

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Boherlahan** Ref: **632**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **258**
Category: **A** Date(s): **22/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	50	33	33
Landscaping	50	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23	23
Litter Control	50	37	38
Tidiness	30	22	23
Waste Minimisation	20	8	8
Residential Areas	40	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	255	258

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2012. Your committee of ten members and other volunteers are to be complimented on your efforts particularly this year because of the wet spring and summer. We note that you have good local support. Have you sought help from the local authority, leader or partnership? Thank you for your sketch map and pictures of the area and for designating the various areas to be visited. As we suggested last year it is advisable to prepare a 3 Year Tidy Towns Plan for Boherlahan using the ten adjudication categories as a basis for the document.

The Built Environment:

KV Electrics looked clean and tidy and the white wall frontage was effective. The grass was mown. The Parochial House is a superb building. The Bianconi mortuary, the park, cemetery and church all look very well and are well maintained. We noted the outdoor Stations of the Cross. The view of the lovely parish church was marred by the view of a rusty hay shed to the side. The car park was well laid out and well planted. The bilingual information sign was most interesting and is well maintained. The Bianconi Coach House is an important feature but the front of the building needs painting. It is a shame to see that Hennessys is closed and its gutter falling down. The rusting gate takes from the lovely roses. The Parochial Hall was well painted but its roof is in need of attention and the appearance of the concrete block wall can be softened as done successfully elsewhere in the village. O'Dwyer's store was fine and we noted the Ring Fort beside it. We look forward to it being highlighted with signage. The GAA grounds have attractive gates.

Landscaping:

You are to be complimented on your approach to planting. You have some fine specimen trees on the roadside and you have taken the correct approach to the use of shrubs. We noted the efforts to screen a

concrete block wall opposite KV Electrics with a range of climbing plants such as ivy and vines. This should look well in years to come. Perhaps the addition of Cotoneasters would assist in your efforts. The walls are planted with Cotoneasters and there is scope to add more at the entrance. We noted the flowers in containers on the boundary wall of the Bianconi Park and a gentleman was busy planting more flowers in the church grounds. Remove tree stakes that are no longer needed before they cause damage to the stem.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

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. The wildlife area that you have designated would be useful for this purpose.

Litter Control:

Your litter control efforts are working. There was some litter at the Cashel Road approach to the village and a little elsewhere in the village. We note your intentions to work with the school children to increase awareness of the problem.

Tidiness:

Boherlahan in general is a tidy village. An abandoned site with temporary fencing detracts from the area beside KV Electrics. There is an old farm building beside the Crescent housing estate which is an eyesore. A torn poster for an event which took place in Thurles last February is still on a pole opposite the church. There was graffiti on a wall behind some houses.

Waste Minimisation:

We note from your submission the problem of maintaining tidiness at the Bring Centre and on adjudication day there were some bags of material left beside the containers. Presumably this is a matter that relates to the frequency of emptying the containers. However, other than that, the Bring Centre was fine as was the clothing bank. St. Isadore's National School was proudly showing a green flag; it was clean and tidy. Have you determined the extent of recycling that takes place in Boherlahan?

Residential Areas:

The Crescent housing estate has a fine stone entrance, the grass is well maintained and we noted the new trees. One dead specimen should be removed. Talbot Park is a clean and tidy estate. The established trees and planting are well cared for. Despite being unfinished An Ullord estate behind a nice stone wall boundary was clean and tidy. St. Joseph's Avenue was clean and tidy, there was no evidence of litter or weeds. West Meadows estate was well planted with good standard of tree planting and grass maintenance. Some stakes no longer required should be removed from the trees before they cause damage to the stems. Good luck with your plans to have the unfinished estates more presentable.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Most signs were clean with the exception of the one at Ardmayle junction and the brown directional signs on a pole opposite the church which are in need of cleaning. There were no fussy flower beds to be seen in the village, the grass along the roads was cut and trees were of good quality. Some planting needs thinning, especially at the junction with the Ardmayle Road. To the left of KV Electrics there is a poor quality entrance and a hedge which appears dead. There are concrete block walls in the village the impact of which would be softened if some wall plants were used as was done elsewhere in the village.

General Impression:

We understand your frustration with progress but overall you can be proud of your achievements to date in Boherlahan. Good luck with your ongoing projects and we look forward to your entry for next year.