

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cappawhite** Ref: **635**
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **257**
Category: **B** Date(s): **14/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	34
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	33
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	17
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	257

Overall Development Approach:

Congratulations to the Cappawhite Tidy Towns Committee for participating in the Tidy Towns Competition 2009. Thank you for your submission and for your map. A hand drawn sketch of the town, which highlights the places you regard as being most important for the Tidy Towns Competition, is a great help to the adjudicator. Well done on your Three Year Plan. It must be heartening for you to be able to tick off the projects as they are tackled. You must have the support of your community and of the local agencies, if you are in a position to carry out your various projects. The photos suggest that you have much support. It is encouraging that you have influence with the school. Have the school attained Green Flag Status? From where do you get your funding?

The Built Environment:

Cappawhite is a village that has gone through many phases in its history. In recent years, many businesses have closed. The chain stores have arrived. This effects the individuality of shop fronts. Thankfully, T Ryan or W Hayes will live on in the folk memory as they are remembered over their places of business, a natural connection with your heritage. Plaques on buildings show that you are proud of people who have achieved. Dereliction is faced up to by you. A blue painted wall brings colour to a house that once brought life to Cappawhite. Some of the living could assist you with the use of either a power hose or a paint brush. The village centre is a gem. An attractive sweep into town creates curves and opportunities for landscaping and amenity. Coughlans window boxes lift the spirit. The businesses light up the place. Armshaws and Treacys deserve special mention. But many of the houses on the street bring dash and colour too. Your civic buildings also enhance the village. The GAA/Tennis Court area is a joy. The Health Centre looks very well. What a pity about that beautiful old Church. The Credit Union and the Garda station are a bit shabby. One must not forget the beauty at the grotto.

Landscaping:

Landscaping is the keynote activity of your group. Your landscaping helps to light up the village centre. It compliments the variety of painted colours on the buildings. The labours of generations of Tidy Towns Committees are evident in raised beds and mature trees throughout. Your contribution will also last with your planting. But for summer colour, you have provided well with tubs, barrels, half barrels, window boxes and hanging baskets. The results are fabulous. One thought - that yield sign in the village centre is a bit unfunctional and unattractive. What can you do to improve it? The garage has landscaping islands begging to be planted. They could so compliment the work at the GAA alongside.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is a section with great potential for your group. The suggestions of last year's adjudication should be taken on board. There may be people in your community who have an informed interest in wildlife and who would be willing to assist you with this section of the competition. Your natural amenities are well signposted and attractively posted throughout the village. Glad to see that you have the welfare of the birds in mind with your planting. But a survey would tell you which birds and at which time.

Litter Control:

Your litter control measures are certainly paying dividends. Except for Crescent Court, which was badly littered; Cappawhite was litter free. The regular litter picks are intensive and expensive work, but worthwhile the effort. Your photo shows five determined litter pickers and the fruits of their labour. Litter reduction and litter elimination are the key approaches. Your plan for 2010 is 'to create awareness by public consultation'. Very important. On examination of the litter in the estate, it is mainly young people litter. Focus your efforts in that direction.

Waste Minimisation:

The Bottle Bank is a credit to all responsible. There is no evidence of the CCTV or of dumping on this day. Segregation of the waste is a worthy project. Well done to the school on its Green Flag Status. Well done also on the solar powered school signs, a waste minimisation activity. Remember that the emphasis in this section is on waste minimisation, not the treatment of the waste created. It could benefit your committee to study the booklet 'Race Against Waste'. Such a study would stimulate new waste elimination projects for you. Remember that the emphasis in this section is not on litter control but on minimising waste in your community.

Tidiness:

Great efforts are being made to present Cappawhite in its greatest splendour. The work is obvious. Weeds control can be seen throughout. Camouflaging of eyesores is an art. Residents look after their fronts. The centre of town is a cable free zone. The work on stone walls improves appearance. The modern street lanterns bring a mainland European look to the village. However, there are some problems. The maintenance of signage in many instances needs attention. On one approach road, the Cappawhite sign was hidden. Eircom need to be contacted about their property. There is a beautiful old post, painted green, which must be removed or preferably enhanced. Road surfaces are a big problem throughout. Verges on the Tipperary Road need a coherent plan. What about the village pump?

Residential Areas:

Cappawhite is blessed, in that there has been much residential building over the years. Not only do the inhabitants of the houses bring life and business to the village, but their pride in their houses, gardens and front boundaries bring colour and interest on all of the approach roads to town. The three housing estates compliment all the above. There is hope for the future of Cappawhite. The GAA field will be used and its cheers reverberate throughout the village. All three estates are most attractive. Crescent Court needs to tackle its litter problem. The terraces on the way into the village are a joy in their character, maintenance and colour.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Some of the approach roads do Cappawhite justice. The approach roads from Doon and from Tipperary are full of interest. Residents care for their fronts, the walls and hedges provide interest, the maintenance is of a high standard. There are problems on the Cashel approach road. The use of tree trunks is an individual style and very unusual, but creates interest and is environmentally friendly. The landscaping around the cemetery gives an immediate belief that this village is cared for.

General Impression:

Cappawhite is a lovely, busy rural village with that traditional atmosphere. Such a village presents many challenges to a TidyTowns Committee. Change of use of buildings, deserted buildings, consequent dereliction are gnawing problems, but must be confronted. The design of the village centre, the attention to maintenance and landscaping help overcome the obvious problems and present an attractive village experience.