

# Tidy Towns Competition 2006

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Inistioge** Ref: **394**  
County: **Kilkenny** Mark: **274**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **17/06/2006**  
**10/08/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	44
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	6
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	35
General Impression	10	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>274</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Inistioge is welcome to the 2006 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your excellent submission and useful information; the Tidy Towns committee is to be congratulated on their work to preserve the cultural heritage of Inistioge for the forty three years it has been in existence. Inistioge is located in the valley of the Nore river and built on its banks; the surrounding woodland areas are as much a part of your lovely village as are your buildings; the view down into the village from the height of approach roads generates a feeling of anticipation on arriving in Inistioge which is not disappointing on arrival.

### The Built Environment:

The majority of premises are nicely presented and it is good to note that many have their traditional architectural features; the antique shop is been considered for a shop front award. The three star sign is too large and inappropriate for its building and should be removed, together with the beer signs on Doyle's premises. Well done on the presentation on your heritage buildings and public buildings.

### Landscaping:

The River Park is as beautiful this year as it has ever been and we note of the replanting of the bed here. Your interpretative panel for the bridge, the Nore valley and its flora and fauna is fascinating and beautifully presented also, well done. Entrances to the village are landscaped to good effect and are complemented by the stands of handsome trees in the Square.

### Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Woodstock Gardens and Park are valuable recreational and amenity facilities for both the local and the broader community and was enjoyed by the adjudicator; the Woodstock Heritage Museum complements the

latter development wonderfully. Your report on Inistioge bridge and the Nore valley and as a home for bats is fascinating and is an excellent initiative, you will be pleased to know that you are being considered for the Wildlife award for this initiative; well done.

#### **Litter Control:**

Congratulations on an excellent standard of litter control no doubt your awareness campaign together with your liaison with schools, FAS and Kilkenny county council have brought about this high standard. Your participation in the National Spring Clean week has been noted also.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

We note from your submission that you engage in a poster campaign and use a weekly newsletter to good effect to liaise with schools, business interests and residents, for performance under this heading you are certainly moving in the right direction. We also note the purchase of a new mower with a mulcher to remove grass waste. Your plan to host a composting demonstration for the general public sounds good also. The planting of the holly hedge behind the recycling point is a good initiative.

#### **Tidiness:**

No doubt vacant/derelict premises will be redeveloped soon and bring up the standard under the presentation of The Built Environment. It is unfortunate that planning laws are keeping the vacant garages in their current state, hopefully there will be some movement on this soon. A corrugated roof, which can be seen from the square, should receive treatment as it is quite visible. Other than these problems the overall appearance of Inistioge and its approach roads was one of tidiness well done.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Residential properties are beautifully presented in most cases and your Best Garden Competition plays its part no doubt in this achievement. All residential areas were presented to a high standard. It is a good idea to have residents in estates look after their own area in terms of design presentation and maintenance.

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

There are some very poor road surfaces in the village centre, particularly side areas and we note your liaison with the county council both on this initiative and on repairs that are necessary for the bridge; hopefully this will bear fruit in the not too distant future. Congratulations to the committee on painting of all local authority signs last year, both these and street furniture were presented to a high standard. The village suffers from a lot of through traffic, which creates a lot of wear and tear on the built environment. Your shared surface sign for pedestrian safety is the first seen by this adjudicator anywhere in the country and is a great idea to enhance pedestrian safety.

#### **General Impression:**

Inistioge enjoys a wonderful natural setting and a rich cultural heritage and is always a pleasure to adjudicate. The committee has a long track record and has rightly earned for Inistioge a reputation for being a most enjoyable experience; well done to all responsible.

#### **Second Round Adjudication:**

Attractive planting and displays of traditional farm machinery created a very welcoming sight on the Thomastown Road. They could possibly be painted up before next year's competition. There were a few items of litter apparent on this road and some weeds at kerbs near the national school. This building looked very fresh and the Motte Restaurant looked most charming. The adjudicator would like to reiterate the sentiments of the first adjudicator in relation to the abandoned service station. At the moment it looks unfortunate in its prominent location on this approach. A new building was under construction opposite the marvelous Church of Ireland with its wonderful graveyard areas. The Graiguenamanagh road is an attractive entry to the village over the fine stone bridge and affords the visitor a marvelous view to the well-maintained waterside area. The Old Schoolhouse could be painted before next year's competition. The Post Office was very fresh. Inistioge looked as attractive and well presented as ever.