

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Inishbiggle Island** Ref: **560**  
County: **Mayo** Mark: **253**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **27/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	38
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	11
Tidiness	30	20
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>253</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for your entry into this year's Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for the additional information that you provided, including an outline work plan, pictures and some other details. Well done on winning 'Litter-free Status' last year. Your entry form was concise and well filled out, and provided the adjudicator with all the necessary information. Thanks for the map. The walking routes are a great addition and were thoroughly explored.

### **The Built Environment:**

The former national school (Scoil Mhuire) still looks well. It looks, as if you haven't got to painting it yet, but it will keep for a while. The church looks good and the gates and door were freshly painted. The occupied houses looked well and one is being worked upon. The office looked nice and bright.

### **Landscaping:**

There is little by way of landscaping on the island and, as the previous adjudicator pointed out, nature does this very well. However, where there are tubs or planters, these should be filled or removed.

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

Inis Biggle is a real joy to visit in terms of wildflowers. This is allowed by the range of habitats to be found here. There was cuckoo flower, field scabious, several crutose lichens, hawks-bits and cats-ears as well as rusty-back fern, bell heather and bulbous rush. There were at least three species of orchids in flower. A pair of ravens was seen, a cuckoo was heard calling, but could hardly be heard over the larks and meadow pipits. Was there a survey by the National Parks and Wildlife Service planned? It would be great to have the flora

and fauna of this lovely little island recorded. A nature trail could be added to the assets of the island.

**Litter Control:**

With the exception of one scrapped car in a quarried area, no litter was seen on the day of visit. Well done! You clearly deserved your 2008 accolade.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Did you get funding for the tractor and trailer? There does appear to be fewer junked cars here than on a previous visit.

**Tidiness:**

The post box is painted as recommended. The quay areas could have been a little tidier. If these areas could be addressed it would be a truly tidy island.

**Residential Areas:**

Well done on encouraging residents to look after the tidiness of their homes. It was noted that some of the houses have been freshly painted.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Inis Biggle is a delight to walk or cycle. Well done on your participation in the Mayo walking events. The trail markers are very much needed to complete your walking routes. The road surface is perfectly adequate for use as same.

**General Impression:**

It was a genuine pleasure to be back on Inis Biggle. The flora of the island alone is a reason to visit. The peace and quiet (not so much as one car!) was fantastic and the view from the island on a sunny day is simply one of the finest one could ask for. A little formalising of the walking routes by way of printed guides would be an addition. A survey of wildlife would also be good and then ,eventually, this info could be used for an information board for visitors to this special place.