

# Tidy Towns Competition 2005

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Toormore**

Ref: **112**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **193**

Category: **A**

Date: **01/07/2005**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2005 | Mark Awarded 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 25                | 25                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 29                | 29                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 23                | 23                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15                | 15                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 36                | 36                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 13                | 13                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 22                | 22                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 23                | 21                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 7                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>193</b>        | <b>191</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Toormore is welcome to the 2005 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the completed application form and sketch map both of which facilitated adjudication; we note the absence of a planned work programme governing your Tidy Towns related activities over the next few years and urge you to prepare one as it is difficult to compete successfully without one. It is good to note that you have established a successful working relationship with the Goleen Community Council and Cork County Council and enjoy the benefits of the Rural Social Scheme also; congratulations on achieving village renewal status, we look forward to the fruits of this. Having such a tiny population is both a challenge and a blessing in terms of the competition for all the obvious reasons, we wish you well for the future.

### The Built Environment:

The Alter Church is the focal point of Toormore and is beautiful, great care must be taken to ensure it is always presented at its best. The Jermyne Post Office premises is neat in appearance and the Alter Restaurant looks quite magnificent together with its green open space.

### Landscaping:

The large green open space at the top of the Bantry road with its colourful flower beds and well

maintained street furniture including the water pump is one of the most attractive features of Toormore. Hedgerow is being neatly maintained however care must be taken not to trim hedgerow during the bird nesting season as this can be detrimental to bird life. where possible choose native species of trees, shrubs and flowers rather than exotics as these encourage habitat diversity. You are referred to your Tidy Towns Handbook for suggestions on how best to compete under this heading.

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

We note the designation of an area to be developed for recreational amenity and anticipate developments here within the near future; do keep us abreast of your plans. The foreshore area was very clean at the time of adjudication, well done. We look forward with interest to the findings of the wildlife survey being conducted in cooperation with Birdwatch Ireland.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was excellent on adjudication day, the litter rota is effective in achieving your goal of being a litter free village. Do you have an overall litter management strategy? if so give details with next years application as this could be a source of additional marks.

### **Tidiness:**

As noted above the foreshore area and slip-way was clean at the time of our visit. Side and back areas and most curtilage areas which are visible from the public road were neatly presented. No doubt all building materials will be removed upon completion of construction work.

### **Residential Areas:**

All dwellings are presented to a standard of excellence and gardens were admired for their flower displays. Work in progress was noted to a new dwelling on the top of the Bantry road, no doubt a similar standard of excellence will be featured here also. Congratulations on acquiring funding for the proposed stone wall, ensure it is constructed in a manner that is traditional to the area, expert advise is available from many sources, check out your Tidy Towns Handbook.

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

The large outcrop of rock-face located across from the nameplate at the entrance from the Lowertown road looks quite dramatic, more of it could be exposed to highlight it as a feature of Toormore. Some stretches of roadside verge had been trimmed whilst others were left in their natural state with stands of wild flowers. It is acceptable from the perspective of the Tidy Towns Competition to maintain outer edges neatly trimmed and to feature wild flowers and grasses along the inner edge, this however requires a careful mowing regime. Eventually a footpath should link the Alter Restaurant to the Alter Church.

### **General Impression:**

The overall impression of Toormore is one of an attractive village where the community is respectful of their environment and appreciative of what it has to offer.

### **Second Round Adjudication:**