

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **New Inn** Ref: **1279**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **212**
Category: **B** Date(s): **09/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	31
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	12
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	212

Overall Development Approach:

New Inn is heartily welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2009. Congratulations on taking this brave step in enhancing the appearance and quality of life in your village. Let's hope that this is the start of a mutually beneficial relationship. When entering the competition in the future you will be required to fill in the entry form. Describe the work you have done in the previous year and detail the projects you have planned for the coming year. A hand drawn sketch of the village, which highlights the places / projects you regard as being most important for the Tidy Towns Competition, is a great help to the adjudicator. Include a 3-5 Year Plan of activity for your group. The exercise of compiling such a plan will enable you to set immediate and medium term targets for yourselves, would help you decide which local bodies and agencies would assist you with your various projects. As all projects need funding, you would set down in your plan how you propose to fund these various projects. As well as that there are marks involved! The best of luck.

The Built Environment:

New Inn is a village with a wide variety in the built environment section. Church buildings, schools, period houses, businesses and residential housing are the main headings. The Church buildings are in a very good state of repair. The convent is a fabulous building with a most attractive garden. Both the schools add to the sense of pride that permeates the village. There is a beautiful older residence as one approaches from Cahir. One supposes that the building behind the grotto is a former police station and it is in good repair. The pubs enhance the village vista. There are some attractive shop fronts. In general, the houses on the street add design and colour to New Inn. You have some challenges also. Some of the unoccupied houses are becoming derelict. You must face this problem as their appearance does impact on the beauty of the village. Some of the painted walls need to be power washed. Discourage the use of neon lighting. The grotto is in a pivotal position and is being given the attention that such a position in the village merits and requires. Rockwell Rovers can be proud of their entrance. There is one major monument to a heroine of times past.

She has been honoured by a previous generation. The adjudicator could not get the gate into the memorial to open. On the other hand, the Community Centre is a building to be proud of. It is very well maintained and the surroundings are a credit to whoever cares for it. The tennis courts must be your pride and joy at present and may well produce another Wimbledon champion.

Landscaping:

New Inn is blessed with many mature trees, which not only add to the wildlife of the village and provide shelter, they also provide colour and bring a dignity to the village. Your challenge in this section will be to identify spots around the village that could be enhanced by planting. Would a corner or a gable benefit from a shrubbery or some planting? A good example is the landscaping opposite Barron's bar. Both the pubs are improved by the tubs of colour and hanging baskets. Think in terms of all year round colour. When planning your landscaping projects keep in mind the welfare of birds and bees. Do not undertake too much, as landscaping needs to be maintained and the next group may not have your green fingers.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This section is proving to be a challenge for many groups. There may be people in your community who have an informed interest in wildlife and who would be willing to assist you with this section of the competition. Google biodiversity on the internet and inform yourselves of the possibilities.

Litter Control:

There is some litter in New Inn, but litter bins are being used also. In this section, attempt to reduce the amount of litter as well as clearing it up. This will be an area in which you can engage with the schools to great advantage to both your group and the school. Your first task should be to promote a litter awareness programme. Check out the anti chewing gum campaign in the folder sent to you by Tidy Towns. Join the National Spring Clean. Awareness, reduction, collection are the three by words in this section.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done on the bottle bank which is being kept in good condition. It is our experience that this section causes difficulty for many groups. It could benefit your committee to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. Such a study would stimulate new waste elimination projects for you. Remember that the emphasis in this section is not on litter control, but on minimising waste in your community. You could encourage the school to try to achieve Green Flag Status. The pupils would learn much about recycling, reusing, reducing and composting. They would be involved in waste minimisation projects and would bring their new found skills, their new found knowledge and their new found enthusiasm home to the generations at home.

Tidiness:

Overall, New Inn presents a tidy image. The road verges on some roads look neat because they have been mowed. Some of the signposts are in good condition, others need to be painted. Any pole or post not in use should be removed. Discourage the big advertising bill boards. Clematis or pyracantha would look much better. Weeds along kerbs and unmown open spaces give an untidy appearance. Take one step at a time in this section. Traffic through a village can cause much unease. You are on a busy road. Your roundabout and one way system are most helpful in calming those drivers who have scant regard for the welfare of the local population.

Residential Areas:

New Inn is blessed in this section. Private houses are presented with great pride. Very often the owners tend to the area outside their house also. Encourage them to do so. The appearance of the estate would improve if the grass was kept under control. The kerb at the entrance needs some attention. An attractive name stone would bring an elegance to the estate also.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The first impression the traveller gets of a town or village is through the approach roads. A welcoming name stone with some landscaping is a great start. Walls, hedges and road verges that are being tended to are the next step. Check out all of the approach roads and prioritise. At present, some of these roads are most attractive. The mature trees are a great help.

General Impression:

These are exciting times for your fledgling group. You have taken the first step, the brave one. Now its down to work. But Rome was not built in a day. You have a beautiful canvas to work on. The fruits of your work will bring pleasure to many.