

# Tidy Towns Competition 2012

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Grange** Ref: **1161**  
County: **Tipperary(South)** Mark: **264**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **17/06/2012**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2011</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	33	34
The Built Environment	50	32	32
Landscaping	50	31	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	28	28
Litter Control	50	39	40
Tidiness	30	20	20
Waste Minimisation	20	10	10
Residential Areas	40	28	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	32	33
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>264</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the National Tidy Towns Competition 2012. Your committee of 15 to 20 members are to be complimented on your efforts particularly this year because of the wet spring and summer. It is noted that you have the support of your local committees, public authorities and other organisations. Your committee is quite large considering the size of your community. We note that you have good rapport with the local schools. Many thanks for your comprehensive application and map. Please consider drafting a three year plan for next year's submission.

### The Built Environment:

Grange National School has a high standard stone wall at the car park. The entire area is very clean, the front boundary walls are painted and there is evidence of ongoing work in this regard. The Church is well painted, hanging baskets were seen. The information sign at Theresa Ahearn open space is of good quality. The shop and sheds in this location are all well painted. Grange cemetery boundary wall was well painted and the cemetery grounds well maintained.

### Landscaping:

Window boxes on the Community Centre looked well. The concrete plant container at Theresa Ahearn estate is unnecessary. We note that you have implemented the recommended changes of removing the mound on the green at this estate. A number of trees of different species are planted on the road in front of the shops. It is best in this situation to use one species such as lime to make significant impact. It is suggested to remove some of the hard surface beneath the trees to enable them to receive rain water and to allow sufficient space for roots and the stems to develop. There were good lime trees on the boundary of the cemetery. There is an opportunity to provide a feature planting on the curved wall opposite the church. This could be a narrow

border or simply plant Cotoneasters into the ground.

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

Your environment is surrounded by a wealth of flora and fauna. It would be an interesting project for the school children to carry out a survey of the flora as a means of developing their interest and knowledge of their surroundings. We noted that an area at the back of the school is converted to a wildlife area. Bird boxes were noted in the well planted grounds at the school.

#### **Litter Control:**

Your litter management system appears effective as very little litter was evident on adjudication day. The team of volunteers that litter picks every Wednesday do a good job.

Monitoring of the bottle bank area seems to be working. The Spring Clean-Up appears to have been successful and it also raised awareness.

#### **Tidiness:**

In general Grange is very tidy due no doubt to your vigilance. There was broken concrete and some litter at the village signs after the school. The adjacent farm gate is well painted but the one across the road needs painting. The cemetery looks well apart from some plots which are in need of attention. Could the oil tank on the platform at the side of the well kept Community Centre be disguised? Weeds at the cemetery wall base need attention. The sign at the Bring Banks needed cleaning.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

We note that the school has a policy of separating waste into recyclable and non-recyclable and compostable material. Do you have any statistics on the amounts of materials segregated.

The Bring banks were well maintained. Congratulations to the school for achieving the two green flags.

#### **Residential Areas:**

The unnamed housing estate before the school was neat and tidy. Theresa Ahearn Close was a pleasant estate. The large mature trees make a strong impact. The houses and open space was well maintained. I hope the weather improves to allow use of the picnic tables.

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

There was no welcome to the village sign before arriving at the school. Closer to the village there are two signs; one should be removed to the school area. We noted the new Yield signs in the village. The old concrete wall opposite the Church should be stone faced or rendered. The margin between the car park and the road surface needs improvement. The Grange stone sign opposite the cemetery was in good condition and the hedge was clipped.

#### **General Impression:**

Grange is a well cared for village and we wish you good luck in your future endeavours. We look forward to your entry in 2013.