

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tulsk**

Ref: **145**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **195**

Category: **A**

Date: **17/07/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	39
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	21
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	195	192

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the background information and maps supplied. However this year there was no overall structured plan as welcomed in last years report. This adjudicator suggests that all the various items of information supplied this year should be drawn together and combined with any existing plans and the new 5 year strategy drawn up as soon as possible This will assist in focussing both the committee and the general Tulsk community in their efforts to plan ahead and also to encourage the various bodies to support the Tidy Town effort especially the Local Authority and the utility companies.

The Built Environment:

As Tulsk is sited in an area of national historical and cultural interest development will have to be monitored, however the elimination of derelict and neglected buildings should be a priority. I am sure when the major sewage system is completed, the roads upgraded and the new housing development completed this will make a difference to the build environment. The property owners that are making the effort with their premises are to be commended, however a number still remain to be tackled.

Landscaping:

The various window boxes and hanging baskets combined with the general flower arrangements and landscaping at private houses and along the road were especially obvious in Tusk, adding a splash of colour to the village especially as it is located on a very busy road network, which cannot be easy to maintain at certain locations in the village. The Church grounds were neat and tidy and the Cruachan Ai Centre and grounds also looked extremely well, on the banks of the river.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

As stated in last years report a list of the local fauna and flora combined with suitable signage should be considered and perhaps located near the river bank area. This would be of immense interest to the local community and visitors alike. Some wildlife were certainly in evidence along the river on adjudication day.

Litter Control:

On adjudication day litter control was good in the village. Watch out for the odd can and bottle on the side roads, however. Overall well done.

Tidiness:

The surface area and surrounding wall at the GAA car park looked somewhat unkempt, and the storage of water-sewage pipes and gravel there should be discouraged. The areas surrounding the mart and the petrol station could look better, especially as there are at pivotal locations in the village.

Any loading or side areas at business properties should always be kept tidy and where possible screened off. The odd derelict building looks untidy and detracts from the appearance of the village. The recycle area was overflowing and needed attention.

Residential Areas:

The majority of Individual private houses and those attached to business premises have obviously made a good effort to decorate and present their properties and gardens in a positive way. A number of house owners still need further encouragement to maintain their properties, it just needs a little effort by everyone and its makes a difference.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main approach roads to Tusk in general looked okay on adjudication day, bearing in mind the proposed improvements planned which when completed will greatly enhance the village. The Castlerea approach road appearance could be improved. In general any unsightly and unnecessary signage should be removed.

General Impression:

I have no doubt that with the continuing effort by all the community of Tusk in supporting the Tidy Towns effort it could be up there with much higher marks in future competitions. You need the proposed new 5 year strategy drawn up as soon as possible, if this is not possible I strongly recommend a simple straightforward work schedule to keep the momentum going, with achievable goals and targets which all the community can buy into and support. The village looked welcoming on adjudication day however more needs to be done, keep up the good work and good luck with your efforts into the future.

Second Round Adjudication:

