

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Toormore**

Ref: **534**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **191**

Category: **A**

Date: **28/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	22
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	23	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	36	35
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>182</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Many thanks for your work programme which made very interesting reading. Hopefully you can use your good relationship with Cork County Council in order to persuade them to find an alternative place in which to store their gravel as the current storage place in the car park area on the Schull Road creates a bad impression when entering on this side of the village. You have a high level of interest in your local heritage such as the Altar Church, Altar Tombstone and Toormore Tombstone. However, perhaps you should consider highlighting them to a greater extent in order that visitors can stop and appreciate their merits!

### The Built Environment:

The Altar Church of Ireland looked quite charming. However, perhaps more consideration could be given to landscaping here, as its grounds looked somewhat bare in comparison to other Church of Ireland properties in the locality. Also, its rose window was broken and should be repaired. The Altar Restaurant and its associated landscaping was admired and the Post Office - Jermyn's - looked extremely fresh!

### Landscaping:

The attractive landscaped area beside the Altar Restaurant with its dry stone walling was greatly

admired, as was the open space with its brightly painted village pump. The adjudicator noted your work in regard to this area, by means of planting daffodils on the Green. These must look quite magnificent in springtime! Keep up the good work in relation to the maintenance of the new hedgerows.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The numerous wild flowers such as fuchsia and wild daisies, in the hedgerows and along grass verges were admired. Your work in relation to organizing a survey by Birdwatch Ireland on the strand is to be commended and the adjudicator looks forward to reading these findings with next year's application for the competition.

### **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good - your litter rota is obviously paying dividends!

### **Tidiness:**

As previously mentioned the pile of gravel on the Schull approach, not only mars the car park but also gives a very bad impression when entering the village from this side. More building materials were being stored by what appeared to be an ESB sub-station near the centre of the village. Weed control was a problem to the base of the wall at the Post Office. The rusty tin roof to an old cottage and outbuilding near the village nameplate sign on the Goleen Road should both be painted up-the roof in its traditional red colour and the walls of the outbuilding re-whitewashed.

### **Residential Areas:**

The standard in this category of the competition was generally good. Do be careful when removing render from traditional vernacular buildings as this is not only considered incorrect from a conservation point of view, but can also lead to problems with water penetration. The house and garden adjacent and attached to the Post Office was greatly admired. Seafront House B&B with its colourful pink and blue flowers on top of its stone entrance from the road was admired. A magnificent garden to a house on the Goleen Road, with amazing displays of buoys and floaters looked magnificent as did their michaelmas daisies.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Schull Road was fine and the Goleen Road looked well. However, the verges as you pass through the centre of the village were in need of some attention. The dangerous bend road sign near the centre of the village was quite grubby and will need washing down before next year's competition. The directional signs at the junction of the Bantry Road were also in need of some attention, as they were quite grubby.

### **General Impression:**

Toormore is a most attractive village, set, as it is, in a magnificent seaside location. Congratulations on the work achieved so far and good luck with your preparations for next year's competition.