

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## **Adjudication Report**

Centre: **Lowertown** Ref: **685**  
County: **Cork (West)** Mark: **199**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	35
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	14
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	10
Tidiness	30	13
Residential Areas	40	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	24
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>199</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Lowertown is welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2008. Thank you for a comprehensive development plan that details proposed village improvements over a period of five years. It is clear that a detailed audit has been carried out in Lowertown and all aspects of the village have been addressed. Your committee of six and other occasional volunteers have an ambitious task ahead and it is important that goals remain realistic and are sustainable. The plan and supporting map were of great assistance to the adjudicator as were the included images.

### **The Built Environment:**

The Church of the Seven Sacraments looked well on the day of adjudication and was neat in its presentation. The heritage feature indicating the site of the Post Office and the Forge was most unusual and crisp in its appearance. The grotto was also greatly admired. You mention in your application the Lowertown has been designated as a village nucleus and therefore is set to see increased development in the coming years. It is important that any construction is kept in fitting with the current village.

### **Landscaping:**

The rose bushes planted at the anvil monument were admired and will brighten up this focal point in the village. Some tubs were also noted at the grotto.

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

You have a series of plans to encourage the natural amenities of Lowertown and this is commendable. We look forward to seeing these plans come to fruition in the years to come. Your information poster on 'Birds' was noted.

**Litter Control:**

Litter was noted on the Schull approach road and in the church grounds on the day of adjudication. It is essential in a village the size of Lowertown that litter control is prioritised. You have a system of designating a particular committee member to do litter pick-up and then check whether or not it has been done – surely in a village the size of Lowertown a system of - if anyone sees litter they should pick it up should work!!

**Waste Minimisation:**

Your continued work in the area of encouragement and education is commendable. You mention that your committee are involved in composting – where does this take place? Is there a communal area?

**Tidiness:**

Lowertown is neat and tidy in its overall presentation. Please encourage homeowners to pay attention to the cleanliness of boundary walls and the removal of kerbside weeds.

**Residential Areas:**

The semi-detached residences opposite the grotto were well painted and had colourful displays of flowers along the roadside border, in window boxes and gardens. Similarly the Old Schoolhouse was excellent in its presentation.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Your development plan indicated considerable ongoing plans for the improvement of roads and back areas. These areas were quite well presented on the day of adjudication. As mentioned by last years adjudicator be careful about overgrowth of wild flower areas – they need to be managed and not just allowed to grow wildly!

**General Impression:**

Lowertown is progressing well in the Tidy Towns thanks to a focussed hard working committee. Congratulations!