

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TINRYLAND**
County : **CARLOW**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 27-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	22	20
Landscaping	40	24	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	19	18
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	20
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	165	153

Tinryland, County Carlow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

As indicated in last year's report, Tidy Towns Committees are now being asked to produce a plan, which will guide their activities. It should be a very simple document, not more than three to five pages setting out your objectives and progress for each year. It should also include a very simple line-drawn map. Look on this plan as a guide for your committee and something which can be built upon over the coming years. Much of the expertise, which you may need, can be found in your own committee and in the wider community. I note that there are only four members on your Tidy Towns committee. Perhaps you could recruit a few more members from the sporting organisations that may be in your parish and also involve the school children in anti-litter campaigns. I note where you say that there is a lack of interest among the residents to keep working for Tidy Towns. The four people on your committee are doing great work on behalf of the community. No doubt they do appreciate your efforts in helping to make your village a pleasant place to live.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The main public buildings in your village are the school, church and shop. The school is very well presented and had some lovely window-boxes with a delightful selection of plants. The church had containers of flowers outside the gate and these were in good condition. As mentioned last year, the ball alley would need some attention. Perhaps another suitable use could be found for it. The pump is a nice feature and, again, it was presented to a good standard. The shop had some lovely flower displays on its windows and also the hanging baskets. Perhaps in time, the plastic sign will be replaced.

LANDSCAPING

The maintenance of green areas and trees throughout the village is very good. The open green spaces in St Martin's Avenue and the planted areas were weed free. The shrub and plant bed at the pump area was, again, weed free. Perhaps some more planting of trees or shrubs could be done here. The area around the 1798 monument had a lovely selection of trees and shrubs, is maturing nicely and in a few years should look very well. Well done to all concerned who have put in a lot of work keeping it weed-free. The open green space beside the car park would need some more attention. However, the grass was cut in this area. The seat on the green needs repair. Trees are most important plants yet few villages have enough of them therefore perhaps some could be planted on the

green behind the car park. Getting started may appear daunting at the beginning, but you may have somebody in the community who would have some information on this aspect. Two other areas on which you could work are the spaces around the pump and the 1798 monument.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wildlife habitats exist in the hedgerows, at the grass margins and in graveyards. Perhaps it is a project that the school could undertake later this year. Additional guidance is available in the Conservation Volunteers of Ireland leaflet and that body will be glad to give whatever advice and assistance it can.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was reasonably good and the only pieces to be found were in the car park. I would suggest that you liaise with Carlow County Council regarding the provision of litter bins. The council will be glad to be of assistance in this area. Perhaps you might also discuss a litter management plan with them.

TIDINESS

There was an absence of fly-posting and graffiti throughout. However, attention is needed in the control of weed growth at kerbs and at the base of walls. Encourage individual property owners to control this on a co-ordinated basis.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses at St Martin's Avenue were very well presented and the residents have pride in their properties being viewed in the best possible light. The houses opposite the car park were well presented throughout. The houses behind the car park and near the green area were well presented for the most part but some boundary walls did need attention. Individual houses have made a very good effort and their properties look well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The car park needs more resurfacing. It appears that some holes had been filled in recent times. It also needs a litter bin or two. The road surfaces appear to have been recently done and this is obviously something on which you have worked.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your village has great potential to do well in this

competition. You need some more help and perhaps a representative from each housing estate could co-ordinate a programme of work for you. Sit down this Autumn and set down on paper the jobs that need to be done. Your work is doing much to improve the presentation of your village. Well done to all concerned. Don't lose interest in this important work, which you are doing for the community as a whole.