

# Tidy Towns Competition 2009

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Grange** Ref: **750**  
County: **Sligo** Mark: **241**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **06/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	30
The Built Environment	50	32
Landscaping	50	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	37
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	16
Residential Areas	40	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	27
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>241</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Grange Tidy Towns Committee is welcome to the 2009 competition. You would appear to have a good working relationship with Sligo County Council and local businesses. You would appear to work closely with local schools also. Do you also have a work programme outlining your plans for the village? This would be worthwhile to help both yourselves and the judges to monitor your progress as the years go by. Many thanks for your application form and map which were both very useful on the day.

### **The Built Environment:**

The standard in this category of the competition was somewhat inconsistent. Some of the commercial premises, which dominate the Sligo Road, appeared to be very well presented, such as SF, Flanagan's and Wheelers, while others seemed quite neglected. The National School was well presented with attractive grounds, and proudly sporting its Green Flag. The church was in need of some attention, staining was evident beneath the windows. The adjacent hall looked in need of a fresh coat of paint. The Post Office also looked quite neglected. Of note were the Chinese restaurant, Moran's Bar which looked very fresh in red. Laings and Waters were both well presented. The stone courthouse building was admired. The Garda Station was quite fresh, although its side wall was a little stained. Costello's is an attractive old shopfront which would be well worth restoring to its former glory.

### **Landscaping:**

The village park has matured beautifully over the last number of years, alongside the peaceful stream. The picnic tables will need to be re-varnished before next year's competition, however. The trees are maturing well, grass was freshly cut and some rose beds add an attractive splash of colour. An attractive planted gravelled bed on the Bundoran side of the village was greatly admired.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

We were pleased to hear of your plans to provide more fruit trees to provide food for local birdlife. Have you ever conducted a wildlife survey? This could involve local schoolchildren and experts in the field. It could then lead to a wildlife management plan and possible information boards and nature trails.

**Litter Control:**

The standard in this category was quite good on the day, given that Grange is in such a busy location on the main Sligo/Donnegal Road. There was some evidence of litter, however, in the park car parking area. We were pleased to hear of your litter awareness in the local youth club.

**Waste Minimisation:**

The plans in regard to segregation of waste in the park area is a good initiative, and we look forward to its implementation. How do you communicate ideas of reducing, re-using and recycling to local businesses, schools, residents etc? Do you compost your cuttings or encourage composting amongst local businesses/households?

**Tidiness:**

The standard in this category was reasonably good on the day, with little evidence of neglect. We read with interest of your weed control management plan. Some of the industrial premises on the Sligo approach would benefit from screening from public view, as their yard areas look a little untidy, and some gables appeared quite grubby. We appreciate the problems you are having with incomplete building sites, as this is a common problem throughout the country this year, sadly! Some Christmas lights looked somewhat unseasonal on a sunny June day. Discourage advertising hoardings as these can give roadsides a rather cluttered appearance.

**Residential Areas:**

The individual houses and housing estates of Grange appeared well cared for on the day. Have you considered conducting a local gardens/estates competition? Do local estates take part in the Best Kept Estates Competition run by Sligo County Council? A most attractive modern house with marvellous garden was admired near the old National School. A beautiful garden filled with lilies and poppies looked very well on the Bundoran side of the village.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The main approach road was well cared for on the day. It is a magnificent approach to the village with the marvellous views to mountains. It appeared a little overgrown opposite the nameplate on the Sligo side of the village. The wild daisies were admired, however. These were also apparent spilling over a boundary wall on the Bundoran side of the village. This road sports magnificent views to Benbulbin beyond. The phone box in the car park was in need of some attention, glass/Perspex needed replacing and washing to some panels.

**General Impression:**

Grange looked as well cared for as ever on adjudication day - it is a difficult task given its busy location. Its residents show an obvious care in its appearance and future!