

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TIMAHOE**
County : **LAOIS**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	--
The Built Environment	40	24	--
Landscaping	40	22	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	--
Litter Control	40	34	--
Tidiness	20	13	--
Residential Areas	30	19	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	--
General Impression	10	6	--
TOTAL MARK	300	191	--

Timahoe, Co. Laois

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Timahoe is welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your completed questionnaire and sketch map. The view of the round tower from approach roads set amongst mature trees is very pleasant. The information plaque giving details of walks in the hinterland of the village is a very valuable addition to Timahoe and very useful to the travelling public and visitors, well done on the work involved in organising this.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Buildings are well presented for the most part and the new 'Upholstery' premises looks particularly well, hopefully the mound of rubble located beside it will be removed as it spoils a good presentation here. The green area needs to be turned and re-seeded. The school is particularly attractive.

LANDSCAPING

Semi-mature trees marking the entrance from the Portlaoise road are quite magnificent and newly planted trees around the village are establishing themselves well. Congratulations on the presentation of the green and in particular on the new gazebo. This is a grand achievement. Well done also on the bridge over the river connecting the village to the site of the round tower. Shrubberies are maturing nicely. Some green areas at the rear of the village need to be turned and re-seeded as they are exhibiting mostly weed growth. The 'Famine Pot' looks well in its location and as the plants here mature, it should continue to improve. Well done on the relocation of parked buses from the fountain area.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Congratulations on the new basketball court, which is quite impressive to look at and, of course, it provides a valuable recreational amenity facility for the community. Its visual amenity would be improved more if the perimeter wall of the adjacent church was cleaned or painted.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was quite good but there were lapses in places and a little litter was noted in the river. It wasn't a serious problem but something to watch out for. Your litter management programme may need to be reviewed

TIDINESS

Weeds appear to have been sprayed along kerbs, however, they haven't been removed and they are discoloured which looks quite unsightly. There is an untidy area leading down

to the small stream at the back of the village. A derelict building inside the speed limit sign near the bridge looks a little untidy. The garage and its environs together with a couple of outbuilding present a problem under this heading.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Some roadside boundary walls to a residential property beside the Round Tower are in need of cleaning or painting. Most residential properties look well. The estate out the Stradbally road could be better presented in some cases by cleaning or painting of boundary walls and indeed some weather stained gable walls. The large green area here was also overgrown and of little value as a play area.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The nameplate on the Portlaoise road urgently needs to be refurbished. Approach roads had been recently cut but were in need of sweeping. Many items of street furniture need refurbishment, for example, litter bins, seating and the telephone kiosk. The old pump and its surrounding railings could also be refurbished.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Timahoe boasts many fine amenity features and is presented to a high standard in almost all respects. The adjudicator looks forward to a repeat visit.