

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TULLA**
County : **CLARE**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	23
The Built Environment	40	27	28
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	185	179

Tulla, County Clare.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for completed entry form and map which was helpful on the day of adjudication. We notice that you work with FAS, Local Schools, Angling groups and Clare County Council and this is to be welcomed. As you state, you have a serious problem in Tulla regarding derelict buildings throughout the town. This must be discouraging at present when there does not appear to be much happening on this front. However, there are certain developments taking place in Tulla - infill housing, the putting in place of the impressive stone near the Library with Tulla carved on it and the new private residences being built on the outskirts of the village. So keep up your endeavours and slowly a handsome town of Tulla will emerge.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Having said a handsome town will emerge, it will not emerge without assistance and we would suggest that you consult the Tidy Towns Manual which has advice on how to deal with dereliction in your area. Then meet with Clare County Council to endeavour to work out a plan of action in this regard. The main building in the town is the stone building of the Court House. As this is a focal point it should set an example by being pristine – windows painted and the clock working. The Church and Presbytery are well kept and the nearby Garden Centre is attractive. The Library and its surrounds are good, the Bank (although architecturally out of keeping) is well kept and a number of business premises are making an effort to contribute. The Mid-West Health Board building and the Garda station are well presented. Scoil Moculla Naofa 1953 is well kept and the Secondary School was acceptable though the grounds were a little weedy and one of the outdoor wooden tables was broken. The Maxol Service station is well maintained. The Eircom brown telephone boxes are in keeping with the town and fresh and clean. In general Tulla contains many buildings constructed of stone and with character throughout the town.

LANDSCAPING

The weather has not been kind to these endeavours this year and some of the planting such as at the Fairgreen near the Graveyard was in need of attention on the day of adjudication. However, planting near the Library was admired as was tree planting undertaken in various locations. Hanging baskets and window boxes contribute to the effort.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Grassed areas and tree planting contribute to this category.

LITTER CONTROL

Bins were noted in strategic positions throughout the town. The public bin collection was actually taking place during adjudication. Tulla was virtually litter free except for a sprinkling near the recycling bins which are well placed in the town.

TIDINESS

The town presented a mostly tidy appearance except for the derelict buildings mentioned previously. The kerbs and wall bases were weed free in most instances. Tulla appears to be a very busy town and there were numerous cars parked, rather haphazardly, throughout the town. Perhaps a strategy for better car parking could be worked out with the County Council.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses throughout the village and on the outskirts are contributing to the Tidy Towns effort. There are some new houses being built and the owners of these should be encouraged to become part of the tidy town endeavour. The new housing near the Church is attractive with a good colour scheme.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Signage throughout was good and the sign on the Quin approach noting what Tulla has to offer and giving a translation of the name as "The Windswept Hill" was admired. The banks were well cut back on approach roads. Some back areas in the town could do with some attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Tulla is a town with character and no doubt with the continuing work of the Tidy Towns Committee and other bodies will continue to improve in the years ahead.