

# Tidy Towns Competition 2013

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Timolin**

Ref: **387**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **255**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **29/06/2013**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2012</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2013</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	32	33
The Built Environment	50	30	31
Landscaping	50	32	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	26	27
Litter Control	50	40	40
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	8	8
Tidiness	30	16	18
Residential Areas	40	24	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31	33
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>255</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Thank you for your entry, photographs and helpful map. Timolin is welcomed to the 2013 Tidy Towns Competition. Walking through Timolin your enclosed information was very helpful and informative. You have a small committee of 5 members. You engage well with the County Council, Scouts, local school and businesses in the area that are of assistance through support or sponsorship. Your communication via newspaper/newsletter is important in keeping the community informed. Your feedback about the Tidy Towns Competition is positive. It has helped the village get people involved in maintaining and enhancing the village. Funding is difficult to secure and can make it harder to progress. You are doing good work and the village is certainly showing signs through the many fine projects you have completed. Do you have support through workers on TUS, if not it would be of assistance to you to acquire a worker to assist the committee.

### **The Built Environment:**

Timolin is like most villages and towns having unfinished estates and unoccupied buildings. This puts more work on the committee addressing issues that occur as a result of this. The welcome walk makes a lovely entrance into the village with its stone wall and pleasant landscaping. The whitethorn hedge was noticed which will help with shelter and provide food for wildlife. St. Mullins Church and the National School all an important part of the streetscape were neat and tidy. O Briens Public House and the Sportsman Inn looked good. The Victorian post box could tell some stories of the amount of letters that was posted through it. The Pewter Mill would have been a busy tourist attraction in the past and good to see it is still part of the village. Hopefully funding can be secured to restore this lovely landmark of Timolin. Your committee are doing great work. The school is well on its way to a second green flag. St. Mullins Church restoration is almost complete and it is good to see that the scouts are getting a new den.

### **Landscaping:**

No matter which entrance you approach the village there is lovely landscaping to greet you. From the N9 Kilcullen road this is an attractive landscaped area. The mature trees surrounded by wildflowers and nice grass verges were a welcomed sight. Not sure about the white stone surrounds, planting here is very strong and the white stone does catch your eye before the plants – just a thought. The black bird's anvil is an interesting feature. One of your most admired gardens was visited and it is a joy to behold. The garden seat at Bagnells has lovely landscaping against an attractive stone wall. The tubs of flowers looked superb and add a great

splash of colour. You state you are reducing the number of barrels due to funding; however you have a good deal of planting already with trees and hedging. The tidy towns also encourage all year round planting as this saves money and gives colour and food for wildlife. You may be able to acquire sponsorship from local businesses to help with landscaping.

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

The village lends itself to a very natural resource for wildlife. You get expert advice on how to manage your plantation and the planting you do, it also takes into account for the wildlife. The mound is a haven for wildlife and your signs tell the story, ladybirds, frogs and winter habitats. The Bathog River is another superb area for wildlife, not to mention the bridge itself for all types of insects. During heritage week, walks would be nice with an expert explaining the flora and fauna to walkers. The schools wildlife area was also admired; perhaps the path for the pupils could be developed further. Well done on your work in this area.

### **Litter Control:**

Your committee are doing good work in trying to spread awareness throughout the community on combating litter in the village. You need the support of the community to succeed in this area. The businesses could be responsible for their own area. Do you get support from the County Council? Your work is continuous and you are dealing with passers-by dumping in the area. On day of adjudication very little litter was noticed, well done on your work in this category.

### **Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:**

Carrying out a survey is a start in identifying household trends and the results should help in identifying areas where waste could be reduced. This category is about reducing the amount of waste produced in the first place. Composting any green matter or shredding can then be used on flower beds. Under resource management areas such as harvesting of rainwater and saving energy are all savings to the community. Reusing and recycling where possible are all part of waste management. The Tidy Towns handbook has useful guidelines on how waste can be reduced in the community.

### **Tidiness:**

There was no major untidiness in the village. Signage was good. Traffic flowed without any problems. Weed growth at kerbs was okay. The request for replacement of sewer cover at Haulage Company is on-going.

### **Residential Areas:**

Timolin can be proud of its housing even though you have unfinished estates and a derelict cottage, they do not stand out. What does is housing that is well presented, nicely landscaped and the owners show great pride in their area and in the village. There are some attractive gardens neat and colourful. There is a mix of different styles of houses but they all blend well and make an attractive streetscape to the village of Timolin. Well done to all the residents. This is a tremendous help to the Tidy Towns Committee in maintaining the village.

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

The approach roads to Timolin are well presented, well-maintained with neat verges and nice trees. The bridge at the Bathog river is a nice approach to the village with its attractive arches. Stone walls are well maintained and are a lovely feature in the village. The concrete wall before the Welcome Walk could do with freshening.

### **General Impression:**

Timolin village committee is small in size but can be proud of their achievements. Resources are not as plentiful for smaller areas. Do try to and obtain help from a worker this would help with the upkeep of the village and also save the committee time. Thank you for participating in the competition and wishing you continued success in the future.