

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TULLAHOUGHT**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	23
The Built Environment	40	22	20
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	38	38
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	186

Tullahought, Co. Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is indeed encouraging to read that your local Community, your Local Authority and FAS continue to support your Tidy Towns effort. From a judging point of view the strung out nature of the area continues to pose problems but you have nevertheless done excellent work. You received an in-depth report from last years adjudicator. Therefore the following comments should be read in the context of that report bearing in mind that we still have to adhere to the rules of the competition regarding the area of adjudication which has not changed from last year.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church and School are being very well maintained and the repairs to the wall in the vicinity of the Church were noted on adjudication day. This was an excellent project and enhances the whole area. Work in and around the Forge area appears to have continued and what has been achieved looks very well. Business premises in the village could benefit from a coat of paint.

LANDSCAPING

Your excellent work under this heading was noted. Your flower beds are being exceptionally well maintained and the hanging baskets were most impressive. The flower arrangements at the Grotto were also very tastefully done and very appropriate. Accepting that Tullahought is a very rural area there may however be an opportunity for the judicious planting of some trees and shrubs of a flowering nature which will give you colour on an all-year-round basis. These would have the effect of softening the landscape. In the event however please do take the advice of your Local Authority, Coillte or someone with experience of such planting so that the best locations and plants will be selected.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a new category in the competition with the emphasis on the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats and the environment. Woodland, rivers, ponds, hedgerows, grass margins, open spaces, graveyards and walls are important habitats. The Committee should try to identify the habitats in their area and then determine what appropriate actions should be taken to preserve and enhance them. Further guidelines appear in the Tidy Towns book with suggestions as to the type of initiatives you might undertake. In the event take the advice of a local wildlife expert or a member of your Community with experience in this area. Your initial efforts under this heading have been noted.

LITTER CONTROL

There was no litter to be seen on adjudication day. Congratulations to all concerned.

TIDINESS

The village was presented in a neat and tidy manner. The Car

Park looked excellent and was very tidily kept and completely litter-free.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Individual homes again looked well. Many however could do with some painting or whitewashing. Those that have done such work were excellent.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surfaces continue to be poor. You have been very successful with verge cutting which was very noticeable on adjudication day. Please however do not cut the verges too severely. Leave a margin for the propagation of wildflowers.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The comments made by the adjudicator under this heading last year still apply. It is extremely difficult to implement many of the requirements for the competition in such a large area. Perhaps some further concentration on the village centre would be more appropriate. However if you decide to do so you must balance this against the possible loss of goodwill which you now receive from other sections of the Community outside the village catchment area.