

Tidy Towns Competition 2012

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lattin** Ref: **1164**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **263**
Category: **A** Date(s): **21/06/2012**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2011	Mark Awarded 2012
Overall Development Approach	50	38	39
The Built Environment	50	28	28
Landscaping	50	39	39
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27	28
Litter Control	50	37	38
Tidiness	30	15	16
Waste Minimisation	20	9	9
Residential Areas	40	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	34	35
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	258	263

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2012. Your committee of eighteen members and other volunteers are to be commended on your efforts particularly this year because of the wet spring and summer. For the size of your community, you are fortunate to have such a large number on the committee. Your constant vigilance is reaping benefits. It is good that you receive support in your community and from public agencies in your area. Thanks for supplying a map which we found very useful. We note that you are working with South Tipperary Development for the preparation of a plan for your village.

The Built Environment:

In general you have taken great care of the built environment. The Church is a fine building and the wall and railing were in good condition. The cemetery was clean and tidy. It is suggested to screen or paint the block wall near the cemetery and likewise the cemetery gates. The Tumulus is an interesting feature for your community and should be better promoted? The houses opposite were well painted. The Tennis Courts looked well. Climbing plants against the wall would improve the appearance here and the gate needs painting. A footpath to the village would be a good link and add safety and convenience. The Cullen Road has a nice stone wall. Two derelict houses were noted, one of which is being repaired. Hanging baskets adorned a vacant house which was well painted. Ahern's Tavern was well painted and festooned with window boxes and containers. The seat to the left with tubs of flowers was very inviting. The large Grotto was well maintained and the Lavender and Ox-Eye Daisies looked great. The old cemetery was well maintained but please remove the pruned branches. The GAA Club has a nice roof but the concrete wall dominates. Consider planting against it to soften the impact. Despite having uncovered the old well on the Tipperary Road, it is still difficult to see. Your intention to erect a timber sign is a good idea.

Landscaping:

Lattin is surrounded by trees and hedges but there is scope to add some street trees in the centre of the village where the road is wide enough to accommodate them. This would help to reduce traffic speed. If you decide to pursue this idea, remember to choose one species such as lime or maple to make better impact. Trees could also be planted outside the tennis courts to create an avenue there. The lavender at the Grotto is very effective and is more pleasing than the use of annuals which are more expensive and time consuming. The planting on the road from the cemetery is in need of pruning.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

We noted the conservation of lichen, ferns and ivy on the grotto roof to support wildlife. This may need attention in future years to ensure the stability of the stonework. We hope that you had feathered visitors to the bird boxes near the Parochial House. 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:

We note your participation in the National Spring Clean and the fruitful outcome and presume that this will be repeated next year and you are to be commended for the regular clean-ups and painting. Keeping students aware is a way of passing on civic pride to the next generation.

Tidiness:

You disguising of some vacant buildings is a good effort at improving the tidiness of your community. Some debris was observed on the site beside P. Ryans and an old timber fence there is rotting. The house and gate attached to Ryans needs painting. To the right side after the gap we noted that someone has painted the empty house and garden wall. Can the gable be the next project? An empty steel pole opposite the Tumulus should be removed. A rusty farm shed on the village side of the tennis courts needs attention. Cable ties on the poles from elections should be removed. There were some old plywood signs lying behind the cemetery wall. The recycling area had some litter.

Waste Minimisation:

We note the segregation of material from the Spring Clean work and its disposal. Have you information on your community's usage of bring bank centres in your area and the volumes of materials being recycled from these facilities.

Residential Areas:

Occupied houses are well cared for and you have taken measures to improve those which are unoccupied. We noted the hanging baskets on the wall at Church View estate.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Tipperary Road, the farm gate was painted, the pump area was clean and there was a nice stone wall surround. The adjacent stone wall and sod capping was interesting. We noted the new footpath and the litter bin was clean. The new village entrance signs looked clean and the grass was trimmed.

General Impression:

Lattin is generally well presented and you are actively pursuing further enhancements. Good luck in your endeavours and we look forward to your submission in 2013.