

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Lawrencetown** Ref: **199**  
County: **Galway** Mark: **218**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	26
Landscaping	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	16
Litter Control	50	31
Waste Minimisation	20	9
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	27
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>218</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Your adjudicator would like to welcome Lawrencetown to the 2008 TidyTowns Competition. This was the first time for your adjudicator to visit Lawrencetown and it is an attractive village. The adjudicator notes that you have just 2 meetings per annum and this seems a very low level of meetings considering the work involved in TidyTowns for most of the year. With 10 people on your Committee you obviously have great local support for your work. Do remember that the TidyTowns Handbook gives great information and suggestions. Both new Committees and those who have been involved in the competition for some time will find this booklet really useful. Have you considered preparing a 3 Year TidyTowns Plan for Lawrencetown that would guide your work from year to year? This is recommended.

### **The Built Environment:**

It was good to see that work had started on the two old houses and hopefully these projects will be completed for 2009. The School was excellently presented and the old School building at the Green seems to have found a new use as a Community Hall. This building appeared to have been freshly painted. The stone window frames here were admired. Across the road the Catholic Church, an attractive building, was well set off by the recently painted railings at the roadside. The adjudicator got a great surprise when he saw The Beautiful Bird. The presentation here was really excellent. The design is attractive and the white and red colour scheme works really well for this building. At the Post office the front façade here could be improved by plastering and painting a strong colour.

### **Landscaping:**

No new projects were identified in your Entry Form under this category. However the number of landscaped areas around the village was most impressive and all seemed to be maintained to a high standard. The area by the Diarmuid agus Grainne sculpture really caught the eye. At the Village Green the Roses here were

admired. Again this year added colour was provided by window boxes and hanging baskets. Well done on your hard work under this adjudication category.

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

The walkway to Lisheen Cemetery and the Beara Breifni Way are two important projects for Lawrencetown. It was good to see that the frame for the Beara Breifni Way board had been erected and the adjudicator now looks forward to seeing the map in place. The Raised Bog project for the future is interesting and perhaps there will be some progress for 2009? You mentioned two heritage projects in the School but did not give details.

#### **Litter Control:**

No new projects were identified under this category. Some litter was noted on the main road over the wall from The Village Green. However it was at the Bring Centre that a real litter problem was evident. Especially behind the units a lot of litter was evident. The adjudicator wonders if this is the best location for this facility. Try and make a feature of the Bring Centre and use some landscaping.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

Again no projects for 2008 were identified by the Committee. This section of the Competition is about finding ways to reduce the amount of waste produced in Lawrencetown and trying to get as much of the waste that has to be produced into recycling. The Race Against Waste Booklet sent to all Committees a few years ago has many suggestions for your Committee to consider. Does the School have the Green Flag yet?

#### **Tidiness:**

Have there been any discussions with the authorities on getting the cables in Lawrencetown put under ground? The County Council would be the best place to start. A plastic sign was noted that would be improved if more sympathetic media could be used instead. Have you considered having all your field gates painted to an agreed colour scheme?

#### **Residential Areas:**

Some strong colours were used on some houses and the adjudicator is in agreement with this approach. Our encouragement of home owners to paint walls and fences is something that you could do a few times each year. The problem of derelict houses is understood by the adjudicator – have you talked to the County Council about those difficulties? Two of the estates were visited and the presentation was found to be good.

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

The main approach roads were excellently presented and the lush green grass margins were much admired. Stone walls and fine trees make such a difference to approach roads and Lawrencetown is lucky to enjoy both

#### **General Impression:**

It was a pleasure for your adjudicator to visit your area for the first time. Lawrencetown is an attractive village with a good community feel to it. Do try and get your 3 Year TidyTown Plan underway for 2009. This adjudicator agrees with the 2008 report that the village has the ability to advance in the Competition. Good luck with your TidyTown projects for 2009 when we look forward to visiting you again.