

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Fenagh** Ref: **1440**
County: **Carlow** Mark: **218**
Category: **B** Date(s): **23/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	27
The Built Environment	50	31
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	14
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	218

Overall Development Approach:

The adjudicator would like to welcome Fenagh to the 2009 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your detailed entry form and the excellent map – congratulations to the local artist! It is great to see that FAS continues to support your work. Your committee of fourteen is quite large, what is positive and reflects the high level of local support for Tidy Towns. The adjudicator was very taken by the phrase that you used in your entry 'We make all our work enjoyable' and that is the great secret of enhancing community involvement in Tidy Towns. The level of agency support that you enjoy is excellent and this will become even more important as you progress in the Competition. Congratulation on the introduction of Irish into your Newsletters. The enclosed Newsletter was read with great interest. Thank you also for the photographs. It is obvious that there is a great sense of community spirit here. The adjudicator was so sorry to read of the demise of your Christmas Tree and hopefully this was an isolated incidence of ingratitude.

The Built Environment:

The work that you have done around the Hall and Church was reflected, in what the adjudicator saw, and well done on that progress. The restoration of the small house, beside the Church, was admired and it is great to see such work underway. The entrance to the GAA has indeed improved, but a little graffiti on one of the walls needed attention. The adjudicator was delighted to read that you monitor Planning Applications and you are the first Committee this year that has advised the adjudicator of that process. The two hanging baskets at The Hunters Rest were admired, as was the suitable colour scheme here. The T. Kearny premises was also admired. The simple crystal clear signage here is warmly commended and the black, and white colour scheme looked really splendid. The Granite wall at the mortuary well reflected the Granite cottages up the street. At the Surgery the road boundary wall needed to be repainted.

Landscaping:

The adjudicator strongly supports your idea of planting for year round colour, but of course, the Spring bulbs are also important for early colour. The landscaped areas at the Borris and Bagenalstown junction looked really colourful, and were being well maintained. Right along the Main Street, the flower containers added additional colour.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The river is a great resource for wildlife and the cleaning programme was an important project, as is the planting of native species that will encourage wildlife. By the football field, the new wildlife area behind the chain link fencing was examined and it would be great to have a wildlife information board in this area, in a safe location from the traffic point of view. Have you considered a wildlife survey of the Fenagh area?

Litter Control:

Well done on your performance in the Litter League and the School Poster Competition is welcomed. The Litter Patrols on the approach roads are important and approach roads were well presented from a litter control point of view. Litter was noted inside the GAA gate on the right hand side. The Bring Centre was tidy, but the official signage was not in place. Overall, the adjudicator was happy with the level of litter control noted on the day of the visit.

Waste Minimisation:

The encouragement of the shops and pubs to become involved in waste reduction is strongly welcomed, as is the drive to reduce the usage of plastic in Fenagh. The Newsletter is a great way of spreading the waste reduction message and perhaps, each edition should give five new suggestions on how to reduce waste. The adjudicator was impressed by the fact that you are looking to the other areas to see what measures they have taken in this regard.

Tidiness:

Your emphasis on weed control in Fenagh is welcomed, as weeds on road boundary walls and kerbs can look quite untidy. The screening on the Myshall road is effective. The majority of the signage was clean and easy to read.

Residential Areas:

The Granite cottages really caught the eye immediately on arrival in Fenagh and the majority of these properties are excellently presented. One timber door, opposite the car park, was noted that needed to be repainted. The architectural detailing around windows and doors adds much to the special appeal of these houses. The removal of the disused sign at Wellbrook estate has been noted. Very attractive grass areas were noted at Ashgrove, though some branches needed to be trimmed back from the internal road. At Granite Court, it was great to see that the stonework at the entrance reflects the use of Granite elsewhere in Fenagh. At Woodglade, the very long timber road boundary fencing needed to be treated and a repair was necessary in one area. The very long linear orientation of this estate is unusual and the adjudicator would have favoured a more concentrated development that would not echo ribbon development.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Along the Borris approach, the distant Church spire draws the eye effectively through the village. The three new Welcome Signs are well presented and are a great addition to Fenagh. The approach roads were well presented and created a satisfactory first impression of this attractive village.

General Impression:

Well done on your progress this year and good luck with your work for 2010 when we look forward to returning to you again.