

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Dingle** Ref: **334**  
County: **Kerry** Mark: **239**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **20/07/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	3
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>239</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Dingle is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission which included your three year development plan. We wish you well in its implementation although we appreciate the difficulties in this with the finishing of your three man FAS work team in the autumn of this year. Best wishes are forwarded to those committee members who were unable to work in recent months due to illness. The Tidy Towns Committee did well to maintain standards achieved to date notwithstanding the difficulties it has encountered over the past year. Dingle town is built on different levels, which allows scenic views the sea, mountains and the town itself from its streets on upper levels. The town has some wonderful streetscapes.

### **The Built Environment:**

Dingle enjoys a large number of attractive shop fronts, all of which are nicely painted and many of which retain their traditional architectural features. The Tourist Office was particularly admired on the day of our visit and we look forward to the rehabilitation of the Ice Plant located beside. We note from your submission that you are in contact with your local authority regarding the redevelopment of derelict sites and for the landscaping within the town and wish you every success with this. The two Brian De Staic premises are handsome developments. Your newly developed areas look well and the excellent use of natural stone in public areas for art and landscaping is a nice touch.

### **Landscaping:**

Landscaping through out Dingle was admired, grass verges being neatly maintained, young trees maturing well and flower displays in full bloom. The Waterfront development looked wonderful particularly the Fungi public art, children were fascinated by this. Your town park is a fine facility, we appreciate that new projects

cannot be taken on at the moment due to a shortage of manpower and that it will take most of the resources available to maintain what is been achieved already.

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

Your wildlife amenity walks enhance the life of the community, no doubt the Funghi Walk is a great favourite with children and of course Dingle is on the Kerry Way. Perhaps your next project in this respect would be to provide interpretative facilities for the flora and fauna of the area; this could be displayed on all weather vandal proof display panels. Outbreaks of wild flowers on the entrance from the Ventry Road was a visual treat. Good luck with what you hope to achieve in St. James graveyard, we note however that you only have limited manpower for this.

### **Litter Control:**

Well done on the Green Flag status of the school, no doubt this plays a significant role in the good standard of litter control throughout the town. On the day of adjudication two black bags were burst and their contents in danger of overflowing, one was located at a small park and the other just inside the entrance to the Centra car park, the contents of the latter was scattered over a small area.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

Well done on recycling facilities and on the involvement of the Tidy Towns group in their upkeep. To perform at your best under this heading it is necessary to achieve waste minimisation in addition to collecting and segregation of waste for recycling. You might for example, if manpower allows, encourage different sectors of the community to audit the amount of waste produced with a view to reducing this. The Race Against Waste booklet included in this year's Tidy Towns pack contains a number of good ideas on this topic.

### **Tidiness:**

The difficulty of maintaining an ambience of tidiness in the face of ongoing development is appreciated however this problem will only last until development works have ceased, ensure that all building materials are removed. A lot of weedy areas were noted at entrances to premises and along kerbs however not in the town centre.

### **Residential Areas:**

Ard na Mara allows wonderful scenic views from its elevated site. Both Marina Cottages together with terraces of on-street dwellings are nicely presented and the Craft Village development is most attractive particularly at its roadside entrance and drive. Encourage residents to take responsibility for their own areas particularly areas to their roadside boundary walls and of course green open space and verges.

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

Road surfaces on the eastern entrance to the town are quite good but less so towards the bridge on the western entrance. On the day of adjudication the nameplate on the eastern entrance was defaced, no doubt this will be rehabilitated shortly. Congratulations on the removal of overhead service cables in the centre of the town and your attractive lampstandards, the waterfront area is now the centrepiece of your lovely town. Undoubtedly at some future stage the wirescape in the main shopping precinct will be removed also. On the day of adjudication there was excessive on-street parking which caused a great deal of congestion; some thought should be given to the provision of more off street car parking areas as the town will lose its attractiveness if identified with congestion and poor circulation.

### **General Impression:**

Dingle is a beautiful town with a wonderful natural environment and a handsome townscape. The difficulty encountered with the large number of visitors during the season are appreciated together with the difficulty of reduced man hours and the Tidy Towns Committee did well to maintain standards achieved to date. Good luck for the future.

