

# Tidy Towns Competition 2012

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballyneale** Ref: **630**  
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **257**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **16/06/2012**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2011</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	30	31
The Built Environment	50	34	35
Landscaping	50	37	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15	16
Litter Control	50	40	41
Tidiness	30	20	20
Waste Minimisation	20	6	6
Residential Areas	40	28	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	34	35
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>257</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2012. Your committee of ten members and other volunteers are to be commended on your efforts particularly this year because of the wet spring and summer. It is good that you receive support in your community, from public agencies in your area and SuperValu. Thank you for your map of the village. Sorry to have missed your Field Day on the 17th, we saw some of the preparations and hope that it went well.

### The Built Environment:

The old graveyard is surrounded by a high stone wall which adds character to the area. The grounds were well maintained with the exception of the area within the old church ruin which is overgrown. The walls in the church were well painted and the cemetery was in good condition. Stone walls in the village were well maintained. The two pumps were painted. The school was well painted and the grounds looked well with shrubs and flowers. The community had mature trees and was well maintained. It is enclosed with an attractive timber fence and the entrance with its nice flanking stone walls is attractive. The stone built hall with its red brick arch over the windows looks very well. The Thomas F Kiely Memorial is an important feature in your community and it is appropriate that it is in a prominent location in the centre of the planting opposite the church.

### Landscaping:

We have taken particular note of the planted area opposite the church. As you know this received well deserved very positive comments from the adjudicators last year. The herbaceous and bedding plants are to a very high standard. It was noticed that the barbed wire was replaced by an electric fence. The pruning of trees at the school is not in accordance with correct practice. Topping is not recommended. You may have to

remove them in future years if they develop hazard branches. There are good specimen trees in the margin opposite the school. We noted the large plant containers placed throughout the village. There is an opportunity to plant wall plants such as Cotoneaster against the curved wall on the corner opposite the church to soften the impact of the concrete blocks.

#### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

We note that you have taken up the suggestions of last year's adjudicator in planting whitethorn at Harney's Cross. Your environment is surrounded by a wealth of flora and fauna. It would be an interesting project for the school children to carry out a survey of the flora as a means of developing their interest and knowledge of their surroundings.

#### **Litter Control:**

Well done on your efforts to control litter and promotion of anti-litter policies. Very little litter was evident on adjudication day. A paper cup discarded near the church and plastic bottles were seen in the old graveyard.

#### **Tidiness:**

Ballyneale is a very tidy community. The boundary walls were clean with no weeds developing and they enhance your environment. The only problem area was the lane at the side of Josie O'Neills which has weeds and the dirty roofs need attention.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

Congratulations to the school for achieving the green flag. We note that you recycle cans, batteries and phones. It would be a good project to estimate the volumes of material being recycled in your community.

#### **Residential Areas:**

A house and garden on the Ballypatrick Road looked very well especially the established trees. Weeds were taking hold on the gravel outside. In Castle View, a small housing scheme, there were some weeds in the paving.

#### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The village sign was clean. The Fáilte signs were noted with some interesting planting arrangement. On the road from Ballypatrick a rusty gate needs attention and there are weeds along the road. Near the hall, we noted the fine traditional stone wall mentioned in your application.

#### **General Impression:**

You can be proud of your achievements in Ballyneale. Well done on your success to date and we wish you good luck for the future.