

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Sallins** Ref: **384**
County: **Kildare** Mark: **224**
Category: **C** Date(s): **09/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	30
The Built Environment	50	25
Landscaping	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	224

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2009 competition. Thank you for your considered submission and map. Your organisation is growing in strength and experience. As you gain more tangible success on the ground I am sure that your numbers will also grow. Your connections with local business groups, the County Council, and local schools are all important ways for you to have influence and manpower on the ground. Already you are experiencing the growth of community spirit.

The Built Environment:

Your built environment located to the side of an historic canal is a great asset. You have already had some successes. The Lidl site looks well managed and landscaped on the day of adjudication. The derelict site between it and the main road is now embanked somewhat hiding it. The planters around the town looked clean and the painting of the derelict cottages is a very good method of lessening their visual impact. The railway station buildings are a fine example of Victorian railway architecture and hopefully will soon be restored and imaginatively reused. Another great asset to the community is the old school, now a community centre. It is a building, no doubt of sentimental value to many in the area and also has great potential. The buildings around the canal were well maintained and in particular both pubs, The Railway House and Flanagans are lessons in how to conserve Victorian vernacular architecture. I enjoyed seeing the old water pump at the end of Church Lane.

Landscaping:

You have made a good job of brightening up the area with the many planters and the roses in the stone bays at the canal and on the bridge. Placing window boxes on the painted derelict cottages was an inspired idea.

The landscaping around the new complex beside the railway station looks well designed and in time will mature to become a substantial asset. The young trees at Castle Fen will also mature well. The shrub rose beds at St Brigid's also caught my eye. Well done on your determination to see that the trees at Sallins Park take root. Keep challenging the vandals and replace any damaged tree that you can. I enjoyed the planted boxes outside of "The Flower House".

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

I enjoyed your planting of wild roses along the canal. The canal side is a great amenity and also a potential rich habitat for nature and a wild life resource. Perhaps contact with the your local school will reveal the correct people to help you start. Also do not be shy about contacting the Inland Waters and Birdwatch Ireland. They would have lots of helpful suggestions about conservation along the canal area. The canal of course is potentially your greatest and most educational wildlife amenity. The canal walk is already a delight and I look forward to it's improvement not only as a strollers way but as a habitat supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

Litter Control:

I was impressed by the lack of litter evident around the central village area on the day of my visit. The central area has a good number of bins which are evidently being used and well maintained. Perhaps the managers of the pubs and take away at the canal might increase their vigilance about cleaning litter from outside of their premises. Your contact with the local scouts has had two benefits. Education for them and of course they repaid with their enthusiastic cleaning and weeding of the shrub beds. Continue with the good work and perhaps establish contact with local schools. If you can spread your anti litter message there you will have done good work. I noted quite an amount of litter in the car park of the railway station.

Waste Minimisation:

Congratulations on finally getting your bring banks in the new SuperValu complex. Keep up contact with local business to promote regular clean ups and use of the bins. Waste minimisation however is not just about safely disposing of our waste it is about reducing the amount of it we produce. I am pleased that you have already achieved some degree of waste segregation. Waste minimisation is a popular and welcome idea for most people. It is often as simple as giving people the information and facilities which they need to become eager practitioners. I know you are at the early stages yet, but you are on the right path. Best of luck.

Tidiness:

The part purchase of the mower was a very good investment. It has kept the town in trim and evidently raised peoples spirits about their town. Your work on the wall opposite Gala is very important. Keep up this good work and continue painting over the graffiti. The derelict garage in the ground of the railway station car park and the abandoned embankment between it and the road are a challenge that I hope the authorities rise to.

Residential Areas:

I was impressed at the standard of presentation of the various housing estates around the town. One small and very new development called Liffey Walk and Liffey Way is very impressive. The design of the houses is modern, crisp and there is a good use of materials. The layout is thoughtful and cleverly slows traffic to a safe speed. While new the landscaping appears to be well thought out. I think that this estate will look better each successive year.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Your contact with the County Council has paid off, The regular cleaning is evident. Chapel Lane is neat and clean In general the quality of the roads is good, and pavements and verges are largely weed free. The slan abhaile signs are a nice touch.

General Impression:

The village is looking well. I enjoyed my visit. You are doing a great job with a good team. I look forward to your continued progress, keep up the good work.