

Tidy Towns Competition 2006

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Upper Tournafulla** Ref: **471**
County: **Limerick** Mark: **225**
Category: **B** Date(s): **15/06/2006**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2006
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	32
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	225

Overall Development Approach:

Tournafulla is welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2006. We note you receive funding from the locals for your activities, and work closely with the Limerick County Council to achieve your goals. And thank you for your most detailed application form, accompanying documentation, development plan to 2009 and maps.

The Built Environment:

The freshly painted Garda Station looked well, as did the Church, National School, the Heritage/Resource Centre, and the GAA Club. And the business premises of Mulcahy's, and the Homestead Bar were smart. Woodies Windows breeze block would benefit from some screening or render. Wards, at the centre of the village, and the building on the road behind it, need attention. Your Committee could consider seeking the advice of a colour consultant, and you may receive help from Limerick Council on this, with a view to improving an overall colour scheme for the village

Landscaping:

The beech hedge planting at Curtin's turn is maturing well, but the use of chopped up wood as mulch is rather unsightly. The small raised stone bed, planted with marigolds, was lovely, but the high grass was obscuring it somewhat. There are a number of flower beds with loose stones located about the village, but these looked rather crude. The tree planting at the church looks well, but the shrubbery by the gate needs attention. Your committee could consider concentrating its efforts in this category at the centre of the village, and this would have greater impact overall. And encourage some of the private dwellers to do a little more to improve their gardens.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Like many Irish villages, Tournafulla nestles in a natural wildlife habitat, being in close proximity to the Mullaghareirk Mountains. It is noted that your committee has plans to open up the bridge areas to allow for wildlife to settle.

Litter Control:

Your vigilance in this category is obviously working, as very little litter was noted on the day of inspection. Your new stainless steel litter bin is very striking, but now you have many different types of bins in the village. Perhaps, in time, you will replace all the old bins. Keep up the good work here.

Waste Minimisation:

Heartily congratulations to the School on getting their Green Flag, which was proudly flying at the entrance. The student's organic garden is maturing nicely and the addition of the two new compost bins must be of great help.

Noted that you are paying much attention to this new category and are involved in the Small Change Programme, the students are encouraging their parents to compost, like in the school's organic garden, and you are generally encouraging the residents in the village to do more to minimize waste, including making full use of the bring bank in the village, and taking unwanted garments, toys, etc to Charity Shops. You may also get some useful information on this from the Environmental Section of Limerick County Council. And the bring bank would be easier to maintain if it was placed on a concrete base and again the Council may be able to help with this.

Tidiness:

The hedge, verge and weed control was behind schedule, and this could be explained by our inclement weather in May. Work had just commenced on clearing up the area at the entrance to the GAA grounds. The derelict house at the centre of the village has further deteriorated, as have the two old galvanized roofed buildings, but we note you are continuing to work with the Council to resolve these problems.

Residential Areas:

The village of Tournafulla is mainly residential and as mentioned in previous reports, the standard varies considerably. You have some nice new residences, and noted that the Council is supplying paint for the new terrace. Please continue with your efforts to improve in this category.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Access to the village at Harry's Cross has been much improved by the addition of the new kerbing. The signage, road surfaces and pavements were in good order.

General Impression:

Tournafulla has done much, but there is still much to do. The village is located in a lovely part of the County, as mentioned above. Please encourage all the people of the area to do their best to help you achieve a better standing in the Competition.