

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Ennistymon** Ref: **69**  
County: **Clare** Mark: **224**  
Category: **C** Date(s): **16/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	44
The Built Environment	50	28
Landscaping	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	21
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	23
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>224</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for your completed application form along with excellent sketch map and additional supplementary material to support your application together with your work programme 2007 – 2008. This plan allows one to have measurable benchmarks to work to. Congratulations on devising such a clear and concise plan for developing your town.

### **The Built Environment:**

Like many other towns of its size Ennistymon is experiencing change not envisaged ten years ago. The amount of new housing development is staggering for a place of its size and it was noted that there are a number of works ongoing. Let's hope the town will be able to service this entire new infrastructure. Most of the new developments are very much in keeping with the original landscape and the only concern that the adjudicator would voice is that too much of this type of progress may suffocate the uniqueness that Ennistymon has to offer. Ennistymon has wonderful rural character and this should be retained as much as possible. There were a number of premises both public and private that attracted the adjudicators attention. The RC Church / graveyard , school, courthouse, art centre, shop fronts of interest and charm, Daly's Pub, An Teach Bia, Coolays House, Body Treats Pharmacy and CK Pharmacy. All a wonderful example of how old can blend so well with the new. Your reputation for traditional shop fronts is widely acknowledged.

### **Landscaping:**

The standard of landscaping and planting was good, however, room for improvement. Colour could be added in greater detail around the town centre. It would be well worth your while gaining experience on this area through the Horticultural Section in Clare County Council and FAS re: lack of planting etc. throughout. You should consider a landscaping blitz for the square with high colour in the summer.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The town area has a wide choice of natural amenities for wildlife conservation and preservation that you would be the envy of other similar sized towns in the competition. What a wonderful and unique area the river and the cascades area is, continue with your plan of a wildlife friendly / best practice application. The Heritage Council will help you to identify wildlife pockets in this area. Also, continue to involve school children as young people are enthused by the nature that surrounds them. Consider some illustrated display boards.

**Litter Control:**

Litter control was quite good considering the town was extremely busy with the transient traffic and people visiting at this time of year. However, some litter was evident by the market square and this will have to be addressed.

**Waste Minimisation:**

This is a reasonably new area which has to be addressed under the Tidy Towns Competition. The Race Against Waste is a campaign in raising awareness of better waste management practices. It is incumbent on us all to embrace this in light of our record among the wider European Community. Refer to the Race Against Waste publication, included with the original application package, for initiatives that would suit your community. The Bottle Bank was not in an acceptable condition. Congratulations and well done to the pupils and teachers of Ceard Scoil on achieving Green Flag status.

**Tidiness:**

The standard was rather mixed. Some bad private areas in the town particularly were in a very poor state. Again these areas will have to be addressed. The Market Square area in particular will also have to be addressed in this regard. The Library was disappointing and needs attention. Approach roads were good, in particular the Lahinch road was noted and the picnic area was very well presented. However, some open spaces are poorly presented and need attention.

**Residential Areas:**

Areas which took the adjudicators attention were Ard Na Choille, Riverview Terrace, Houses on Circular Road. Some private dwellings were greatly admired for the simple but effective manner in which they were presented. It takes time and effort to maintain properties and tend gardens, so well done to all concerned. Again bad areas particularly down towards the Cascades need urgent attention.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Roads were well presented overall apart from approach road from Ennis. The road surface here is very poor and there are a number of bad areas needing urgent attention as previously mentioned.

**General Impression:**

Ennistymon is a lovely town, with many attractive traditional features and has the potential to make real progress in the National Tidy Towns Competition. You as the committee recognise such problems and your work programme will help you and your community to benefit. I wish you the very best of luck in implementing this plan over the coming years.