

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Togher** Ref: **1435**  
County: **Cork (South)** Mark: **210**  
Category: **D** Date(s): **08/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	25
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	27
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	26
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>210</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

An important part of Tidy Towns is to unite all the community together to undertake pride in their town and actively participate in projects. Whilst there may be a committee for the project it is very important to establish good working relationships with local schools, councils, businesses and residents. Successful Tidy Towns committees are generally quite active in their work towards creating a better community. This might include having a weekly walk where they collect litter, adopting and maintaining a Bring Bank or park area, organising working bees for a project such as repainting a community building or rejuvenating parkland. The projects improve the appearance of the town but also work towards building a stronger community. We wish you the best in your future developments and we would be delighted to see you participate in the 2008 competition.

### **The Built Environment:**

The new Village Centre building was near completion on the day of adjudication. This is a appealing building and its natural colours help soften the area. The entry gate into the Permanent TSB building would look better if painted. The building itself it is neat and tidy. In general most buildings were gathered in light industrial estates that were well maintained. Most community and public buildings were of a reasonable standard

### **Landscaping:**

St Finbarr's Cemetery was immaculately presented and the grass had been freshly cut on the day of adjudication. The brightly coloured flowers planted in the roundabouts were greatly admired and add colour to the area. Togher Boys School was wonderfully landscaped and pleasure to visit for the adjudicator.

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

There are many park areas and pathways in Togher. Further development of these to encourage wildlife

would be beneficial to the community. This may be a project that is undertaken with schools in the region. There may also be residents in your community who would have a particular interest in working on this project.

#### **Litter Control:**

Most residential areas were litter free. There were some estates that did display light litter coverage but this all appeared quite recent. The main park areas contained a bit of litter as well. A weekly or fortnightly walk that incorporates litter collection in these areas would assist in reducing the litter here.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

The recycling facilities were tidy and easily accessible. A community compost project may also be an option for your community and you could use the composting on community landscaping. Further information on the work that is being undertaken to promote reducing and recycling general waste would assist with this mark.

#### **Tidiness:**

The rubbish bin on the entry to the park was overflowing and the bin appears to have been burnt so would be better if replaced. If this area has a lot of people visiting it might be good to have additional bins in this area. The disused filling station on the site of the old Cottage School was heavily graffitied and vandalised. The building of a fence to hide this site until it is redeveloped will increase the aesthetics of the area. The majority of areas were reasonably tidy, however there are several buildings that are run down or derelict that require attention. Some parkland areas and kerbs of roads also require maintenance.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Harley Wood and Westside estate were well presented on the day of adjudication.. It is good to see the public green space available to residents in an urban area such as Togher. Green Wood Estate had some weeds growing in the kerb areas and some of the buildings in the shopping strip require repair. The new Manor Farm development is well built and including trees in the landscape here will assist in creating a natural environment. In general most estates were well presented.

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

In general the footpaths and roads in Togher were of a reasonable standard. There were some areas along the side of the road where they had become rough and these would require resurfacing. Footpaths lead throughout the area making walking a very easy task. The paving stones used out the front of the Manor House estate were greatly admired.

#### **General Impression:**

Togher is a mixture of light industrial and residential areas. The area contains many public green spaces which assist in allowing residents to have access to nature whilst in an urban setting. Some residential areas are extremely well kept whilst a few estates had issues with unkempt grass and weeds. Establishment of residents committees for each estate may assist in maintaining areas if residents take on some of this responsibility. Creation of community initiatives such as Best Togher Estate has also been successfully undertaken by other towns and would assist you in the lead up to the National Tidy Towns competition. Further work on some of the natural areas available by creating nature trails, incorporating bird boxes etc will ensure that Togher does not become overwhelmed by the surrounding industrial areas.