

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **TOURNAFULLA**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-97

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 26                | 23                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 27                | 27                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 23                | 23                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15                | 15                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 12                | 11                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 21                | 21                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 24                | 24                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 5                 | 5                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>179</b>        | <b>175</b>        |

## **Tournafulla, Co. Limerick**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for returning your completed form accompanied with your development plan. You are now well positioned to progress further with such excellent outlined suggestions for village improvement. However, the success of any plan is in its implementation and there is little evidence of any significant developments to date. Your task now as a committee is to motivate the Community into sustained action and try to co-ordinate your efforts throughout this long linear village.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Please refer to the comments in last year's report. The Garda Station is now quite drab and in need of painting. If the old school is still in parish/community ownership, you should think seriously about demolition and replacement with some other community service. The church and grounds are again excellent this year. The school is in need of more colour and some painting; however, the extension to the rear is one of the better ones attached to National Schools. The Resource Centre has potential to make a great positive impact on the village environs. It will probably be judged on how well you finish it - so we look forward to the 1998 adjudication. Many commercial operations could be improved with some landscaping as outlined in your plan. Pairc Mhic Carthaigh is excellently presented and highly commendable. The toilet sign is too obvious and should be relocated.

### **LANDSCAPING**

For the most part landscaping is confined to small areas and individual effort. You should, if energy permits, tackle a couple of sizeable open spaces and have them landscaped to make an impact. The many efforts on the approach roads are acknowledged. There is a great variety of tree planting throughout giving a great degree of freshness. You should try and acquire more street furniture appropriate to the village that would add atmosphere. This could be interspersed throughout the long village street.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

When landscaping the Resource Centre you will have an opportunity to promote wildlife by planting shrubs/hedges that will give feeding and nourishment to wildlife. Extra hedgerows, especially on the approach roads, will also assist wildlife.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

You have scored well in this section and despite a small number of litter bins, litter was not in evidence to any great degree. You also seemed to have escaped problems of indiscriminate dumping.

### **TIDINESS**

You have a problem with many small untidy open spaces that are projecting an image of untidiness. This also extends to many corrugated roofs in need of painting. Many boundary walls would benefit from painting and this should be tackled by the committee. You also need to retain the rural ethos of the village and in this respect developers should be encouraged to use traditional materials and design. You need to address the unsightly chip van. There is a good degree of weeds in evidence - some in the gutters that are keeping your mark down in this section. Try and spray in May for good weed control. The long distance between the school and Toor Bridge has many open gaps between buildings and some of these are poorly maintained.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

In general, houses are well presented and some excel. The houses at Fr. McCarthy Terrace could, with little effort, be improved, especially by giving attention to boundary walls. There are still some shops without identity which is a pity. Others, when replacing their signs, should not use plastic, which has not served us well and is now happily fast disappearing. There is a degree of inconsistency with the presentation of houses and this is a challenge for the Committee to improve. Again we would encourage you to refer to your own submitted plan.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Road surface is good and signage is clear and in some cases freshly painted. You should consider the erection of two Failte signs that, in themselves, if properly designed, would add colour to the village. You need to identify the cultural strengths of the area in a visual way if possible. Back lanes are now an important part of the competition and valuable marks can be gained by paying more attention to side and back entrances - for instance the church grounds have two entrances, both very well presented.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

You have done well and the village, despite a wet adjudication day, looked well with some attractive displays of flowers, shrubs and trees. You need to apply your efforts in a methodical way and select a number of suggestions from your plan for implementation each year. Good luck for 1998.