

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bansha** Ref: **631**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **243**
Category: **B** Date(s): **20/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	39	39
The Built Environment	50	31	32
Landscaping	50	31	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	21	21
Litter Control	50	29	32
Tidiness	30	15	15
Waste Minimisation	20	6	6
Residential Areas	40	27	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30	31
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	400	235	243

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2012. Your committee of twelve members and other volunteers are to be commended on your efforts particularly this year because of the wet spring and summer. You are obviously hard working and enthusiastic and have good support in the community and from FÁS. We thank you for your three year plan and map. We note that you have done a good job on completing the application form

The Built Environment:

The old church was in good condition but the old cemetery was overgrown and the gates were rusty. There was evidence of on-going work. The new cemetery and church were fine. The Village Green is a lovely feature with mature trees and the grass was well maintained. The large sycamore tree is a major feature here. The information sign looks old and needs replacement. O'Heneys car park and pub were fine. The shops in Main Street were well painted. The pump was nicely painted and the seat could do with a touch-up. The gable at the house on the approach was being painted. The school had a great painting job after 30 years and looks very well. Aim to plant some trees in the space behind the wall. We noted some flagpoles which we expect will be adorned with green flags in years to come. The GAA complex was clean and tidy and no litter to be seen. More tree planting would be of benefit. The boundary was well planted with shrubs and ivy. Opposite the school there was an interesting well maintained building that was unidentified. If this is the Parish Hall that was renovated and new railings erected, the work was well done and we suggest a nameplate on the building. We noted the renovation works taking place on the Old Mill and the Parish Hall. The Grotto was clean and well planted.

Landscaping:

Plant containers were on display outside the wall of the old cemetery. The old stone wall is a fine feature here and does not require such adornment. On the Village Green it is suggested that the shrub/flower displays be combined with signage to enhance the signs, to save on maintenance and to reduce clutter. This was done elsewhere on the raised beds such as the new one beside O'Heney's. Lismacue House entrance had rocks outside the gate which would best be replaced with a planted feature. The ash trees on the Cahir Road were a good choice, they were well planted and staked. Large green boxes with plants on footpaths were noted on the edge of town. These are unnecessary and require maintenance. They also take up space that may be needed for people with disabilities. Focus instead on planting flowers in the centre of the town.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Appreciating your local wildlife resources is vital in order to achieve under this category. In this regard researching and raising awareness is more important than 'doing' at the early stages. Biodiversity is under threat globally and sadly Ireland is a part of this trend. Learn why this is important and discover areas designated for conservation close to you at www.npws.ie or www.noticenature.ie. Habitats of value include specimen trees, hedgerows, treelines, stream, woodlands and wetlands. Some or all of these are likely to be present in your town and they should be mapped. Learn how their quality can be enhanced through careful management. Try to list the plants and animals to be found there and recognise their significance (native, protected, or alien invasive?). This information can be fun to gather and can involve the school or other interested parties. We hope your Lavender and Buddleia attract lots of butterflies.

Litter Control:

Your litter control is very effective. In general Bansha is a very clean town. It is good to know that school children are involved. Any litter in your community is associated with areas that are untidy.

Tidiness:

A "Land for sale" sign was dirty and should be cleaned. We note that you are actively pursuing the improvement of an unsightly area on the village edge.

Waste Minimisation:

We note that you segregated the litter collected on clean-ups. The proposed project with the schools will raise awareness. The Bring Centre was clean and tidy. Do you know what quantities of material are being recycled in your community?

Residential Areas:

Church View and Close estates were nicely painted and well kept. Galtee View with the flower boxes made by a local youth and Cluain Árd estates looked well. Radharc na hAbhainn has a good estate sign, was clean and tidy. There is scope for more tree planting.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

In general the approach to Bansha is very good. The Aherlow Road looked very well with planting on both sides and the farm yard boundary was well painted. A freshly painted house beside O'Connors was noted.

General Impression:

Bansha is progressing well in the competition despite heavy traffic and we wish you good luck in the future.