully you will make early progress on 'The Rock Walk' project. No other projects were identified in your entry form but you should consider the wildlife potential of the river. A survey of the local wildlife perhaps involving the School would be a good starting point. The area at the Quay should be an excellent place for observing the wildlife of the river and banks. At the Quay the small picnic area would be improved if the white timber fencing was repainted.

Litter Control:

The Bring Centre was neat and tidy but the official signage was missing. The hedging behind the seat here needed to be cut back slightly. The big clean up at the end of May has been effective as litter control in Villiarstown was quite good again this year.

Waste Minimisation:

There was no indication of new projects under this adjudication category for this year. The adjudicator suggests that your Committee has a look at 'The Race Against Waste' booklet that should be available from the TidyTowns Unit. This contains many ideas for your Committee to consider for 2009. Just one or two new projects each year can make a big difference.

Tidiness:

Hopefully the discussions with the ESB and Eircom will result in all your cables going under ground for 2009. It would make a big difference to the appearance of what is already an attractive village. Is it possible to screen the three steel containers at the village cross roads? On the road to the Quay / Riverview the wire fencing on the left needed to be repaired and the concrete posts repainted. On the Cappoquin the white railing at the stone pillars needed to be repainted. Perhaps matt black would be a better colour? Some of the litter bins would be improved if power-hosed. A few gable walls needed to be painted together with one or two corrugated iron gates.

Residential Areas:

On the road to the Treatment Plant some road boundary walls needed to be painted. Riverview was attractively presented and the colour used here is bright and effective. Very good landscaping is a strong feature of Riverview. On the Dungarvan road good individual presentations caught the eye together with effective landscaping. A few road boundary walls along here needed to be painted.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads were excellently presented especially on the road to The Quay and Riverview. The adjudicator noted that the hedges seemed to have been cut recently and reminds the Committee that hedges should not be cut between the months of March and August inclusive to allow for the needs of wildlife. Indeed the severe cutting of the hedges here seemed a little out of character with the rural nature of Villiarstown. The welcome sign on the Clashmore road was attractively landscaped.

General Impression:

It was a great pleasure for your adjudicator to visit Villiarstown and we wish you well with your projects for next year. Villiarstown has the potential to do well in the Competition but a planned approach to your work over a three year period will be of great help to your Committee.