

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Timolin**

Ref: **215**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **202**

Category: **A**

Date: **04/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	27	25
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	202	196

Overall Developmental Approach:

The new Tidy Towns Committee has done well in their first year and the reconsideration of the plan now in focusing on a small number of projects is a good idea. This way more immediate progress can be made and new plans can be incorporated as time goes by. Like all villages there is a tremendous explosion now with new buildings emerging and changing the face of the village. However the quiet nature of the village since the opening of the bypass is so welcome and fitting for a village this size.

The Built Environment:

The church and surrounds form a very important part of the village buildings and the work performed in this area is laudable. Stonewalls with their high quality standards add interesting character to the village. The pewter mill is attractive also. The commercial premises along the main road of the village are well cared for and give a good impression. Stonewalls along the bypass side of the road are a feature in themselves and depending on future planning for the village, these may have significance in the future. The commercial yard continues to be very exposed and some mechanism for screening would be helpful. The school is in good condition as are the surrounds.

Landscaping:

The entrance areas from the main road are now well treated with good quality verges and tree planting. The heathers and conifers at the road junction near the entrance from the main road are attractive. The containerised plantings through the village give a welcome sparkle of summer colour through the village and appear well. Individual gardens contribute greatly to the overall landscape of the village and deserve praise for this. The displays of plants at the plant shop appear well also. Trees to the front of the small housing estate provide an important structure to the landscape and enhance the housing area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The wildlife appreciation projects are interesting. The nature area is very overgrown at present while the nature reserve has had paths mown through. The planned audit is an excellent idea and involvement by school children is an excellent way of passing the appreciation of our natural heritage on to the next generation.

Litter Control:

There is a very clean appearance all through the village and the committee members and volunteers are doing very well in this area. The more people take responsibility for their surrounds the more successful this becomes.

Tidiness:

The village has a very tidy appearance. Roadside verge maintenance and the attention to detail at business premises and residences help achieve this. The underground cabling has got rid of much clutter and helps greatly. The remaining overhead wires in the village hopefully will also be removed. Some weediness at kerbside was noted at the housing estate opposite the school and also along by the wall opposite O'Brien's.

Residential Areas:

The small number of residential houses in the village provides an attractive assembly. The small housing estates are well tended. Footpaths are also satisfactory and some work has been done on footpath improvement since last year. Signage is clear. The roadside verges are well mown and taken care of.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The road surfaces are generally in good condition. Some patchiness occurs where roadworks were done.

General Impression:

Timolin is looking very well. The new committee is wished well in pursuing their goals. A watchful eye should be kept on planning applications to ensure that developments are in keeping with the character of the village. The smaller type developments appear to work best in villages of this form.