

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Lislevane** Ref: **684**  
County: **Cork(West)** Mark: **276**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **26/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	44
The Built Environment	50	38
Landscaping	50	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	22
Litter Control	50	34
Waste Minimisation	20	12
Tidiness	30	20
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33
General Impression	10	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>276</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Congratulations to the Lislevane Community Association for participating in the Tidy Towns Competition 2009. Thank you for your submission and for your map. Compliments to the people involved in compiling and presenting your submission. The map is the most colourful encountered by the adjudicator this year. It contains all of the information that one might need. Half the parish seem to be on your committee and signs on, it is evident that the support of the community is at hand. You engage with the agencies that influence the shape of your village. The Green Flag Status is evidence of the co-operation between the school and your Association. Your comments on your experience in the competition are interesting. Obviously you do not enter with a view to winning. Surely from the point of community welfare this a very healthy attitude. People are not being forced into activities they do not wish to be involved with but at the same time the appearance of the native place is being enhanced. But do not dismiss winning. Consider compiling the 3-5 Year Plan, especially in the wildlife and waste minimisation sections.

### **The Built Environment:**

One could say that there are three focal points to this village. Firstly there is the fine Church, grotto and school area. This is a glorious part of town. Weldon's premises and the houses nearby create that rural parish atmosphere. The gas cylinders and posters might be seen as clutter sometimes, not here. They are the expression of a centre of village activity. The upkeep of all is superb but special mention must go to the corrugated lean too beside Weldon's. Sheds rarely enhance their surroundings. But when paint and time are invested in even a shed it can be transformed. This is a standard to be aspired to. The next focal point is what the sign describes as the creamery, Barryroe Co-Op. When one recovers from the shock of finding a

thriving supermarket outside of a dense centre of population one takes in the surroundings. None of the paraphernalia that one associates with trucks and warehouses. All buildings are painted brightly. No dumping or piling of waste material. No dust or litter. Just busy. Wonderful. And a clock that keeps time. The final focal point is at the junction and another treat awaits one here. The shed in the upper village has a first cousin down here ready to party also. Whitewash on farm sheds further on might not be that man's priority but he plays his part. The sculpture and the village artefact illustrate that the enhancement of Lislevane has been ongoing for quite some time. This Post Office is quite unique in that it has avoided the tacky sign associated with An Post. Well done. Sexton's adds its bit as do all of the houses. Garages can be clutter corners. Not so in Lislevane and the landscaping at the side of the Maxol continues the pattern of colour and care. And there in the centre of activity is the cemetery, as cared for as the trappings of the living. Some of those in the cemetery are remembered from that day in 1925 on a beautiful display board.

### **Landscaping:**

Tubs of summer colour reinforce the belief that the people of Lislevane are proud of their village and believe that presentation is important. The tubs abound in all areas of Lislevane but none more so than at the Post Office. The adjudicator was taken by the stone seat beside the namestone, something native and apparently simple. Did that tractor and trailer ever think it would be incorporated into the village landscaping plan and be painted and admired forever and ever. Lovely. Seats are painted and welcome you to 'linger a while'. The fruit of the labours of earlier generations of Tidy Towns Committees is evident in the tree planting that matures each year. The ivy on the cemetery walls give them that ecclesiastical feel. It is a joy to find a village pump in what appears to have been its original position. One imagines the folk from the photo discussing football or Collins or mumps and measles at this site. Well worth maintaining. The duck pond is still an item on an agenda. Is this an appropriate landscaping project for Lislevane? Meantime that corner is important and could do with a little lift, ducks or no ducks.

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

Well done on the measures being taken to date. One feels that there is more that you can achieve in this section. From reading your submission one senses the frustration you feel with the wildlife section. 'We do not have a river, a coastline or forest'. You are a rural village in the heart of the country, surrounded by wildlife habitats. Focus on the riches about you. Read last year's report and engage someone to conduct a survey. There may be people in your community who have an informed interest in wildlife and who would be willing to assist you with this section of the competition.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter is difficult to find in Lislevane. The kids and the walkers are doing great work. The emphasis in the litter section is not just on collecting and organising clean-ups. These are important but creating awareness of litter reduction is equally important. As a next step in your fight against litter make reduction your key ambition.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

Delighted to see the Green Flag fluttering proudly in the summer breeze proclaiming the school's new Green Flag Status. The village Bring Bank is well maintained and discretely sheltered by the shrubbery of the car park alongside. Your submission makes interesting reading and illustrates that you are tackling this important section. What about farming and waste minimisation?

### **Tidiness:**

Clearly your committee works hard to remove or disguise unused buildings. Some do detract from the cared for image all round. All you can do is your best. There are some unused, possibly mirror frames, on a few poles. Road verges are well maintained. Keep an eye on road signs.

### **Residential Areas:**

The individual residences throughout the village proclaim a sense of pride. The houses, front gardens, the front walls or hedges always enhance their surroundings. Every house seems to have a tub of flowers, not just to please an anonymous adjudicator, but to express pride of place.

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

The traveller is welcomed to Lislevane with a beautifully treated name stone which gives an interesting

derivation of the anglicised name. This is a real welcome.

When one approaches Lislevane from Courtmacsharry the trimmed hedges and brightly painted front walls of houses signal that this is a cared-for place. A peek around the minor roads reveals farmers who co-operate with the TidyTowns Committee and reveals some fabulous houses. And still the farming ethos is not lost to over prettifying.

### **General Impression:**

It is a rarity and a joy to come across a village in the heart of the country in which a busy farming community, a bustling enterprise and a TidyTowns Committee combine to create employment for the village, to strengthen the business ethos of the village, to improve the quality of life of the people while at the same time presenting the village in a neat, tidy and pretty fashion. Such is the Lislevane experience. Pride is expressed not just on the name stone and the Lawrence photo from 1925 and in the pretty landscaping but also in the thriving co-op stores and supermarket that survive in an alien rural milieu, in the progressive farming community which manages to devote time to white wash sheds. Lislevane expresses the true meaning of community. Lislevane epitomises all that is good in Tidy Towns.