

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TALLOW**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	21
The Built Environment	40	23
Litter Control	40	27
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	181

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the very comprehensively completed application form together with the supporting visual impressions and the all important map, which contributed substantially on the day of adjudication. Tallow because of its attributes is ideally suited to benefit from the new emphasis in the Tidy Towns Competition. The rivers Bride and Glashaboy and incidental grassed areas such as at Bride Valley Stores and along the Youghal road provide ample opportunity to ensure a bird, wildlife and riverlife friendly environment. The plans devised for the Committee will help to structure and guide your developments appropriately over the next few years.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The River Bride is a great resource. Compliments to the Angling Club for their restocking programme. The River Glashaboy is not yet making the contribution of which it has the potential. Its treatment at West Street in particular should be examined to optimise the impact of this pleasant river. Flowers at the Grotto on the Youghal road seemed a little tired on the day of adjudication and there was a disappointing amount of weeds. The extensive use of hanging baskets, notably in West Street, was particularly beneficial and colourful.

LANDSCAPING

Your comments in regard to visually important Bride Valley Stores are noted. Flowerbeds before Tallow Enterprise Centre looked well but we would encourage more fulsome planting for optimum effect. The presentation on the Youghal road with the sculptured stones and excellent planting was a delight. The overall presentation of the Church grounds in Chapel Street left room for improvement. Additional planting is called for and there was a disappointing extent of spoil on view. The extensive GAA Ground walls would benefit from a similar treatment to that successful undertaken in Cappoquin, where appropriate planting has done much to soften the visual impact.

The presentation of J&G Joinery in the former school was excellent. The Veterinary Clinic on Old Road was very well presented. There continues a need here and at other locations on Old Road to complete the installation of front facing walls and entrance areas. The landscaping of many houses in West Street, with appropriate painting and flower baskets is a delight - notably the splendid house immediately to the east of the Glashaboy bridge. The flying of flags is particularly encouraged especially where, as at Flair Plastics, flag poles are already in position.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Tallow enjoys an excellent stock of handsome, traditional, vernacular architecture. A number of premises, not perhaps in themselves significant, do however contribute significantly to an overall sense of entity and cohesion for the centre which is totally pleasing.

The Bride View Bar which is visually significant was excellently presented. The very splendid standard of the entrance wall, still under construction for the new housing scheme is applauded. The Carnegie Free Library, St Patrick's Parish Hall and Kearney's Restaurant all caught the eye. The Devonshire Arms, Nora Hegarty House - Enterprise Centre - and the Credit Union House were all very well presented. The coat of arms over Lyon's Pub and the splendid floral display on No 8 Condon Street were small touches which contributed greatly to an overall pleasing vista.

The important John Boyce Alms Houses (both on the Youghal road) were very well presented. Lizzie Langton's Pub and the very good colourful display by 101 Wall Tiles in West Street are applauded. McGrath's Chemist and the new housing scheme on West End are worthwhile.

LITTER CONTROL

In general litter management was excellent throughout the centre. Especially noteworthy was the total absence of litter in New Street leading to the School area while Barrack Street, allowing for the volume of traffic and pedestrians, and Woodview Park also maintained a very high standard. The litter bins on display are of a good design but there is a need, we suggest, for more of them. Minor amounts of litter were noted on the Link road from Midleton road to the West End near the Doctor's Surgery.

TIDINESS

Many factors contribute to and/or detract from a general sense of tidiness within the centre. The Committee's efforts to promote tidiness and to motivate the general community is applauded. Waterford Foods' premises was very much improved but the entrance to the Shell Depot is still below par. The signage on the Tallow Community Centre was not well presented. Other signs looked out of place, for example, the Cork Examiner plastic sign on Lynch's at West Street and the large plastic sign on O'Brien's Brothers Car Sales. The attractive and neat presentation of M. Cunningham by contrast was a delight. Additional grass cutting was necessary at the public area of Woodview Park. The large old Church graveyard is also a major project commended to the Committee's attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private housing stock within Tallow was, in general, very pleasantly presented with a few projecting an excellent image. The house on Mill Road opposite the Church gate was outstanding, also No. 4 Chapel Street - yellow with green shutters - was a delight. The houses on the slip road from Midleton road to West End especially from Greenogue to the corner were pleasant and freshly painted, with a total absence of litter and looked extremely well.

The distinctive terrace of houses on West End with their unusual spilt-chimney are of particular import. Some houses were improved while more seem to be in decline. The integrity of the Terrace here is important. We note the new infill houses being built in the West End. The presentation of individual houses in Woodview Park varied substantially - some provided excellent private gardens. The splendid stone nameplate here is attractive. The Chapel Street shops with houses overhead were very pleasant.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The fine robust dry-fill random rubble walls on the Lismore approach from the River Bride are very significant and the early implementation of a refurbishment programme perhaps with the assistance of FAS and the County Council is strongly recommended. On both the West End and Youghal road there continues to be a need to establish a clear-cut division between the rural and the town itself. This can often be achieved by judicious treatment of village nameplate, signs, speed limit signs and the simultaneous cutting of verge and hedgerows.

Street signs generally were very well presented. There was spoil on sides of most approach roads but especially at the West End. The wall on this approach, although relatively recently repaired, again needs some attention. Because of its width, Convent Street would benefit from a more ordered approach to car parking, aided perhaps by judicious tree planting. Welcome is the practise of utilising incidental spaces for flower and shrub planting. For example, opposite the Surgery some flower tubs have been placed here but these would benefit from more fulsome planting. This is especially important with tub displays.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Tallow is an important commercial centre in West Waterford and the Community projects an agreeable air of order and neatness. There continues to be a number of aspects needing attention especially with the new emphasis in the Tidy Towns programme on the environment and encouragement of wildlife.

