

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glaslough** Ref: **609**  
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **278**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **23/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	45
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	41
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	15
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	9
Tidiness	30	21
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	35
General Impression	10	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>278</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Glaslough Tidy Towns Committee is a sub-committee of the Glaslough Development Association, and this relationship seems to work well for you. You are in a unique position given the estate towns continued close working relationship with the Leslie family. The ongoing and future development plans make for fascinating reading and it is with high hopes that this adjudicator looks forward to Glaslough's future, as every effort appears to be being made to ensure that work takes place in an integrated and appropriate manner. The fact that Monaghan County Council have designated the village an Architectural Conservation Area is marvellous to hear! The preparation of a Framework Plan is a very good idea. The objectives in relation to the provision of services and infrastructure to both local residents and visitors such as the coffee shop, art gallery, visitor car parking ATM, bakery, affordable housing, Post Office etc., seem sensible and appropriate. The work in relation to cross border Famine walls sounds very interesting. The cross sectional nature of your workforce from schoolchildren to businesses is commendable. The fact that Foroige and the National Schoolchildren are and integral part of your workforce is to your credit, as is the assignments of specific areas for individual volunteers.

### The Built Environment:

The buildings of the village, both pubic and commercial were in a well maintained state on the day. The National School is the first building the visitor sees on the Monaghan approach and it didn't fail to impress! It was freshly painted with attractively maintained grounds and proudly sported its Green Flag! The gates had yet to be painted. The Oakland Centre was also fresh. Daybreak was well presented and the Parochial Hall opposite looked very elegant, although its sign could be repainted. Archway Antiques looked well. The Hunting Lodge and Gatelodge to the estate were very impressive – work to the latter is incomplete but the façade to the street looked well with its (recently renovated?) windows. The Pillar House Hotel would benefit from a repaint before next year's competition, but the retention of its original sash windows is commendable.

**Landscaping:**

The landscaped areas of the village continue to impress. All of the fine grass verges were well maintained. Many premises sported hanging baskets and window boxes. The green areas to the front of both the existing Tullyree Housing Estate and the new Castle Leslie Houses diagonally opposite at the Village Green were in good condition, the latter sporting some attractive new trees. The stone beds, gazebo, flower tubs, with overhanging trees to the latter looked very impressive. The planted bed to the front of the school looked very cheerful. The monument and water fountain were well maintained.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The wetlands scheme is a wonderful idea but had yet to take place on the outskirts of the village. This sounds like a similar scheme to one in areas of County Waterford. The proposals for walking routes and equestrian routes through the estate sound interesting and are looked forward to. The wildlife information board in the centre of the village was well maintained and informative.

**Litter Control:**

First impressions seemed to indicate that the village was litter free. However, closer inspection revealed a few items on the road leading to the Victorian Laundry and Ard Bannagher, on the Monaghan approach to the village, and opposite the shop on Main Street.

**Waste Minimisation:**

The school's participation in the Green Flag initiative is impressive. The recycling facility was well maintained. The collection of recycling at households is commendable as is the promotion of the local civic amenity site.

**Tidiness:**

The village was generally neat and ordered. A few minor problems would be the painting of the gate at the playground area in the centre of the village, the yard and gate behind the Pillar House Hotel and the phone box and gateway opposite which were in need of a fresh coat of paint. A rough area (previously a car park?) opposite Green Gables estate was a little rough. The retention of the old fashioned petrol pumps at the crossroads is commendable, but they would benefit from a paint. Don't forget tin roofs to sheds in rear areas.

**Residential Areas:**

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator, the new housing schemes are, for the most part, integrating well into the fabric of the village, as their styles are quite inoffensive. Do make sure that high standards are maintained in terms of materials, workmanship and landscaping. Materials should be in keeping with ones already used on existing buildings in the village.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Monaghan Road was well maintained and afford the visitor a view to the freshly painted school tucked in behind the hedgerows. The verges had been cut but the dead grass had yet to be removed, further out but were beautifully maintained beneath the fine stone walls of the Castle Leslie Estate. In terms of signage, the junction sign opposite the new houses was a little grubby, although other signage was quite fresh in appearance.

**General Impression:**

Glaslough is always a pleasure to visit and the adjudicator was delighted to see that, despite a great deal of development in the village, it has still retained its character and integrity. Good luck with all your future highly impressive works!