

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TIMOLIN**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	26
Tidiness	20	9
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	169

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed questionnaire and map which was helpful during the course of adjudication. The adjudicators wish the committee every success in this competition. They look forward to the provision of your detailed five year work programme. The problem with the derelict buildings opposite the Sportsman Inn was noted by the adjudicators but wasn't too bad at time of adjudication. With the new emphasis on the competition there is greater emphasis on tidiness and litter control and in this regard Timolin is going to have to work harder - the adjudicators accept that the high volume of traffic passing through the village has a major impact in this regard. It is up to the residents and business premises to approach the County Council in order to put in place traffic calming measures as soon as possible. Good luck in this regard.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The adjudicators noted a nice brook by the Pewter Mill. Could perhaps anything be done to enhance this area to make it more accessible. Try to encourage more wildflowers, particularly off the main approach roads. Tree planting is another area that can enhance wildlife and you might consider this. In general there is more scope for nature conservation. A good starting point would be to identify wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what type of birds, animals and fish etc. these attract. You could invite local environmental experts and groups to advise you and provide you with specialist information you require.

LANDSCAPING

More work is needed under this category. At St. Mullins Church, the main entrance was nicely presented, although the rear graveyard area needs more attention. The grass verges at the bend on the main road also need more attention. A nice wall was noted opposite the residential park and this might be enhanced or improved over a number of years and could be one of many projects to be carried out by the Tidy Towns Committee. Along the Main Street, until traffic calming measures are put in place you should identify areas for landscaping improvements in your work programme. The grassed area in the residential park was relatively well maintained.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Pewter Mill and its grounds were very well maintained, well done. The front of the Church grounds were well maintained, as was the perimeter parking area. At the car park of the Willows Restaurant, although litter free and good effort was noted with the shrubs, the gravelled surface does take from the overall appearance. Try to remove the rubble/gravel from the car park as soon as possible. The signage at the car sales garage could be more traditional, the shrubbery was relatively well presented. At the school, a new development or extension was taking place at time of adjudication. A very good effort was noted at the Sportsman's Inn with its use of flowers, well done. The Oak Leaf was also well presented. The forecourt area of the Food Market was a bit untidy due to the dusty surfacing, try to work on this for next year, the adjudicators do however commend their efforts with their use of flowers.

LITTER CONTROL

Generally, litter control management was quite good throughout the village this year in light of the high volume of traffic passing through here. The dumping of gravel etc. in the car park area might perhaps be removed.

TIDINESS

Obviously, the presence of high volume of traffic is taking its toll on the village in terms that the grass verges needing more attention and many signs need to be cleaned/painted. Perhaps you might try to

screen off the area where trucks are parked. The adjudicators noted the telephone kiosk which was well presented.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Overall, these were quite good with excellent effort noted with many premises, for example, the premises to the right of the Sportsmans Inn and another house on the approach road from Dunlavin was noted for its presentation. Within the residential park itself, it was very well maintained on the left hand side; the right hand side, grass had been cut but the broken seat had not been replaced and long grass was noted around it.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approaching the village from the Pewter Mill it was relatively well maintained, try to avoid the use of weed killer. It was nice to see the new 30 MPH signs. Closer in, watch the grass growing up by the fencing on the right hand side. Approaching from Moone, the Timolin sign needs to be replaced ; the verges could have been neater and there is somewhat overuse of illegal advertising signs. The Dunlavin approach road was generally well maintained. From the north, the verges need to be cut back also and the area, generally, needs to be landscaped. Signage also needs to be replaced and/or cleaned. A nice stone wall was noted further in - it might be a project to develop this.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

While the village was generally litter free, it was unfortunate that due to the high level of traffic, it suffers from this and as a result the signage and premises had a very dusty appearance. Try to approach the County Council about traffic calming measures as soon as possible and include this in your work programme. In this regard, try to include a landscaping plan for the approach road verges. Good luck for 1997.