

Tidy Towns Competition 2005

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Quin**

Ref: **151**

County: **Clare**

Mark: **236**

Category: **B**

Date: **17/06/2005**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2005	Mark Awarded 2004
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	33	33
Landscaping	40	37	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	36	34
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	236	234

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your application form and map which were very useful on the day. As previously mentioned plans should be drawn up for the next two to three years so that you will have a focus on targets which you wish to achieve. We know this is difficult at present with the amount of changes taking place in Quin but it still would be helpful in assessing where you are going. We would also suggest that you consider (if you have not already done so) entering other initiatives such as the National Spring Clean (run by an Taisce), Golden Mile, Pride of Place or any county council competitions, which will provide all year activity and enhance your Tidy Towns endeavours. Contact Clare County Council for further details on these.

The Built Environment:

The unique historical feature which you have in Quin, the wonderful Quin Abbey, was looking very well presented and maintained. Most business premises in and around the village were also looking very well and it is obvious that some of them, or indeed most of them, have contributed to the Tidy Towns effort. We would again mention the shop with the PVC windows and doors and the proliferation of notices. This was slightly better this year, but is still very much out of keeping with the ambience of the village in general. The public house across from the horse stables is another business premises that needs attention in respect of décor and again perhaps the proprietor here could be persuaded to assist you in your efforts. The stonewalls which you have repaired on the approach roads have been maintained to a high standard and were admired. We noted that on the

road to the viewing area an old stone outhouse is for sale and hopefully whatever use this is put to in the future will enhance this area.

Landscaping:

The landscaping of approach roads and the provision of flowerbeds and containers around the village is very commendable and all these are maintained to a high standard. This is particularly commendable in a year when May was the wettest month for a century. The trees previously planted are maturing well and already improve the aspects of the village where they are situated. This policy of providing berried shrubs and trees to feed birds in the winter and planting Irish broadleaf varieties of tree such as Chestnut, Ash, Beech Sycamore and Lime should be continued. These will provide a long-term legacy and give a new dimension to any area where they are planted.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

You already contribute to the wild life environment in and around Quin with the planting which you undertake. It is unfortunate that the ducks that you brought in have not been a success. Perhaps when all the building has finished they might find the area more conducive. Wild flowers were noted on the approach roads and the Valerin on the roadside down to the school was in full bloom on the day of adjudication and very attractive.

Litter Control:

Litter again was well controlled in the village and there was very little evidence of it. The new bird bins were noted and are obviously of benefit.

Tidiness:

Tidiness is difficult in Quin at the moment with the construction work taking place, however the situation will improve on completion. All contractors should be asked to leave any sites they are working on in a clean and orderly fashion. In fact, most areas outside of the building sites were clean and tidy. However, outside the school was rather poor in this respect.

Residential Areas:

The new and completed housing estates were noted throughout the village and as stated in your entry form it looks as if building is going to continue for some time. This, alas, is a fact of life and must be worked around and therefore, taking this into account, no marks have been deducted. Things will look up in the future, and already it was noted that the infill building beside the river was presented to a very high standard. More established estates and other private residences continue to assist in the Tidy Towns effort.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The approach roads are very well maintained and give visitors to Quin a pleasant aspect of the village. As mentioned in a number of previous reports, the signage around the village needs attention.

General Impression:

The general impression of Quin is that it could do extremely well in the competition if it perseveres for another period of time. We look forwards to seeing further progress and initiatives in the years ahead.

