

Tidy Towns Competition 2008

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glaslough** Ref: **609**
County: **Monaghan** Mark: **284**
Category: **B** Date(s): **02/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	45
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	41
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	11
Tidiness	30	22
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	36
General Impression	10	9
TOTAL MARK	400	284

Overall Development Approach:

The beautiful village of Glaslough is welcome to the TidyTowns Competition 2008! Thank you for your comprehensive entry form, maps and supporting material. You have a good sized committee of ten and are lucky to have thirty volunteers to help out when necessary. Ongoing association with Fas, Monaghan County Council Glaslough Musical Society and others is commended and no doubt plays an important role in your plans. You mention that you have a good working relationship with the proprietor of Castle Leslie which attracts many visitors to the village and this is crucial. It is also laudable that the school and the young people in the village are included as this often draws in additional help from parents.

The Built Environment:

Clearly the Castle plays a critical role in Glaslough and it and its grounds are maintained to a high standard. The Pillar house Hotel looked fantastic as it was freshly painted and all of its signage was relevant, in a good state of repair and clean. The public seating was cheerful in red and black and green and black and the Bus Stop too had been freshly painted. Can something be done about the phone box? The fountain provides a wonderful focal point in the village, is it operational? The presentation of the old petrol pump was wonderful. The Coach House looked well however the broken sign should be replaced or the brackets removed before next year's competition. The Oakland Recreation Centre was immaculately presented and the playground too was fresh in appearance, and indeed busy on the day of adjudication. It is refreshing to note that you took the advice of last year's adjudicator on a number of issues with the School in particular seeing remarkable improvements.

Landscaping:

Crimson blooms draped from hanging baskets on the lampposts added a welcome splash of colour. The flower bed on the Emyvale road was in full bloom but was a little untidy. The flower bed at the school looked

wonderful on the day of adjudication. The Gazebo at Tullyree was greatly admired and provides interest from the Monaghan approach road.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Wetlands project seems to be progressing well. Is public access permitted here? The development of the Heritage Trail starting in the Castle is a good one as most visitors will presumably be staying there or in the Pillar House.

Litter Control:

Your ongoing efforts in this area have been noted and there were a number of well maintained bins spotted in the village. Litter control was reasonable on the day of adjudication however there were some problem areas. Some litter was spotted at the seat near to the Pillar House which is a pity as there is a bin only a few metres away. There were odd pieces noted along the street and on the Emyvale Road. In addition to this there was a scattering of what appeared to be take-away wrappers in the parking area at Green Gables. Finally, in and around the playground and the nearby copse had quite an amount of litter here and there and this is unacceptable.

Waste Minimisation:

It is good to note that you have reached a suitable agreement with Monaghan County Council as to the upkeep of the Bring Bank and it has to be said it was looking marvellous on the day of adjudication. The school is to be congratulated yet again on their Green Flag Status! Well Done!

Tidiness:

The approaches and main Street area are for the most part neat and tidy in appearance. The Car Park at the Coach House is quite disappointing as it has an untidy appearance. Please ensure to clean the Playground fingerpsot before next years competition. The repainting of public signage was noted and you are commended for this - you missed one on the Emyvale Road though! The seat at Ard Banagher should be repainted before next years competition in a similar colour scheme to the village seating. Kerbside weeds on the Caledon Road detract from the appearance of the area. A vacant site in the Main Street is unfortunate and a flaking gate with a 'no parking' sign should be repainted.

Residential Areas:

Green Gables looked particularly well and it is refreshing to note that it blends in with the traditional architectural style of the village. The hanging baskets were admired at the residence adjoining Daybreak. Undoubtedly the Castle Village Houses have been finished to a very high standard and add hugely to the Monaghan approach. Many of the residences on the Emyvale Road were admired for their sweeping gardens. Tullyree, Ard Banagher and Cul Banagher all looked well.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Monaghan Road in particular was admired for its long stretches of well maintained grassy banks. Please ensure that the weeds on the Caledon Road is addressed before next years competition. Ideally the verges on this road should be cut back as far as the gates of the equestrian centre, this was not the case on the day of adjudication.

General Impression:

Glasslough is certainly an wonderfully beautiful village. This adjudicator hopes to see it reach the highest levels in this competition in the not to distant future. You're well on the way. Gook Luck!