

Tidy Towns Competition 2011

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dunlavin** Ref: **517**
County: **Wicklow** Mark: **218**
Category: **B** Date(s): **14/06/2011**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2010	Mark Awarded 2011
Overall Development Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	50	30	30
Landscaping	50	30	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17	17
Litter Control	50	24	25
Waste Minimisation	20	6	8
Tidiness	30	17	18
Residential Areas	40	26	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	211	218

Overall Development Approach:

Your adjudicator welcomes you to the 2011 TidyTowns competition. Your participation in the competition is important to the TidyTowns movement. Thank you for the filled out entry form, and map of Dunlavin. I read over your plans in the entry form, and some of them are interesting, notably to improve the graveyard. It is great to find that you have a new Fás scheme, which could greatly enhance the area. The 9 committee members ensure work is monitored and planned. Your contacts with Fás and Wicklow County Council ensure that progress is made and sound advice is available. This is a good communication system that you have in place with the community, which is very important. Contacts that you have with the schools is well worthwhile and a sound investment in the future well being of Dunlavin. I note you rely on some very dedicated people and find it nice to get improved marks. One way of doing this could be to enlarge your committee. Could I, with respect, suggest that you call a general meeting for some night in the coming winter and invite all clubs, sporting and others organisations. Ask them to put forward suggestions that would make Dunlavin a better and safe place to live in. You then could have a second meeting to incorporate these new ideas, where practical, into your own plans and this could form the basis for a three to five year plan.

The Built Environment:

There is an impressive built environment in Dunlavin. The Market House is an impressive old stone building steeped in tradition. The Church of Ireland is a splendid church building with an impressive tower, and this is an old building but it is great to see it in such wonderful condition. I loved the traditional stone wall outside and the graveyard is in supreme condition and congratulations to all concerned with its upkeep. The Catholic Church is well presented with a very good railing outside, but this church looked a bit faded and will shortly need to be painted. All the schools are in sparkling condition and great to see the green flag outside. The small Garda Station looked pretty with some nice shrubs outside. The business houses are all well presented and I admired Burkes Bar, Tynte House, Kennedy's shop, Corrigan's Woodcraft and Garrets Bar. This is

probably a bit unfair to leave out some other well presented shops.

Landscaping:

Some great shows of landscaping are in Dunlavin and the open spaces of the parks are excellent. I must congratulate you for the attention to planting all those new trees of different varieties and they give a wonderful freshness to the town.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The pure mile competition is an excellent competition and you are complimented for participating in it. There is an abundance of wildlife all around Dunlavin in all those great mature trees plus of course the new trees. You could gain extra valuable marks in this category by enlisting the services of people familiar with outdoor pursuits to tell us all the wildlife of the area. The graveyard on entering the town is in very good condition with that splendid stone wall by the roadside.

Litter Control:

I read last year's adjudication remarks and he reported some problems in this area of the competition. I am pleased to report that you have made improvements this year. There were some small bits of litter, but not of a significant nature. Litter bins were well serviced. There is great commitment shown when the local people pick up litter strewn about by other people. Do you partake in the national spring clean up?

Waste Minimisation:

Great to learn of the arrival of the new mulcher. The composting in the school is a good initiative. With the children and teachers involved in the green flag programmes there is a better understanding of the well being of the local environment.

Tidiness:

Generally speaking the town was tidy. The derelict houses do have an adverse effect on the surroundings. The old GAA entrance is in a disgraceful condition, and this is a pity as that area coming into the town is in sparkling condition.

Residential Areas:

The housing estates are all well presented and the theme of planting trees is continued in them. The green areas offer opportunities to the people to get out and enjoy themselves. The town houses are all in an orderly state of repair.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The roads around the town are in good condition. With the well trimmed grass margins one gets a welcoming feeling coming into the town. I admire some excellent stone walls along the sides of the roads in many areas. I could see that you have kept the road signs clean and distinct.

General Impression:

You are doing a lot of progressive work in Dunlavin. I think there is great potential in this town to do very well in this competition in the years ahead.